

Presenting

Joaquin & Oneida Vargas

Vice President of Engagement and Innovation



Ministry Focus

Joaquin was appointed to the Mission in 1985 and began serving in his home town of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. Over the past 30 years Joaquin has served in church planting, leadership development, and has had the opportunity to equip and train missionaries around the world. He was asked to join the Executive Leadership Team in 2011 and became the first internationally-born Vice President of Ministries. As of July 2015 Joaquin was promoted to Vice President of Engagement and Innovation. In short, Joaquin's goal is to engage people to support not just missionaries, but programs that impact lives of people and communities. He will be working on bringing new ideas, new methods of fundraising, and revenue to the Mission. In this new role Joaquin brings a fresh perspective and non-traditional ways of connecting people with opportunities.

Joaquin has a passion to develop strategic alliances and to collaborate with other organizations that will help expand the Kingdom of God. In the past he has collaborated with organizations such as Luis Palau Evangelistic Association, Arizona Christian University, Natural Church Development, and others.

Faith Story

Joaquin was born in the Dominican Republic. At the age of 18 he went to Charleston, West Virginia as an exchange student. After returning to the Dominican Republic, he accepted the Lord as his personal Savior. Following his conversion, Joaquin planted a new church in Santo Domingo in an impoverished community while attending a Bible institute there.

In 1985 he joined Missions Door when he was appointed to work in church planting, leadership development and as country coordinator. He returned to the United States in 1992 to complete a Master of Arts in Cross-Cultural Communications (Missions) at Denver Seminary.

In 1995 the Vargases moved to the border town of Nogales, Mexico, to serve as missionaries, where they planted a new church and worked in leadership development.

In May of 2003 they moved to Denver when Joaquin was asked to join the Executive Leadership Team of the Mission. His initial responsibility was to oversee Latino ministry in the United States, as well as help the Mission better serve the Spanish-language missionaries. Soon he was asked to oversee ministries in the Caribbean and Mexico, and then all of Central America.

Family & Education

Joaquin is married to Oneida, also a Dominican, and they have three grown children: Mariel, Abraham and Laura. Mariel lives in San Francisco, California. Abraham is married and lives in Los Angeles, California. Laura is married and lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Laura and her husband presented them with their first grandson, Lincoln Daniel Bell, in March 2014.

- B.A. in Education from World University in Santo Domingo, DR
- M.A. in World Christianity from Denver Seminary
- Executive M.P.A. in Public Administration from University of Colorado at Denver