



Vernacular Video Mission International

PO Box 22394 • Minneapolis MN 55422 USA

Website: www.vvmi.org

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Partner with VVMI,

The past year has been both exciting and challenging. I think the most exhilarating aspect for me personally has been to see how VVMI's ministry partners have not only **pressed on** in the face of challenges "*toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus,*" as the Apostle Paul stated in Philippians 3:14, but they have also increasingly been doing it together, **collaborating** to speed the work! I see our Lord truly pulling His Church together to accomplish HIS mission. All praise to Him!

This year's annual report is different from past years in that I want you to hear directly from these co-workers in the field, both what God has been doing and what He has put on their hearts for 2025. We — you and VVMI — are so blessed to be able to know and minister with such Kingdom servants!

In Christ, Colin Edwards, VVMI Executive Director

Dear brothers and sisters, please accept my fraternal greetings!

As we begin this new year, I am very grateful to the Lord for His faithfulness and to each one of you for the works and love that, for His glory, you have shown us throughout 2024. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers and also for your financial contributions, thus allowing His Word to continue to reach every indigenous child in our country through the Bible stories in the Deditos videos.

We thank God for everything He allowed us to do during 2024:

- We made progress on the translation of books of the Bible in the Iku, Yukpa, Wiwa, Misak, and Cagua languages.
- We dubbed Deditos Episodes 1-3 in the Guahibo language and Episodes 4-6 in the Nasayuwe language.
- FDPM-CO trained native Bible translation teams for the Bible translation programs we manage.
- We coordinated the next EMDC (media conference) event in Spanish that will take place in Peru in August 2025.

For 2025 we have several challenges and dreams we would like to fulfill:

- For the first time, we will begin recording the entire Old Testament in the Wayuunaiki language. This will be with the help of our partner ministry, ILMAY of Peru, in concert with DAVAR (another ministry).
- We dream of dubbing Episodes 1-3 of Deditos in the Misak language of the Guambiano ethnic group.
- We are part of the coordinating team that will hold the EMDC event in Spanish in Peru from August 25-30.
- Continue moving forward in all of the Bible translation projects of which FDPM is in charge.

We are very thankful to the Lord for His faithfulness and to each one of you for supporting us with the Deditos project in Colombia. We pray the Lord will help us with all the challenges and dreams for 2025, which we long to fulfill, holding the Lord's hand and with the support of you all.



Serving together,

Sandra Misal

Director, FDPM-CO



January 2025



Dear Friends of VVMI,

As director of AE-ILMAV, we are very grateful for all your collaboration during 2024 with the different projects we are undertaking in Peru and all of Latin America.

Your important partnership has allowed us to unify our collaboration with other countries, such as Ecuador, Paraguay, and Mexico. Through these projects we are creating and developing strategies that allow us to be more efficient and also do the projects well. We are so moved to know that we are fulfilling the call of our Lord Jesus Christ to go to all nations and announce the good news. Many are listening and having a relationship with the Creator of the entire Universe and are transmitting this message of hope and restoration to all their communities in their own language. Technology is allowing us to speed up this process, using the internet, portable audio players, radio, etc.

We also appreciate your working with us in being able to update and acquire equipment that we use in recording the Bible. Every year technology changes, and the newer equipment helps because it allows us to reduce the time it takes to complete a project.

The new year brings many challenges to continue with our work of helping more people groups have the Bible in audio in their own language. Unity in the Spirit and collaboration with other organizations is key to being able to carry out the projects effectively. We are so moved to see how other translator organizations in Latin America ask us for help so their communities can have the Bible in audio form since it is the most efficient way of getting the Word out.

Our goal in 2025 now expands to continue helping many languages and peoples in Latin America and beyond. All this is possible with the Favor of God and also because of your important involvement with our ministry.

May the Lord continue to bless your families and above all pour out that peace that surpasses all understanding because only in this way can we face the challenges and obstacles of our present day.

“Therefore, lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.” – Hebrews 12:12-13 (ESV).

May many more peoples and languages be healed and follow the Way of the Lord.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaime Almeida".

Jaime Almeida
Director, AE-ILMAV



Year 2024 In A Nutshell

THANKSGIVING & APPRECIATION:

As you can see on the map, these are the places where we have ministry and mission Partners/Teams who are actively doing gospel proclamation, discipleship, church planting, and missions.

