

WHY GREAT CITIES?

by Blake Crowell,
Director of Development



Cucuta, Colombia

FOR OVER FORTY YEARS, Great Cities Missions has been helping church planting mission teams establish churches in the Latin World. Our staff is our ministry. When you support Great Cities Missions, you support people like **Michelle Faries, Christy LeStarge, Debbie Mathis** and **Stephanie Scott**.

These four ladies have a critical role in the success of Great Cities. They are accountants, bookkeepers, event planners, office managers, authors, ministers, counselors, psychologists and more.

Stephanie Scott says, "I love working at GCM. I laugh everyday

with my co-workers. In my support role, if I can use my gifts of organization, creative thinking, simple office skills to give back time and energy to a director, to do what he/she is gifted to do, then I've accomplished my goal. We are a team!"

Christy LeStarge says, "I count it a blessing to work with the staff at Great Cities, as I wholeheartedly support the mission of this ministry – caring for people and sharing Jesus' love and Good News with the Latin world!"

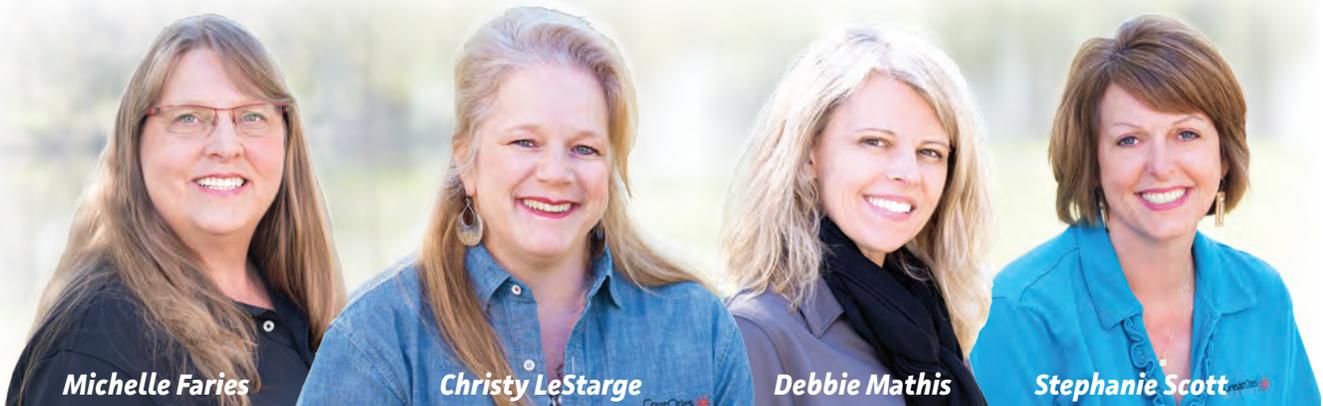
Debbie Mathis has been an office operations assistant for almost 10 years at Great Cities and considers "it a joy and a privilege to support

such a loving, dedicated, prayerful and conscientious staff."

Attitudes like that are the norm and create an office environment that is fun and productive to work in. Each sees their role at Great Cities as ministry.

Michelle Faries believes, "All supporters of Great Cities Missions have entrusted me to be a good steward of the funds donated. One of the ways I serve God is by managing those funds. There is no talent or ability that cannot be used to glorify God and carry out the Great Commission."

Staff like this make Great Cities a tremendous place to work and even better place to support. ▼



Michelle Faries

Christy LeStarge

Debbie Mathis

Stephanie Scott



Join us *on our journey.*

Feeding the hungry. Clothing those in need. Sheltering the poor.
By planting churches in the Latin world.



Two Venezuelan Christians with a heart to reach their new community.

40 + Boys and Girls.

A generous Donor who caught the vision.

An Amazing God who brought them all together!

Who wants to play soccer?

by Chris Fry, Director of Latin Teams



Carlos Blanco and **Nestor Correa** are working hard to reach the Pan-American community for Christ through the avenue of soccer. The Cúcuta Soccer Ministry began August 2018. Enrollment continues to

be more than 40 kids, with most of them participating regularly.

This ministry is sponsored by a generous donor and is tasked with teaching kids soccer skills in a Christian environment. It is also proving to be an effective way to get into the community and meet neighbors who might not ever seek out a church on their own. Nestor and Carlos are members of Misión Cúcuta Iglesia De Cristo and lead this outreach ministry.

Coach Carlos teaches the kids for about two hours, 3-4 times per week. The kids pray before and after every practice – four times a week. They also have a devotional and Bible study in the middle of each practice. The only time these kids receive Biblical teaching in their daily lives is when they attend the soccer ministry. Carlos and Nestor report that some of the older kids are excited to teach the younger kids.

Nestor is tasked with visiting the families and setting up Bible studies. Nestor visits the community five days a week and has become known in the community. He is very evangelistic and a hard worker. On April 14, some of the kids from the soccer ministry were able to attend services at the Cúcuta church. They participated in classes, worship, and fellowship, and the church prayed specifically over them for God's blessing. Plans are being made to have special activities for them at the church.

Recently the younger and older teams had the opportunity to play a soccer game against another local team. This is the first time the Cúcuta Soccer Ministry has been able to play other local teams and it's something Coach Carlos is working hard to develop. The teams prayed before playing and were able to interact and spend time together afterwards. It was an opportunity for this ministry to show how soccer can be used to teach values and faith.

Coach Carlos and Nestor are passionate about reaching these kids and families for Christ. They represent many who have fled Venezuela recently because of political unrest, leaving everything behind and beginning a new life in Colombia. They have found work worth doing through their local church. The ministry gives them a small monthly stipend as they look for other jobs to support their families. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.





This time of year can be challenging for missionaries so far from home. Reach out and let them know you are praying for them and wish them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please remember Great Cities Missions in your year-end giving!

December is an incredibly important month for our ministry. Half of all donations we receive each year are made in December. This year is even more important to remember Great Cities Missions in your year-end giving because we have a sizeable revenue gap we are doing our best to close. Every dollar amount helps us get closer to closing that gap and gets the ministry off to a good start next year.

**Thank you for your support!
You are helping change lives for eternity!**