

# 2024 MINISTRY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP





# BECAUSE OF YOU...

Be encouraged! Your partnership with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is helping to change people's lives in isolated communities.

At the ends of the earth, men, women, and children often face challenges that most of us in the United States can't even imagine.

No access to medical care. No access to education. No churches. No Bibles.

- **Because of your support** ... MAF staff in Ecuador were able to hold an evangelistic outreach in the village of Kurintza. Forty-five people accepted Christ as their Savior, 21 were baptized, and more than 240 heard the message of salvation!
- **Because of your generosity** ... when Mbo, a 10-year-old Congolese boy, fell from a tree and was impaled by a branch, MAF was there to fly him to a hospital where he received lifesaving surgery.
- **Because of you** ... an MAF staff member in a restricted-access country was able to share truth with a former Buddhist monk who asked her, "What do you believe?"

Philemon 1:7 says, *"Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people."*

Your partnership with MAF is a great encouragement to our staff as well as to the isolated people we serve. Likewise, our prayer is that this report encourages you. You're making an impact for Christ in the world's remote places.

## 5 Areas of Impact

Jesus cared about the whole person—physical, emotional, and spiritual. As MAF carries out each flight, activity, and interaction, we want to do the same.

With this in mind, we intentionally seek to build our ministry around five areas of impact:








- **Searching for new disciples** by bringing gospel awareness so isolated people have an opportunity to hear about Jesus
- **Supporting existing followers and disciple-makers** by coming alongside other believers in their walk with Jesus and in their disciple-making efforts
- **Serving people's core needs** by helping meet needs that are crucial to the well-being of those we serve
- **Strengthening the capacity and talent of national staff** by taking intentional steps to further the education and development of MAF's local overseas employees
- **Stewarding creation** as a reflection of God's love for mankind by supporting projects related to the care of God's creation







MAF is a family of organizations led by people in countries around the world who have a similar vision of taking Christ's love into the most remote places on earth. MAF-US collaborates with our sister organizations to meet spiritual and physical needs. In this report, "Mission Aviation Fellowship" or "MAF" refers to MAF-US only, as do all the numbers.

	<b>12 countries</b> of operation		<b>285</b> organizations served
	<b>4,326,684 lbs.</b> of cargo carried		An MAF plane takes off or lands every <b>16 minutes</b>
	<b>16,477 flights</b> accomplished		<b>46,096</b> passengers transported
	<b>45,858 days</b> of travel time saved		



# CELEBRATIONS



## Haiti: Preparing To Resume Flights

After temporarily halting operations in Haiti in 2023 due to security concerns, five MAF missionary families, a teacher couple and two single pilot/mechanics all returned to this difficult country and hope to resume flights in mid-2025 once governmental permissions are obtained. Through God's provision and the support of our partners, MAF purchased land near the northern Haiti town of Pignon. We've dug a well and started building staff houses, and the children of MAF staff have started school. We celebrate these milestones while keeping our focus on how our team can bring greater glory and honor to the Lord.

## Papua, Indonesia: the Dem People Now Have a School

On Sept. 4, 2024, the first school for the Dem people opened in the village of Bina, high in the mountains in Papua, Indonesia. This school was started by ministry partners, and MAF has supported ministry work in Bina for years. In August 2024, we made many flights to deliver school supplies and furnishings, food, and school staff. This primary school opened with 100 students in four classes, including a class of 25 kindergartners. It's a Christian school that includes Bible teaching in its curriculum. This school begins a new chapter for the Dem people, instilling hope of a better future for their children.

## Mozambique: Celebrating 25 Years Of Ministry

MAF recently celebrated 25 years of bringing help, hope, and healing to the people of Mozambique. In Mozambique, where MAF is known as Ambassador Aviation, the team supports missionary and Bible translation work and is a key partner in the MozMed flying doctor program that brings medical care to isolated villages. This year, MozMed expanded into six villages. Dave and Gerd LePoidevin, who have served in Mozambique since the program's beginnings in 1999, are still a crucial part of the team.



