

Mission Alive Expands Rural Initiative with New Grant Partnership

DALLAS, TX, UNITED STATES, October 24, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Mission Alive](#) received a second grant to expand its [Rural and Small-Town Initiative](#) (RSTI), continuing a partnership with Pepperdine University's Empower and Equip Initiative, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. The new phase of collaboration funds two additional [Innovative Faith Communities](#) (IFCs) across rural and small-town America, strengthening Mission Alive's mission to train leaders passionate about cultivating spaces where faith flourishes and communities thrive through spiritual and social renewal.

Executive Director Tod Vogt said the expansion represents a powerful continuation of the organization's work. "We've seen incredible momentum in our first phase of RSTI," Vogt noted. "This new grant allows us to build on that momentum by launching two more communities—five in total—that will bring hope and renewal to areas often overlooked. We're deeply grateful for the continued partnership with Pepperdine University and the Lilly Endowment, Inc., and for their shared vision to empower small-town and rural leaders."

Expanding Impact Through Innovation

The additional funding bolsters Mission Alive's serve-first approach—a model that empowers leaders to listen to their communities, form authentic relationships, and allow faith to take root through helping the community thrive.. Each new IFC will focus on local transformation, creating environments where spiritual vitality and social renewal grow hand in hand. The goal is to foster lasting hope and resilience in neighborhoods that often face economic, social, or geographic isolation. By training and supporting leaders to launch and sustain these communities, Mission Alive aims to help local churches become catalysts for shared life and purposeful faith. The



organization believes that churches can be both deeply spiritual and socially responsive, serving as centers of support, compassion, and innovation.

A Continued Collaboration

Through its ongoing partnership with Pepperdine University's Empower and Equip program, Mission Alive will:

1. Launch five Innovative Faith Communities in rural and small-town settings.
2. Equip local leaders through hands-on training, personalized coaching, and spiritual formation.
3. Promote sustainable community partnerships grounded in service and love for neighbors.
4. Strengthen networks of small-town church leaders nationwide.

Mission Alive's expanding initiative demonstrates its commitment to renewing the presence and purpose of the church in all contexts—urban, suburban, and rural alike. This second phase will accelerate efforts to nurture leaders, connect dispersed communities, and foster faith movements that bring enduring transformation.

About Mission Alive

Founded in 2004, Mission Alive is a nonprofit organization dedicated to training and equipping leaders to launch, develop, and grow Innovative Faith Communities that engage their neighborhoods with the gospel. Through programs like Discipleship Cohorts, Catalyze Coaching, Outfitter's Residency, and Stream Equipping, Mission Alive helps churches adapt to the changing landscape of 21st-century ministry—teaching them to serve first, love deeply, and live missionally.

Tod Vogt

Mission Alive

+1 214-364-2756

tod@missionalive.org

Visit us on social media:

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/861198265>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2025 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.