

## Paper Proposal for IAMS Sydney 2020

**Pertinent Study Groups:** Children, Youth, and Mission; Christian Communities and Mission

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**Institutional Affiliations:**

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**Bio:**

A Fulbright recipient, Jenny McGill (PhD, King's College London) has worked in international higher education and intercultural training for ten years with clients and students from over sixty nations. Her books include *The Self Examined: Christian Perspectives on Human Identity and Religious Identity and Cultural Negotiation: A Theology of Christian Identity in Migration*.

**Title:** *Refugee Crisis in La Carpio: Case Study Of CFCI Empowerment in Costa Rica*

**Abstract:** 195 words

Missiologists have long debated the effects of foreign involvement, particularly imperial powers on their colonial soils. Given the refugee crisis in Central America, a brief history is offered in relation to key development markers as well as the humanitarian aid and refugee admission that the United States government has provided to the region. The adverse and positive ramifications that foreign agencies working in these communities can have is addressed. The current crisis of migrants and refugees to Costa Rica is explored, with special focus given to one of the most impoverished neighborhoods located in San José—La Carpio. The dilemma and concerns of how best to help this community in such need is presented as well as how one humanitarian organization, Christ For the City International, is serving there. It provides a model to replicate for all who would see that La Carpio and the lives of its peoples improve. This consideration describes how geopolitical events and insufficient government aid has affected the mass migration occurring in Central America, particularly from Nicaragua into Costa Rica, and offers an example of how outside humanitarian organizations can best impact the poorest in those communities for sustained development.