

Title: Thank You for Your Generosity Toward IVCF/Urbana Adventure

January 23, 2023

Greetings all,

I want to send a huge “thank you” to the Immanuel Approach community for your amazingly generous support for the InterVarsity-Immanuel-Approach adventure over the past two-and-a-half years, and especially for the prayer ministry at Urbana.

We had just over 80 volunteers from the Immanuel Approach community, who paid all of their own expenses for travel, hotel (five nights), parking (five days, expensive center-of-metro-area garages), meals (four days at Urbana, plus meals during travel Tues and Sun, which was 15 meals for me, and more for many). These out-of-pocket expenses turned out to be almost \$1,000 for myself, and I drove my own car from only 200 miles away. Out-of-pocket expenses were more than this for many (most?) of the volunteers. So my estimate is that out-of-pocket expenses covered by the volunteers totaled at least $80 \times \$1,000 = \mathbf{\$80,000}$.

These 80+ volunteers also contributed their time: **7 hours** for the required orientation day, that included providing training/modeling/mentoring sessions for the 80+ InterVarsity staff who were also on the IA prayer ministry team. Plus **14.5 hours** of actual ministry time = **21.5 hours**, which does not include anything for travel, time for planning and other administrative overhead, or the time they invested in getting trained to provide the Immanuel Approach. Many of the lay ministers on our volunteer team (with lots of training and practice) usually charge \$25-\$50/hour for their services. And many volunteers were mental health professionals who usually charge \$100 to \$150/hour in their private practices. So my estimate is that the average value of the time-gift to IVCF was \$50/hour, putting the total time-gift at (at least) $80 \times 21.5 \times \$50/\text{hour} = \mathbf{\$86,000}$. And again, this does not include anything for travel, planning and admin overhead, or training & practice to be able to provide the Immanuel Approach.

On top of these contributions from the volunteers, many of you contributed to the Immanuel Approach training fund, which covered hundreds of hours of my time over the past several years of working with InterVarsity leadership and staff, and also the cost of books, training videos, and InterVarsity admin. Your contributions to the training fund, plus the gifts of time, materials, and money from Charlotte and I, came to a little more than **\$60,000**.

So by my estimate (which I think is conservative), the IA community contributed at least **\$226,000** in expenses and time toward Immanuel Approach training throughout InterVarsity, and especially the Urbana adventure.

Many have been amazed at how huge the whole IA-Urbana endeavor was, and by how well it turned out. I think a big part of answering the “How on earth did you do this?” question is that the wider Immanuel Approach community made such a huge contribution toward the whole adventure. Again, thank you, thank you, thank you.

One last piece of encouragement and appreciation for all of this sacrifice and generosity: After a beautiful, powerful Immanuel prayer experience, one student spontaneously commented, **“however long you’ve planned, trained and prepared for this, whatever expense you’ve undertaken, whatever time you’ve devoted, I want you to know it’s all worth it just for this last hour when you helped me connect with Jesus.”**

Blessings,

Dr. Lehman/Karl