

Congo Initiative Announces . . . Our Next Season!

Celebration

Congo Initiative (CI) enables extraordinary Congolese leaders to serve their nation with hope, integrity, and responsibility, and to realize their vision for transformative change in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). We have many [accomplishments and blessings](#) to celebrate!

Challenge

As our teams in the US and DRC translate our core values and goals into our activities, organizational structure and character, we encounter new opportunities and challenges that require us to think, plan, and act creatively. Responding in faith and expectation to the opportunities ahead of us, we are delighted to announce two strategic changes in our US organizational leadership.

Response

With a clear sense of calling and purpose, Dr. Paul Robinson asked CI's board of directors to be released from his role as President & CEO and to free him to an involvement more congruent with his heart, skills, and passion. His deep desire has always been to utilize his experience to more closely accompany our team in DRC as they engage the realities of developing strategic initiatives that lead to lasting transformation. Paul will serve CI in a new consultative and advisory role that makes full use of his familiarity and experience with transformational development, higher education, scholarship, communication, and culture. With gratitude, we celebrate Paul's faithful leadership and his ongoing commitment to the flourishing of CI's work.



With confidence and enthusiasm, we announce the appointment of Cullen Rodgers-Gates as Interim Executive Director and President, effective June 1, 2014. Cullen's broad and deep international experience includes partnership development with multiple organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and here in the US. After his graduation from Wheaton College, Cullen served for seven years as Assistant Director of the Human Needs and Global Resources (HNGR) Program at Wheaton College. Cullen earned his MA in Historical & Systematic

Theology from Wheaton College Graduate School, and is currently pursuing an MPA in Nonprofit Management from Indiana University. With exceptional skill, dedication, and commitment, Cullen has contributed both support and leadership to CI for the past six years as our Director of Operations. He is equipped and seasoned to assume this new role, and brings a compelling vision for this new season in CI's development. Cullen lives in Durham, North Carolina with his wife Mandy and their three children.



With these two strategic and complementary changes, we look forward with confidence and anticipation to the flourishing of CI's work in this next season.

With joy and on behalf of the CI board,

Paul Tshihamba
Board Chair

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