**"Just knowing y'all are trying to come back still gives me hope even when so much feels hopeless. .... Your sacrifice of persevering even with so many unknowns gives so many of us hope that Haiti will resume some type of normal and continue. Hope!"**

—Angelica Mourges



## Terrorism Case Dropped against Ryan Koher

The Koher family first arrived in Mozambique in 2021. In 2022, Ryan was wrongfully detained as he was preparing to fly supplies to an orphanage. Ryan was imprisoned for four months before being permitted to leave the country with his wife and two sons in 2023. In 2024, the case against him was finally dismissed, and he was cleared of all charges. Ryan and his wife, Annabel, welcomed a daughter in 2024. They plan to return to continue their mission work and share the hope of Christ with the people of Mozambique.



## Helping Children Stay Healthy

In Democratic Republic of the Congo, MAF is a vital link in the cold chain that safely delivers medicines to those in need. We work in partnership with the Congolese Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization, a Congolese evangelical group, and other organizations committed to ensuring children in remote villages can receive childhood vaccinations. Every quarter, MAF delivers vaccines and supplies to several “hub towns.” From there, health workers transport them by motorcycle, boat, or land vehicle to remote health clinics. These vaccines for polio, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, measles, rubella, yellow fever, and other deadly diseases are critical to preventing epidemics and keeping children healthy.



## Saving Lives

MAF's support of the medical community impacts people in palpable ways. In Lesotho, MAF pilot Joe Adams recently had three Code 1 (medical emergency) calls in a single Saturday: an expectant mother whose labor had stalled, a patient in critical condition who needed transport to a larger hospital, and a newborn baby in distress. Without MAF, each of these situations could have ended in tragedy. Adams said, “It was a full day of bringing help, hope, and healing through aviation to isolated people. I am tired but joyful to be part of an organization that allows me to use my gifts and talents in a tangible way to share the love of Jesus Christ with the people of Lesotho.”

## Hospital House

MAF supports a Tarakan guesthouse in Kalimantan, Indonesia, where family members of people being treated at the hospital can stay, since they often come from far away. A medevac patient stayed at the house for several months while recovering from illnesses. The patient was a Muslim, but, as he interacted with MAF staff and pastors who visited, he began to ask questions about God and why MAF staff do what they do. Initially, the man resisted going to the monthly worship service because of his faith, but afterward, he heard the other patients and their families talking about the service, and his curiosity was piqued. He asked to meet with the pastors and later prayed to accept Christ. When the man recovered and returned to his village, one of the guesthouse pastors accompanied him to introduce him to his new church family in the village.



**“Our partnership with MAF has allowed us access to people groups living in hard-to-reach areas. Hundreds of tribes are only accessible by a two- to three-day trip on the back of a motorcycle or a 12- to 18-hour motorized canoe trip upriver. We have engaged tribes lately that have not had a faithful gospel witness among them for more than 35 years.”**

—Aaron Kuglin, IMB Missionary in DRC







### Moi Bible Dedication

On Jan. 4, 2024, MAF staff in Papua, Indonesia, joined villagers, missionaries, and Bible translators to celebrate the dedication of a Bible in the Moi language. This included the entire New Testament as well as 1,500 verses of the Old Testament. MAF has been actively supporting this work for more than 20 years. Bible translators first began work in the area in 2000, when two translators arrived via helicopter and contacted this isolated people group. One villager said, “At creation God planned the day we would get His Word. Now it’s here. Our enemy has owned us, but now we have the weapon to fight him. Never forget this sword to fight our enemy.” Praise God for how He is building His church in this region!