- Three “new” CMI Teams were also equipped and mobilized: CMI Uson, Masbate Team; CMI Castilla, Sorsogon Team; CMI Irosin, Sorsogon Team. Documented film showing report totaled 156, watched by over 6,000 people resulting to 1,758 spiritual decisions. Distributed 1,171 vernacular Bibles and 88 vernacular Audio Bibles.
- The Hiligaynon version of Deditos (11 Episodes) was finished and dedicated in April 2024. Additionally, 3 new Deditos Episodes were dubbed in Ilocano and Tagalog dialects, bringing the total of 17 new Deditos videos done in 2024.
- Did 10 Deditos Seminar and Training Workshops attended by 174 participants in La Trinidad, Benguet, Davao City, Masbate, and Sorsogon. Distributed over 40 Deditos Teacher’s Manuals, and 10 Smart TV Monitors for churches located in remote places.

The above favor from God would be impossible without YOUR prayer partnership and encouragement. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU for abounding in the Lord and for being a part of the TEAM through the years and more.

And yet, a good number of islands still need to be reached and discipled for the Lord Jesus Christ. New Teams need to be equipped and mobilized. The Lord of the Harvest is opening more doors and opportunities to us for that! This is possible because **Christ Makes the Impossible, Possible!**

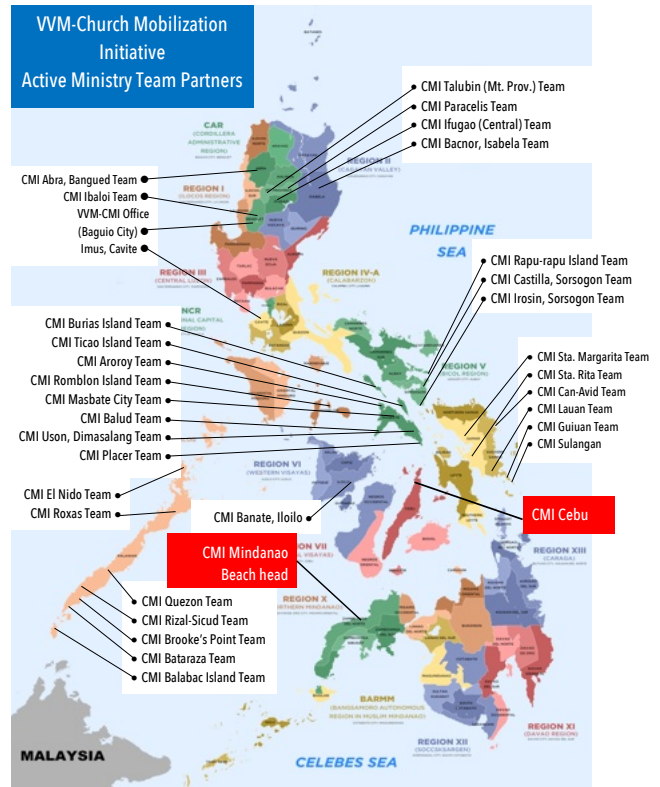
God has opened ministry expansion in the Central Visayas, beginning on the Northern part of Cebu Island; also, in the Western Region of Mindanao (see map – red highlights). The good news is that Deditos scripts have been translated into Cebuano, the language used in Western Visayas and in Mindanao; thereafter, it will be ready for dubbing. These are tools for mobilization and training. PLEASE PRAY!

Serving Him with you,

Darwin & Nnette Bayani



Proclaiming the Gospel through Video & Scripture!



Dear friends at VVMI,

For Viña, the year 2024 will always be the year José Abel, dear friend, colleague, Viña's Executive Director, and the creative force behind the Deditos series, passed on to glory.

Having Will Ferguson and Colin Edwards join us for the celebration of José Abel's life and meet with Viña staff, volunteers, and partners was a great encouragement and very much appreciated. Thanks VVMI for sending Will and Colin to represent you as we grieved, prayed, and shared together what Jose Abel meant to each of us. We are grateful for your continued vision for producing the Deditos series.



Karla as 'Aleah" one of the main voices in episode 11 in the Kaqchikel language of Guatemala.

This year, VVMI funds allowed us move forward on dubbing Deditos Episode 11 into *Kaqchikel*.

