

## Statistics that Challenge Us

- Population with access to potable water: 47%
- Life expectancy is 50 for men and 53 for women
- Median Age is 17.7
- Infant mortality rate: 98 for every 1,000 live births
- Child mortality rate by age five: 161 per 1,000
- Primary school attendance rate: 58%

## Statistics that Give Us Hope

- Membership of IECA making a difference: c. 1,000,000 people (roughly the same as the UCC)
- Number of people it takes to support their efforts: 1



The beautiful face of hope!

The Illinois Conference - Angola Partnership Team was created by the Illinois Conference in 2003. Two local churches (University Church and Trinity UCC, both in Chicago) put forth a study resolution, and the Conference joyfully agreed to offer the opportunity of partnership to the whole Conference. Since that time many congregations have become involved and the partnership continues to grow in breadth and depth, blessing people in the Illinois Conference and in IECA.

You and/or your congregation are invited to get involved in this powerful partnership with our brothers and sisters in Christ in Angola.



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The 2009 Delegation Team visited the IECA Leadership Team at the Church Headquarters in Luanda.

*Working together to build  
the one body of Christ in  
two different places*



## Illinois Conference - Angola Partnership



*The joy of partnership*

*Working together to  
build the one  
body of Christ in  
two different places*

Evangelical Congregational  
Church in Angola (IECA)  
& the Illinois Conference of  
the United Church of Christ

**Illinois Conference -  
Angola Partnership  
Purpose**



*The future of Angola*

Our partnership goals are to:

- Establish relationships as an expression of the unity of the Body of Christ
- Share our material abundance to support projects set by the Angolans themselves
- Learn from the Angolans more about the character and depth of their Christian faith, which they have maintained through war, persecution, and economic hardship

*“When one member suffers, all suffer together;  
when one member is honored all rejoice together.”*

*(1 Corinthians 12:26)*

**Highlights of the Partnership:**

- 2002...Angolan civil war ended, creating new opportunities for partnership with IECA
- 2004...Official partnership established with a leadership delegation visiting from IECA
- 2005...First Illinois Conference delegation visits Angola
- 2007—2009...Illinois Conference helps support Global Ministries missionary Donna Dudley
- 2009...IECA leaders visit Illinois Conference and second Illinois Conference delegation visits Angola
- 2009 –2010...Partnership Team member Mike Solberg swims the English Channel to raise funds, and together we build a primary school in Waku Kungo, Angola



**How you or your congregation can get involved:**

- **Pray** for IECA and our partnership
- **Learn** about Angola
- **Become a member** of The Angola Partnership Team
- **Invite** a delegation member to make a presentation to your church or church group
- **Make a financial donation** to the current projects set by IECA:
  - Expand capacity at the IECA seminary near the historic Dondi mission station by building badly needed new student housing
  - Learn more about initiating a congregation-to-congregation or pastor to pastor relationship under partnership guidelines
  - Help to send future delegation members to visit our partners in Angola.

*Do any of these things, or ask for more information, by contacting the Angola Partnership Team members listed on the back panel of this brochure.*