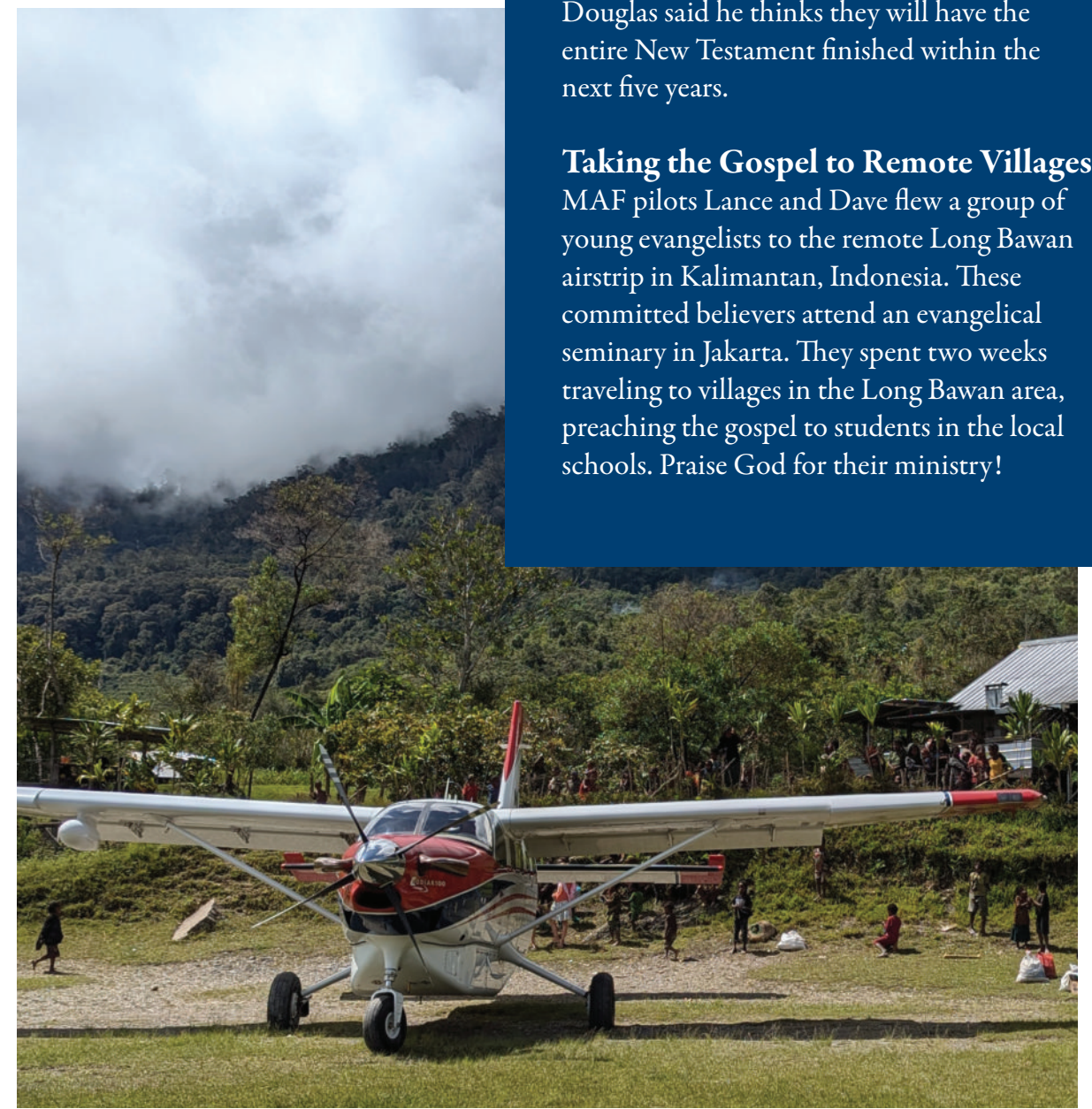


### New Testament Bible Translation Workshop

In Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), MAF pilot Ben Samuelson flew Douglas Wright, an SIL translation consultant. Douglas had completed a three-week trip to Isiro for a translation workshop for the Mangbetu language, which included checking and confirming five epistles. Douglas shared how encouraging it was to see progress on this translation despite many barriers. The project started 40 years ago, and it took 30 years to finish the first gospel in this language. After seeing the advances during the workshop, Douglas said he thinks they will have the entire New Testament finished within the next five years.