Pedro Lebon, a Kaqchikel himself, and Viña's video editor, coordinated this effort, casting voices, scheduling recording times and directing the voice actors. Special challenges included actors who wouldn't show and recording outside of normal hours to accommodate schedules. But all the voices were recorded and inserted into the video. The only element lacking is the final song, which we anticipate recording in February '25. The five lessons for this video have also been translated into *Kaqchikel*.

The mastering of Deditos, Episodes 1-3 in *Khakas (Hakas)* [a VVMI-assisted project] were completed in March. The Khakas are a Turkic indigenous people of Siberia, with around 19,000 speakers.



Another project with which VVMI assisted, Episodes 2 & 3 in *Koateneko*, a Mayan language, were converted from Standard Definition to HD. This is timely as we anticipate more interest and use in Deditos within Guatemala in the coming year.

With funding from VVMI, Viña was able to purchase components allowing them to build two new computers and upgrade a third. This will result in two visual effects suites and one video editing suite better suited for Deditos production.

As we begin 2025, we face many challenges, but we are moving forward with confidence, knowing that this is God's ministry.

We are slowly building up the technical team, with two new staff starting in January: Daniela, a second visual effects (VFX) artist, and former employee, Jonhy, audio engineer / video editor / musician and our finger actor!

We still need more staff, especially someone to direct the production of the Deditos videos as well as a new Executive Director. Finding someone to fill José Abel's shoes as a director for the series is especially challenging. We covet your prayers.

In order for Viña to ramp up and do production in a more timely manner, Viña needs to put more efforts into fundraising—especially within Guatemala. Pray we can find someone to head that up.

Congratulations VVMI on your twenty five years of ministry! Viña sees our partnership with you as a key factor in the continued advance of Deditos use and impact around the world.

God's blessings!

Rick & Carol McArthur

Rick & Carol McArthur
Interm Co-Directors
Viña Association
Guatemala



2024 PROJECT SUPPORT SUMMARY

The tables below summarize the type and number of VVMI and partnership *projects* supported by VVMI donors *in 2024*, and the outflow of those and earlier donations during the calendar year for specific project purposes. Please see the “VVMI 2024 Annual Financial Report for Donors” for total VVMI income and expenditures. Note that VVMI operates on a cash basis, so income does not typically match expenses during a given calendar year. Some gifts received in 2024 show up in the first table, but since those gifts will not go to work until calendar year 2025 or later, they are not shown as 2023 expenditures in the second table. Similarly, some gifts received in 2023 were used for 2024 expenditures, so those funds do not show up as 2024 gifts.

PROJECT GIVING BREAKDOWN BY MINISTRY ORGANIZATION

Organization	Fully Supported	Partial	Ongoing	Un-sponsored	Project Giving in 2024
VVM-CMI	4	2	5	0	\$37,291
VIÑA	3		1	3	\$13,958
AE-ILMAV	2	4		6	\$43,185
FDPM-CO		1			\$5,890
VVMI	1		2		\$8,230
TOTAL	10	7	8	9	\$108,554

NUMBER AND TYPE OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY DESIGNATED AND UNDESIGNATED FUNDS IN 2024

Monies Expended by Project Category	VVM-CMI	VIÑA	AE-ILMAV	FDPM-CO	VVMI	Expenditure in 2024
Productions	1 †	3	1 †	1		\$21,964
Production Equipment	2	1	1			\$19,491
Projection Related						\$0
Facility	1		1			\$11,651
Print Bibles	1					\$13,664
Audio Bibles (to VVM-CMI)					1	\$1,140
Audio Bible Recording			1			\$9,100
<i>Deditos</i> Ministry Related *	1				1	\$16,399
Non- <i>Deditos</i> Training						\$0
Ministry Operations and Expansion	3	1				\$15,194

* Includes assistance with expenses for 10 *Deditos* teacher training workshops, materials for distribution, TV monitors for churches to show *Deditos*, and the de la Cruz trip in April.

† Productions = project includes dubbing of *Deditos* into multiple languages.

**“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”
Psalms 116:15 (ESV)**



Nobody but God — and perhaps José Able de la Cruz — saw it coming, but on June 1, 2024, our friend, coworker, and brother in Christ entered the Lord’s presence after 57 years on this earth.

Of course, José and all that he was are greatly missed. His departure left a big void that in many ways is yet to be filled. Yet, his last days and specific instructions for a celebration of life service in the event of his home-going, gave every indication he was at peace with God and life, and was ready to go wherever and whenever the Lord called.



