

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

2 February 2022

Mesoamerica Region



Panama

The Church of the Nazarene began work in Panama in 1953. It is currently divided into two districts, the Panama West District and the Panama Central District. Panama is a popular location for import and exports and is a place where many goods are shipped through. The Church of the Nazarene has many different Nazarene partners at work within Panama. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries has eight child development programs with more than 250 children sponsored. JESUS Film Harvest Partners has 19 teams in the country.



3,421 Members



56 Organized
Churches and 4
Not Yet
Organized



32 Ordained and
27 District Licensed
Ministers



10 Missionaries
Serving

PRAYER



- Pray for new workers and evangelists for the Panama West District.
- Pray for the economic improvement of the Panama West District, that people would feel led to help continue the work of the church.
- Pray for the Church of the Nazarene that it would reach new mission areas and plant churches across the country.
- Pray for a new generation of young pastors and for a revival among the districts.
- Pray for the construction of a district center for the Panama Central district.

PRAISE



- We thank God for the generous giving through the pandemic that has helped Panama reach its World Evangelism Fund goals.
- We thank God for the new churches that have been planted in the midst of the crisis.
- We thank God for taking care of our pastors and their families throughout the country as they have adapted to new missions ideas.



A Lifelong Relationship: NCM Sponsorship Spotlight

When Kristin Baile went on a Work & Witness trip to Panama in 2017, she didn't expect it to be the beginning of a relationship. On that trip, she met Elizabeth*, a teenager Baile would later end up sponsoring through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries.

Baile's church had committed to a construction project with a local church in Panama to build a Nazarene child development center.



Over the next several years, the churches worked together to deconstruct a small, existing structure, lay a new foundation, and construct a building where children could learn and develop friendships.

Elizabeth, who attends the center, and Baile are both, “on the shy side,” Baile says. That made it a little easier to establish an initial connection. Elizabeth was already signed up for sponsorship, and after spending a week together, Baile and her husband, Dan, found her through NCM and committed to being her sponsors.

“We have been able to form a wonderful relationship, not only with our sponsored child but with her whole family—her siblings and her parents,” Baile shares.



The two families have now shared life together four times, praying through the difficult times and celebrating the joyful ones. They even got to hear about Elizabeth's quinceañera, a significant 15th-birthday celebration.

There is a line in the song "Nobody" by the band Casting Crowns that Baile points to: "Everybody's got a purpose." She and Elizabeth both had a purpose in each other's lives, and now that they have met, Baile plans to continue the relationship.

**Children's names are changed for protection.*

Could you sponsor a child?

Click [here](#) to learn more about sponsoring a child through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries.

Could you serve in Mesoamerica?

Click [here](#) for opportunities to serve on the region.



See the past archive of NMI Central publications [here](#).



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