

TIM McINTOSH JAARS



As a missionary kid (MK) growing up in Colombia, South America, Tim had many opportunities to see the impact of his parent's roles supporting Bible translation. Tim's dad was a JAARS pilot and his mom served administrative roles in various offices. While on the field, his family was privileged to visit villages in numerous language groups, and even attend more than a few scripture dedications. One dedication, held in the US due to extreme instability in the language area, was deeply moving as the completion of the New Testament was being celebrated despite extreme geographical, cultural, and spiritual challenges throughout the entire 24yr translation process. Dad's service of flying the translators into the 600' grass strip, arched precariously over the shoulder of mountain, had saved days of hiking over rugged trails each time the translators had gone in or out of their remote language area. That vital transportation link had been one of the keys to facilitating and encouraging the difficult work of translating God's Word for the Tunebos who had never before heard the Good News in their own language! Despite a childhood of immersion in a missions environment, that particular dedication service was one of the first times Tim sensed a personal "call" to also somewhere, somehow help take the Gospel to unreached people groups.

About 15 years later, after logging thousands of hours on the coastal waters of the Atlantic Ocean, working as a marine biologist in South Florida, Tim learned about the new Maritime Services Department of JAARS. A desire to support Bible translation, coupled with a desire to use Tim's maritime experience and training in service for the Lord, led the McIntosh's to join Wycliffe Bible Translators in 2005. Almost immediately an invitation came from the SIL branch in Papua New Guinea for someone to manage a new vessel being constructed in Cairns, Australia. In August of 2007, Tim was part of the crew that ferried the 41' M/V Kwadima II ("Star" in the local Dobu language) from Australia to PNG where she would begin her service.

For five of the next six years, Tim ran the East Papua Boat program, coordinating water travel for translation teams working in about 30 different language groups. Program management included personnel administration of the full-time national crew, communicating with the East Papua Region teams via email, arranging travel schedules to meet the needs of all the user-groups, coordinating and conducting maintenance, and arranging commercial loading and charters to subsidize operating costs for the translators. This logistical support was a vital part of the ministry of providing God's Word in the heart languages of the people of Milne Bay and Oro Provinces in Eastern Papua New Guinea.

Tim and his family are now back home in the US, presently assigned to full time partnership development, raising the funds necessary to take on a position in the headquarters of the Maritime Services Department at the JAARS Center in Waxhaw, North Carolina. In addition to bringing years of field experience to the planning table, facilitating the development and launching of new projects, Tim will continue to provide stateside logistical support for existing projects such as Kwadima II in PNG.

Tim and Stacie have four children. As a trained educator with several years experience in the public school system, Stacie skillfully handles the many challenges of home-schooling all four children. Their oldest, Austin (15) attends the JAARS high school and local church youth groups. He is also committed to the JAARS Summer Mission Trip to Thailand! Their only daughter Kylah (13) attends the middle school youth groups. Lucas (10) and Weston (7) are active in AWANAs. All the kids enjoy being closer to family and "back home" in Waxhaw, near Charlotte, NC.