

Kelley & Rhonda Philips

Missionaries to Germany

Project # 42.10065



Ministry Focus

- Rhonda is the director of a ministry that she helped start in order to provide transitional programs and housing for women exiting sexual exploitation and sex-trafficking.
- Kelley provides administrative and fundraising support for that ministry.
- Kelley is also the bridge to the Church of God in Russia and oversees the Urban Ministry Experience with Anderson University School of Theology and Warner University.

Kelley made his first trip to Russia in 1991 with a group led by Josh McDowell. That same year, the Florida Youth Fellowship began an exchange program with students from Chelyabinsk. The program was a tremendous success and generated a need for a career missionary family to develop a church in Chelyabinsk. Kelley and Rhonda began work in Chelyabinsk in October 1993. They served in Chelyabinsk for eight years. Today, there are several vibrant, growing independent churches in that city.

Kelley and Rhonda then accepted the role of regional coordinators for Europe and the Middle East in 2002. The Philips lived in Budapest, Hungary, eventually moving to Berlin, Germany, at the invitation of the Church of God in Germany. In 2010, they stepped out of that role to focus their attention on their growing ministry in Berlin. Today, they are integral members of the Three Worlds team.

In Berlin, Rhonda became involved with women in forced prostitution, working with Neustart, a faith-based German organization in the city. "As I became more deeply involved with the women who frequent our café," writes Rhonda, "I saw a gap that needed filling: a team of experts to help in transitioning women who want out of prostitution into a healthy, free, sustainable life. God called me to find a way to fill this gap. This is when a new ministry was birthed."

Sexual exploitation and human sex trafficking are an atrocious reality of our world. They are not right, certainly not merciful, and are the epitome of pride, arrogance, and greed. The Global Strategy team in Europe and the Middle East is committed to reconciliation and redemption of those victimized by these heinous crimes of injustice. This ministry is one part of the solution to injustice in Europe.

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