

Mission Alive to Transform Rural and Small Town Communities

Mission Alive Receives Grant for Rural and Small Town Initiative

DALLAS, TX, UNITED STATES, April 17, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Mission Alive is delighted to announce the receipt of a grant in support of our new [Rural and Small Town](#) Initiative (RSTI) as

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While Mission Alive has been focused on starting new innovative communities of faith in rural communities and small towns for some time, this grant will considerably expedite our efforts!”

Tod Vogt

part of a collaboration with Pepperdine University’s [Empower and Equip](#) program. This project, funded by a \$7,500,000 grant to Pepperdine University from Lilly Endowment Inc. aims to encourage and support rural and small town churches, their leaders, and their communities. “I have long admired the work of Mission Alive, and we are so thankful to have them agree to partner with us in this important work,” said Mike Cope, director of Pepperdine’s initiative.

Innovative Approach to Community Transformation
Mission Alive's approach resonates with the perspective of

this grant that communities and churches thrive when focused on local needs. Mission Alive’s Innovative Faith Communities (i.e., churches) adopt a "serve-first" approach, aiming to [transform marginalized populations](#) by addressing community needs first and letting faith emerge through service. By focusing on service, we believe the church will thrive and become an anchor institution contributing to community vitality.

Collaborative Efforts

Mission Alive will collaborate with existing rural and small town Innovative Faith Community partners. Together, we will:

1. Pilot innovative approaches to enhance partnerships between churches and community organizations
2. Deepen collective investment in loving our neighbors in tangible ways
3. Develop strategies to help people and their communities thrive

This grant will accelerate our efforts to pursue positive change in rural areas and small towns nationwide. We are grateful for the support of Pepperdine University in this endeavor. Mission Alive’s executive director, Tod Vogt said, “While Mission Alive has been focused on starting new innovative communities of faith in rural communities and small towns for some time, this grant

will considerably expedite our efforts!"

About Mission Alive

Mission Alive, founded in 2004, is a nonprofit organization that equips and funds leaders to launch, develop, and grow sustainable new Innovative Faith Communities (i.e., church plants) that transform some of the most disconnected and marginalized communities. With additional resources like Discipleship Cohorts, Catalyze Coaching, Outfitter's Residency, and Renew Church Revitalization, Mission Alive provides training, coaching, and spiritual formation to help existing churches along with their leaders and lay volunteers navigate the challenges of 21st-century ministry. By fostering creative strategies and Spirit-shaped leadership, the organization seeks to renew the church's role in engaging neighborhoods with the gospel.



Encourage and support rural and small town churches

To learn more about Mission Alive and its initiatives, visit <https://missionalive.org/>.

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#MissionAlive #RSTI #JesusSaves #GodsPlan #SpiritualJourney

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