

*From the IHART website, written by Theresa Sidebotham to Tambo (Bolivia) MKs, Feb 17, 2015:*

I've ... learned that some thought IHART was an entity owned by Pat Hendrix, rather than a process put in place by New Tribes Mission. This has caused some to wonder whether New Tribes Mission is involved in the investigations.

... IHART is a process. It is not an entity owned by either New Tribes Mission or Pat Hendrix. It always has been a process. The "T" or "Team" refers to the fact that the process requires a team to implement the efforts. I believe IHART was created as a genuine response to the unfolding news of allegations of historical child abuse and New Tribes Mission's desire to have independent people respond quickly and appropriately to those historical situations and reports. An important part of the process was to have allegations independently reviewed, to have written reports that did not disclose the identities of the reporters/victims, and to follow with appropriate actions on confirmed cases of abuse.

Apparently, there was a lack of clarity in early communication. Somehow it was never explained clearly that IHART was a process rather than a separate entity. While I had heard of IHART before my being hired to lead the process, I was unclear of this distinction until I began working with New Tribes Mission. Further, it seems that IHART became identified with Ms. Hendrix, possibly because she was the first coordinator and was the first to actually implement the plan. Unfortunately the full extent of the confusion didn't become known until this recent change of the IHART coordinator.

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