

RELOCATION FAQ

How long has Encompass been considering relocation?

The Encompass board was in discussions with senior Encompass leaders about relocation for most of 2024. A strategic plan was presented and the benefits and challenges were carefully and comprehensively weighed. Other Encompass stateside staff who would be most personally affected were also actively involved in considerations since the spring 2024.

How was the Encompass board involved?

During their meetings at the end of October 2024, the Encompass Board of Directors voted unanimously to pursue relocation of Encompass headquarters and selected staff to Columbus, Ohio. Subsequent months have been spent in planning for such a relocation (timeline, communication, funding, staffing, etc.).

What is the primary benefit of relocation to Columbus, Ohio?

A Columbus location for Encompass allows the primary mission agency of the Charis Fellowship to be centrally located and in close geographical and relational proximity to a majority of Charis Fellowship churches, pastors, leaders, future staff, and donors. We envision this benefiting Encompass's efforts to fuel mission vision, mobilize future global workers, increase resources for Great Commission initiatives, and foster prayer.

What are other significant benefits of relocation to Columbus?

Central Ohio (greater Columbus) is home to several dozen Charis Fellowship churches, including several of the largest churches. Dozens of other churches are elsewhere in Ohio, which has the largest population of Charis Fellowship churches and believers. Greater

Columbus has over two million residents representing many nationalities in the metropolitan area. The economy and demographic trends of the area lead Ohio and are among the best in the Midwest.

What is the timeline for Encompass staff to relocate?

Selected Encompass leadership and support staff will relocate to central Ohio between mid-2025 and mid-2026. Encompass offices will also begin operation in Columbus during that timeframe.

Which Encompass staff are already located in Columbus/central Ohio?

The Executive team is already working from Columbus. Mobilization team members are primarily midwest-based. The Africa Director and Personnel Director will relocate to Columbus in 2025.

Will any current Encompass staff remain in Atlanta?

Some Encompass staff members will remain in Atlanta, whether short-term or indefinitely, including the Development, Finance, Communications, and Training teams. In time, several of them may also relocate to Columbus.

What have been the greatest benefits of the 13 years in Atlanta?

Encompass's time in Atlanta has enhanced opportunities and connections for pre-field training, increased experience of cultural and religious diversity, enabled partnerships with several churches and mission agencies, and has aided in international air travel.

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How will the extra costs of relocation be funded?

Multiple central Ohio churches and donors have communicated their intentions to help fund the significant costs of relocation, realizing the benefits of closer proximity with Encompass staff and operations. A Strategic Relocation project has been established, to which all Encompass partners are invited to contribute, whether individuals or churches.

How can I pray for the upcoming relocation?

No location is perfect or guarantees success for a non-profit, church, or mission agency. No change is without complications. We pray that this relocation increases our opportunities and addresses some of our present challenges in serving our staff and fostering missions involvement in our churches. Pray for adequate funding, wise planning, patience in transition, endurance for staff, and new possibilities for collaboration. Pray also for endurance and grace for staff most affected by this change. Most of all, pray that God would use this to advance Gospel witness to Jesus Christ among the nations, especially the least reached. May Encompass be a significant means for eternal fruitfulness to the glory of God!