



# GLOBAL CHE NETWORK

## **CHE Overview** **[www.chenetwork.org](http://www.chenetwork.org)**

### **What is Community Health Evangelism (CHE)**

Community Health Evangelism (CHE) is a wholistic ministry strategy that seamlessly integrates evangelism, discipleship, and church planting with community health and development. CHE workers strive to obey everything that Jesus commanded, including both the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. Through CHE ministries, people become followers of Jesus, and whole communities are lifted out of cycles of poverty and disease.

The purpose of CHE work is not just breaking the cycle of poverty or planting churches, though both are accomplished. The purpose of CHE ministry is a transformation in lives and communities that is as deep as the human heart, and as broad as the whole range of the human experience in the world God made. Through our work, Jesus is recognized as Lord over all creation, and our development activities bring glory to God by reflecting the depth and breadth of His Kingdom plan.

CHE is a Christ-centered educational program that equips communities to identify issues and mobilize resources to achieve positive, sustainable change. Lives and communities are transformed as people come to Christ and work together to address local needs. CHE is being used by more than 400 different Christian ministries in 105 countries worldwide.

### **CHE is Locally Owned**

CHE is not proprietary. CHE principles are freely shared. CHE curriculum is open sourced and not copyrighted. CHE projects take different forms in different countries.

We believe that sustainable solutions are owned by the people and built on local initiative without any outside control. CHE communities assess their own needs, identify resources, create solutions, and organize for action. CHE curricula and the CHE Network provide tools to help get the job done.

## **What are the Immediate Outcomes of CHE Ministry?**

The success of a CHE program can be measured by the following indicators. *These are the outcomes that we consistently see in mature CHE programs around the world:*

1. **Hope and Vision:** The community sees a better future and has hope that it can be achieved.
2. **Leadership:** Godly Christian leaders are positioned and equipped to lead the community toward the accomplishment of its vision.
3. **Ownership:** People are taking responsibility for their own health and well being.
4. **Cooperation:** People are united and working together for the common good.
5. **Volunteers:** Significant numbers of people are taking initiative and acting sacrificially to meet the legitimate needs of others.
6. **Dignity:** People have recovered their identity as made in the image of God and their vocation as stewards of creation. Instead of being controlled or victimized by their environment, they are stewards of it.
7. **Learning, Skill, and Resources:** People are equipped to identify needs and resources, put together a plan, and mobilize volunteers to accomplish their vision. People are continually reflecting on what is happening in order to learn how to be more effective.
8. **Christian Community and Witness:** The church is recognized as an agent of positive change. Believers are meeting together for fellowship, prayer, Bible study and worship, and are sharing Christ with their neighbors in word and deed.

## **What is the Long Term Impact of CHE Ministry?**

Once the above outcomes are achieved, we begin to see the full impact of our work. Churches are established and strengthened, health improves, and economies become more productive. Peace, justice, compassion, and righteousness are witnessed in the community and God is glorified.

## **CHE Curriculum**

The CHE curriculum is a collection of best practices from around the world condensed into simple participatory lesson plans that can be taught in the community. Lesson plans are made available in MS Word format so they can easily be adapted to the context. The latest lesson plan DVD contains more than 10,000 documents including lesson plans, stories, picture books, teaching aids, surveys, and tools for monitoring and evaluation. The material is arranged on the DVD to walk step by step through the whole CHE process.

## **The CHE Network**

The Global CHE Network is an association of people and organizations using the CHE strategy around the world. The goal of our collaboration is the strengthening of each individual ministry and the expansion of CHE ministries. We are networked together for mutual support to share useful ideas and best practices, encourage each other, coordinate efforts, and optimize the use of limited resources.

The network provides a large pool of resources from which all members draw. By coordinating our efforts with a determination to build up each other's ministries and expand the CHE movement, we gain access to ideas and resources. We also create new opportunities to do together what no one of us could achieve alone.

Activities of the network include:

**Research and Curriculum Development:** Through its network of hundreds of organizations, the Global CHE Network identifies best practices and develops materials for use by teams from collaborating organizations around the world.

**Training and Leadership Development:** Collaborating organizations and network coordinators conduct seminars around the globe equipping partners and staff to implement Community Health Evangelism ministries in targeted communities. Members of the network also provide CHE internships in various places around the world aimed at equipping CHE coordinators to give oversight to the work of the movement.

**Collaboration and Exchange of Ideas:** The Global CHE Network aims to equip as many mission organizations, churches, and non-government organizations as possible for effective wholistic ministry, and to bring them together to share resources and plan strategically for the greatest possible impact. This is achieved through alliances, working group meetings, conferences, and the CHE International Network website.

## **How are CHE Programs Initiated?**

CHE is implemented in a series of Steps:

### *Step 1: Casting a Vision for Wholistic Ministry in a Country or an Area*

CHE Coordinators do vision seminars with leaders from churches, missions, faith based organizations, and governments. Alliances are formed, plans made, workers recruited and funding secured.

### *Step 2: Equipping CHE Trainers*

CHE Coordinators train a team of three or four national Christians to implement Community Health Evangelism programs in multiple communities. CHE Coordinators visit the teams they train periodically and continue to mentor and coach the teams through the course of the development process.

### *Step 3: Community Awareness and Organization*

The CHE team works with leaders in the community to raise awareness of need and opportunity, and to unite the community with a common vision for a better quality of life. The community elects representatives to serve on a development committee.

### *Step 4: Training and Mobilizing Volunteers*

The CHE team trains the development committee and equips these elected representatives to manage the development process in their village. Volunteers are recruited from the community and trained by the CHE team to visit homes sharing God's Word while meeting felt needs. These volunteers may teach about immunization and then escort the families to a clinic to get their children immunized, or teach about good nutrition and help the families dig kitchen gardens, or teach about the importance of clean water and help families with ways to sanitize their drinking water. An infrastructure of relationships is established through which information can flow. Changes are introduced one topic at a time.

### *Step 5: Capacity Building and Church Planting*

The CHE team continues to mentor and coach the committee, assisting them in a continual process of identifying problems, researching solutions, finding resources, making plans, recruiting volunteers, and evaluating results. Self help groups are formed for livelihood, economic, and agricultural development. People who come to Christ are disciplined in new life groups and churches are established with a vision and plan for wholistic ministry. Church and community work together for wholistic development and the church is recognized as a transforming agent in its community.

### *Step 6: Multiplication*

The CHE team moves to another community to repeat the process in nearby communities. The CHE team multiplies itself by equipping selected committee members and volunteers as trainers. These volunteers join with a member of the original CHE team in reaching out to a neighboring community.