One thing José emphasized many times in his interactions with VVMI the last few years: **God is in control, and He has done and is doing things we never planned or imagined. It’s out of our control!** Our brothers in the Philippines would agree, since they say, *“Who could have imagined the power of a little finger!”*

May our Lord continue to bless those “little fingers” — the vision given to our brother, José and beyond — such that the people, both children and adults, of many nations, tribes, peoples, and languages will know about the one true God and give Him all the worship and praise!



PHOTOS (TOP & COUNTERCLOCKWISE) — CLASSIC JOSÉ: HE WANTED VVMI TO KNOW HOW JERICHO WAS REALLY DESTROYED! / JOSÉ’S FAMILY AT THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE / (LEFT-RIGHT) VVMI BOARD CHAIRMAN, WILL FERGUSON, BLANQUI DE LA CRUZ HOLDING JOSÉ’S ASHES, AND VVMI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COLIN EDWARDS



On December 22, the VVMI Board voted to enter into a “Memorandum Of Understanding” with “Tesoros Waorani” (meaning “Waorani Treasures”) to work together to help the Waorani of eastern Ecuador create audio and video resources in their language. These materials will ultimately be used by the local Christians for teaching and story and film creation. Although the Waorani, a tribe of some 2700, have the Bible, most are still animists and need to really know and serve the one true God.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A VVMI PRAYER PARTNER? VVMI values prayer in its leading and operation. We also consider our prayer partners to be like a “phalanx” — prayer warriors linking their shields of faith and pushing together in prayer — not unlike the ancient battle formation that stood fast and bristled in defense or moved boldly in offensive operations against an enemy. To join us and our ministry partners in prayer to help push back spiritual darkness, contact VVMI (as noted below) to receive the email or postal mail monthly prayer bulletin, “The VVMI Phalanx.”

WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VVMI? Please visit our website at www.vvmi.org. If you want hard copies of **VVMI general informational resources**, information about **current ministry projects**, **short-term trip options**, or **service opportunities**, please contact **Colin Edwards** by email at cjedwards@vvmi.org, by mail at VVMI’s postal address (shown at the top of this report), or by phone at 309-338-1367.

VERNACULAR VIDEO MISSION INTERNATIONAL AUGUST 2024

THE VVMI PHALANX

VVMI partners with and equips ethnic Christians who proclaim the Gospel through video and other media in their common language

PRAY-GIVE-GO FOR 25+ YEARS!
VVMI OFFICIALLY BEGAN AUGUST 16, 1999

VVMI's roots were set in the idea that people should have God's Word in the vernacular in their mother tongue heart language, the language one understands best! By 2007, getting print Bibles out of the "bodega," (or the warehouse, as shown at right) and into use was key for disciples making efforts in connection with film shootings. Audio Bibles came into use by VVMI partners largely after 2014.

An early driving reason for VVMI was helping the ministry partners reach older "non-book" people like the woman at the right before they left this world.

Original and dubbed vernacular film shootings helped people better understand Bible truths

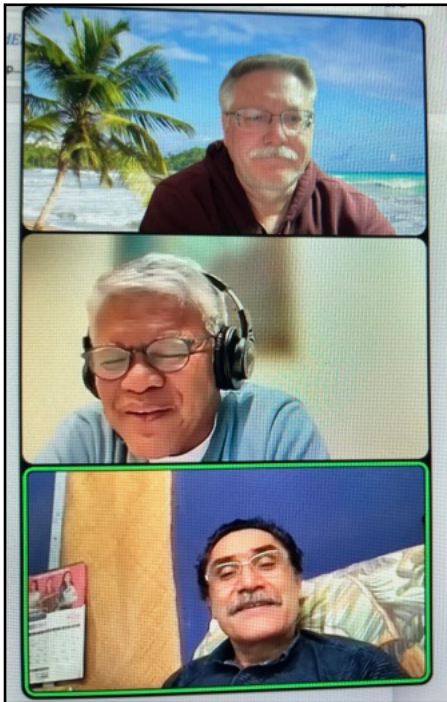
Most of the original VVMI Board of Directors, c. late 2002, left to right: Pete Meier, Gandy Harter, Kent Voelckel, Don Leonard (founder's Phil Koehn, Colin Edwards, and Jim Neff) (Not shown: Rick Jacobson and Leslie Nelson)

In 2008, partnership with Vista Association helped to better reach the next generation through Dedee's

Friendships and relationships with national brothers and sisters is so important!