### Taking the Gospel to Remote Villages

MAF pilots Lance and Dave flew a group of young evangelists to the remote Long Bawan airstrip in Kalimantan, Indonesia. These committed believers attend an evangelical seminary in Jakarta. They spent two weeks traveling to villages in the Long Bawan area, preaching the gospel to students in the local schools. Praise God for their ministry!





### Pilatus PC-12

The new-to-us PC-12 aircraft has been in operation for just over a year now in Central Asia. Integrating this aircraft into our fleet required some adjustments in maintenance, parts, and airstrips, yet it has expanded our ability to serve the people of this region.

The pressurized aircraft can fly higher and longer, and it handles the winter weather better. Last year, a Kodiak pilot had to decline a flight request for a girl who had fallen down a mountain and sustained injuries. She was in a coma, and her condition was too serious for the unpressurized Kodiak. Instead, the team quickly dispatched the PC-12 to pick up the 10-year-old girl and her father. Once in the capital city, the MAF team rallied to get the patient to the best care by helping move her to a better hospital. Unfortunately, she passed away later that evening, but her father thanked the MAF team, saying, “We will never forget all you have done.” Without the Pilatus, seeking care for her would not have even been an option.



### Searching For New Disciples

The Lesotho Mountain Discipleship (LMD) missionaries working in Lesotho’s mountains continue to have an impact as they focus on discipling new and existing believers to maturity. In 2019 an LMD missionary shared the gospel with a young man named “Hlompho,” who continued to ask questions and eventually gave his life to Christ. He then joined the evangelism teams visiting other villages.

Hlompho later shared the gospel with “Katleho,” who was a shepherd. Katleho wanted to follow Jesus, but he wondered if he could still attend cultural initiation rites. Hlompho wisely shared Isaiah 55:7, which says the wicked must *abandon* their ways and turn to the Lord. Since coming to Christ, Katleho has experienced opposition from his community but holds firm to his faith. He says Hlompho is one of his dearest friends because he cared enough to share Jesus with him. MAF will continue to provide essential logistical support and transportation to LMD, ensuring these missionaries are equipped and empowered as the gospel takes root in the mountainous regions of this southern African country.

### International Pathways

As a ministry, staffing is MAF’s greatest limitation. Qualified people with the calling, willingness and skills to serve as MAF staff are few. With this in mind, MAF is looking beyond our borders. We believe there are qualified candidates around the world who genuinely want to engage in missions, but are unable to because they lack resources, access to training, and/or a supporting organization. International Pathways will bring in qualified candidates from other parts of the world. Under this program, Haitian pilot Zacharie Francois recently returned to Haiti as an MAF staff member after completing all the training and requirements of MAF staff, including support raising.



**“...One reason why unreached people groups are unreached is that they are hard to reach. ... MAF plays a very critical role in helping deploy workers to unreached people groups who have not yet experienced the love and power of the Good News of Jesus. ...[MAF] takes our ministry to another level, and we so appreciate it.”**

**—Jim and Vicky Egli, Vineyard Churches, Guinea**



## A Generous Heart

One of our incredible MAF partners offered a remarkable gift: a dollar-for-dollar match, up to \$465,000, for several vital projects. This act was the result of a spiritual journey.

Years ago, this person sought God's guidance on how to offer a truly sacrificial gift. The Lord's response was unexpected: "Give up something you can afford but don't need."

Fast forward to the present, where this person has accomplished professional success. He contemplated purchasing a multi-million-dollar private plane, which would undoubtedly bring convenience. Yet, the Lord's earlier words echoed in his heart.

In a powerful act of obedience, this MAF partner chose to forgo the plane and instead dedicated those funds to causes that would make a lasting impact. MAF and other organizations were the recipients of his generosity.

While not all of us are in a position to purchase an airplane, we can all embrace the spirit of sacrificial giving. By identifying areas where we can give up something we value for the sake of helping others, we, too, can experience the joy and fulfillment of generosity.

# THANK YOU!

Thank you for your support in 2024. Your generosity is bringing help, hope, and healing to isolated people around the world.



For more stories and videos of what God is doing through MAF with your help, scan here:







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*Cover Photo: Democratic Republic of the Congo by Lem Malabuyo*