



Breakthrough To People Network Fact Sheet

What is BTPN?

The initials stand for *Breakthrough To People Network*.

A remarkable Christian organization whose purpose is to accomplish this objective "*Helping fellow Christians to support their families, churches and ministries through the creation and development of small businesses in their local communities.*"

What does BTPN Do?

Tell Me More The ministry is one of "teaching them how to fish", in other words, to be financially self-sufficient. The approach is to help Christians begin and maintain small businesses, particularly in Eastern European countries, in order to support their families, their churches, their communities, and provide a financial basis for "Kingdom Work"; churches started and the gospel shared.

They have no financial resource nor business ability. The Eastern European countries that were a part of the Soviet Union gained their independence in the early 1990's and have relatively little expertise in "free market" economic principles. Most believers don't have the money to begin small business, nor the know-how. Unemployment in many of these countries is extremely high, particularly in the thousands of small villages. In many cases, churches in these countries have had to depend on support from Christian organizations, often in the United States, in order to exist and to do even minimum outreach and assistance to the poor, orphans, and the disadvantaged.

Why can't they do it themselves?

What countries and why?

Because of the small size of BTPN, we can work effectively in only a limited area and Ukraine has been selected for several reasons: there is desperate need for the program; Christians are receptive and highly interested; they are motivated to witness and extend the Kingdom of God, build churches, expand the influence of the church, etc. In addition, they are receptive to learning how to launch and operate small businesses.

Candidates are nominated, chosen, and then take part in a four (4) phase training and business design program.

What is the process?

How are candidates chosen?

Candidates are recommended by local pastors and exhibit the following traits or beliefs: must be first, a Christian; active church member (ideally, a church leader); has the potential to learn business basics and start and operate a small business; and last, wish to use the business to make a local "Kingdom Impact".

Once candidates are selected, they go through a four phase process, all under the guidance of coaches. Phase 1: The fundamentals of operating a small business emphasizing Christian principles. During this phase, they identify the type business and do market research. They write a simple market plan which becomes the basis for selecting those candidates invited to continue the program. Phase 2 involves writing a business plan with help from coaches. Phase 3 is a program to train those candidates actually funded. Phase 4 is a post start up and review of an existing business.

What is the teaching process?

Who are the coaches? Volunteer Christian businessmen and management consultants from around the world including the host country.

Approved businesses (ranging in size from \$500-\$8,000 normally) are funded through gifts from either individuals, churches, or other organizations. They are treated as non-interest loans to be repaid and re-loaned continuously.

How are businesses funded?

How can I help? Through your interest in BTPN, your gifts (either one time, or on-going monthly commitments), telling others about BTPN, by your prayers, by coaching/mentoring.



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28 Susie Lane
Blairsville, Georgia 30512 USA
Telephone; 706.781.1617/ 404.775.4010 (C)
Web Site: www.btpn.org
email: bcrowe@btpn.org