Empowering indigenous churches to minister within their cultural context remains a high priority

VVMI - PO BOX 22394 - Minneapolis, MN 55422 309-338-1367 WWW.VVMI.ORG



PHOTOS: (LEFT, TOP TO BOTTOM) – THE PHONE VIDEO CALL THAT SET UP JOSÉ AND BLANQUI'S APRIL PHILIPPINES VISIT / A 2024 EQUIPMENT PROJECT TO HELP AE-ILMAV MAKE DEDITOS / AUDIO BIBLE RECORDING AT AE-ILMAV / FDPM-CO WORKING IN THE COLOMBIAN JUNGLES WITH THE GUAHIBO PEOPLE TO RECORD VOICES FOR THEIR DEDITOS / (RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM) – MEETING AT VIÑA TO SHARE AND PRAY ON JUNE 6 FOLLOWING JOSÉ'S HOME-GOING / BIBLE DISTRIBUTION IN THE PHILIPPINES / AN ELDERLY FILIPINA RECEIVING AN AUDIO BIBLE IN HER LANGUAGE / (ABOVE, MIDDLE) – DEDITOS IS BEING DUBBED INTO MORE AND MORE LANGUAGES! CHECK IT OUT AT DEDITOS.ORG

VERNACULAR VIDEO MISSION INTERNATIONAL 2024 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DONORS

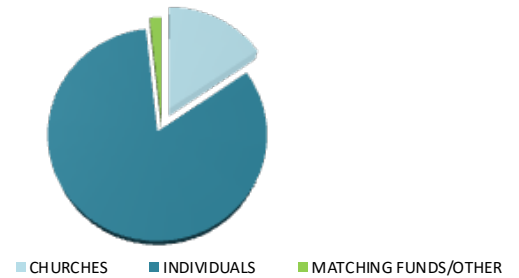


PHOTOS (FAR LEFT AND CLOCKWISE: Viña's late Executive Director, José Abel de la Cruz, and his wife, Blanqui, at the dedication of the Hiligaynon language *Deditos* on Panay Island, Philippines, April 2024. It was the first time a major trade language of the country had all current *Deditos* episodes. ■ VVM-CMI Executive Director, Darwin Bayani, with the new production computer, a 2024 project, that will be used for further *Deditos* dubbing work, including for another major trade language, Cebuano. ■ The Lord used José's passing on June 1 to help solidify the call of native missionaries and church planters to use *Deditos* tools to help create a "beachhead" for further ministry to reach unreached peoples on the southern island of Mindanao. Cebuano *Deditos* may soon play a big part

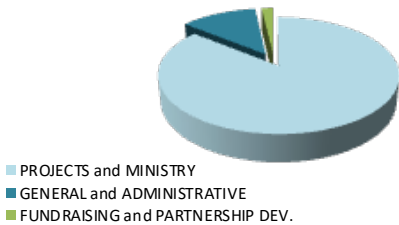
VVMG GIVING

DONORS	\$ AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
CHURCHES	29,472	15%
INDIVIDUALS	158,013	83%
MATCHING FUNDS/OTHER	3,347	2%
2024 TOTAL	\$ 190,832	100%

DONOR OVERVIEW



How YOUR gift is used to advance the Gospel



Our Stewardship Commitment

VVMG OUTFLOW CATEGORY	\$ AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
PROJECTS and MINISTRY	161,071	86%
GENERAL and ADMINISTRATIVE	23,196	12%
FUNDRAISING and PARTNERSHIP DEV.	3,539	2%
2024 TOTAL	\$ 187,806	100%

VVMG and Partners in Ministry

MINISTRY/MISSION OUTFLOW	\$ AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
VVM-CMI PROJECTS (Philippines)	69,542	37%
Viña PROJECTS (Latin America & Global)	24,123	13%
AE-ILMAV PROJECTS (Latin America)	46,887	25%
FDFM-CO PROJECTS (Colombia)	7,219	4%
SHORT-TERM TRIPS	6,472	3%
VVMG Operations	33,563	18%
2024 TOTAL	\$ 187,806	100%

PARTNERSHIPS

