

Giving Tuesday 2021

Phil & Olivia Iekel | EMI Nicaragua (Engineering Ministries International)

This summer, Phil & Olivia transitioned into new roles with [EMI Nicaragua](#). EMI Nicaragua exists to deliver construction management services to support the sharing of the gospel and meet the physical needs of people throughout Latin America.

For the last five years, Olivia has served with [CEPAD](#), where for she developed the volunteer/intern program, connected RCA churches and individuals with CEPAD's ministry, and worked with the poor and impoverished through feeding programs, medical care, and various forms of education. Olivia trained a Nicaraguan to take over her position at CEPAD, living into the RCA Global Mission's principle of sustainable empowerment.

Nicole Opgenorth | CEPAD (Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua)

[Nicole](#), who volunteered with Olivia Iekel at CEPAD, is now raising support to be a long-term RCA missionary with CEPAD. Nicole will assume Olivia's role as liaison for RCA churches. In this role, Nicole will share with RCA supporters how their gifts are empowering rural communities in Nicaragua to lift themselves out of poverty through pastoral training, leadership development, economic empowerment, food security, and environmental care.

JJ Ten Clay | RCA Refugee Ministry

JJ works with refugees and displaced people as the [Refugees Ministry Coordinator](#) for RCA Global Mission. Her goal is to empower congregations and RCA entities to respond to this crisis of forced migration. In short, she wants to equip others to come alongside refugees to follow the biblical mandate to care for the stranger, the foreigner, and the sojourner. She invites you to join RCA Global Mission in being ambassadors for Christ in the midst of unbelievable destruction and despair. RCA Global Mission does not currently have any partners who work directly in Afghanistan to provide immediate aid, but we work with several partners who provide care for refugees and displaced people from Afghanistan. Our partners need more individuals and churches willing to aid in refugee resettlement efforts throughout Canada and the United States.