

# Friends of the Casa

Newsletter

EDITORIAL  
**Mundo  
Hispano**  
Casa Bautista de Publicaciones

Baptist Spanish Publishing House Foundation  
7000 Alabama St.  
El Paso, TX 79904

BAPTIST SPANISH PUBLISHING HOUSE FOUNDATION

Volume 8—Number 3

## *Who and What is the Baptist Spanish Publishing House Foundation?*

### **HISTORY**

The Baptist Spanish Publishing House (BSPH) also known as the *Casa Bautista de Publicaciones* (*Casa*) and *Hispanic World Publishers* came into existence in 1905 because most Spanish-speaking people had neither Bibles nor Christian literature in their heart language. For over 100 years, the *Casa* has been instrumental in spreading the Gospel, shaping theology, and in organizing churches and conventions among Spanish-speaking people throughout the world.

Dr. Jones Edgar Davis and his wife, Mary, started this publishing ministry as missionaries appointed by the Foreign Mission Board ("FMB"; now "International Mission Board" or "IMB") of the Southern Baptist Convention.

At its beginning, the BSPH received all its operating funds from the IMB with the exception of limited commercial receipts from sales of printed materials in Mexico. Because of an unstable political situation in Mexico at that time, the ministry was eventually moved to El Paso, Texas. Over the next several decades this continued to be the case, with the gradual buildup of IMB missionary personnel as well as the provision of financial and capital needs.

In 1997, however, the International Mission Board began reducing or

eliminating missionary personnel and financial support for board-related institutions, to include publishing houses, seminaries and hospitals.

Due to the Casa's historical policy of publishing Spanish Bibles and most other materials to be donated (in some cases) or sold at a slight publishing loss to bring the cost within reach of even the lowest income groups throughout Latin America and elsewhere, some subsidy has always been necessary to offset production, publication and shipping costs. When IMB support was reduced, missionary personnel at the Casa envisioned in 1999 the necessity for a foundation to make up the difference in funding. This led to the organization of the BSPH Foundation.

*(Note: For additional information on the history and development of this ministry, see A House for All Nations: A Centennial History of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House by Dr. Joe T. Poe, published by the BSPH in 2004.)*

### **PURPOSE and FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The BSPH Foundation was chartered on April 13, 2000 by the State of Texas as a non-profit foundation and was granted 501(c)(3) Public Foundation status by the Internal

Revenue Service on May 11, 2000. All contributions to the foundation are tax-deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes. The permanent endowment fund will assist the Casa in perpetuity to help provide needed resources to help evangelize, disciple and strengthen Christian churches wherever Spanish-speaking people are found.

Each year since inception, the BSPH Foundation has complied with all federal and state requirements governing non-profit institutions and foundations under the regulations for entities with 501(c)(3) status. The Foundation's annual reports to the IRS on Form 990 are available by keyboarding [www.guidestar.com](http://www.guidestar.com) and *Baptist Spanish Publishing House Foundation*.

BSPH Foundation funds are invested through the Baptist Foundation of Texas and other highly rated investment firms which provide responsible management for the foundation's assets.

The nine board members of the foundation (all of whom are also donors) serve seven-year terms without pay for the benefit of the ministry. Four members are elected by this board, and five by the trustee board of the publishing house itself.

### **RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND FINANCIAL GOALS**

The greatest response to the BSPH

Foundation's efforts in fund-raising has come from those who have personally benefitted from the *Casa's* publishing ministry through the years – missionaries, pastors, church members, and teachers.

From the inception of the Foundation, it has successfully granted funds to the *Casa* in meeting their efforts to communicate the message of Jesus Christ and facilitate the development of disciples through printed and electronic media. During semi-annual meetings, the Foundation analyzes receipts, disbursements, legal and financial reports; and considers needs which can be met through the Foundation's efforts.

**WHO IS INVOLVED IN ASSISTING THE BSPH FOUNDATION?**

In addition to foundation board members and personnel of the BSPH, many other friends have demonstrated support for the *Casa* by sending donations to be invested to ensure a stable future for the *Casa's* ministry. Some donors have made one-time contributions, while others continue to send regular gifts for the same purpose. Others have placed this ministry in their estate plans. The foundation publishes a *Friends of the Casa* newsletter each quarter, and sends it either in printed form or via e-mail to many who have expressed love for and interest in the *Casa*.

**IS THERE REALLY A NEED? IS IT URGENT?**

Economical Spanish language Bibles and all types of biblically based Christian literature are desperately needed by the 400 million Spanish-speaking people around the world. This includes over 40 million in the United States alone.

Most publishers provide books and Bibles for sale at a profit, and they cease to supply materials unless significant profits are earned. The BSPH focuses on its mission to publish and distribute materials wherever they are needed.

**HOW CAN GIFTS BE MADE TO THE BSPH FOUNDATION?**

Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the foundation in cash (check or credit card) to this address:

BSPH Foundation  
7000 Alabama Street  
El Paso, TX 79904

Other avenues of tax-deductible donations are possible. For example: life insurance policies; stocks, bonds or real property; transfer of business interests or investments prior to a sale; grants from family trusts, etc. For assistance in making gifts, donors may contact the Foundation at [www.bsphfoundation.org](http://www.bsphfoundation.org).

What greater pleasure could anyone have than knowing his/her financial resources shared with the BSPH Foundation are helping to touch lives with the Gospel? What more significant way could there be for remembering or honoring a loved one than by giving to the BSPH Foundation?

**IMMEDIATE AND STRATEGIC PLANS**

Projects in the planning and/or production phases include a new

three-year Vacation Bible School curriculum; a study Bible; theological libraries, commentaries and cantatas in electronic format; and other materials.

**THE "BOTTOM LINE"**

In Luke 12:48, Jesus stated "*From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked*" (NIV). The BSPH Foundation needs many more "Friends of the *Casa*" and would greatly appreciate your participating in the challenge of raising a strong permanent endowment fund for the *Casa*. Is it worth it? Yes, because of the lives which will be changed as the Gospel reaches Spanish-speaking people in the United States and around the world. May we hear from you?

Thank you, and God bless you!

If you prefer to receive an electronic copy of this bulletin, please send us an e-mail to [amartinez@editorialmh.org](mailto:amartinez@editorialmh.org)

**REPLY CARD - BSPH FOUNDATION; 7000 ALABAMA; EL PASO, TX 79904**

A contribution is enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Check if applicable: \_\_\_ Memorial \_\_\_ Anniversary \_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_ Other  
In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Street Address) (City-State-Zip)

From (Name of Donor): \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to receive information about the *Casa's* products, please call **1-800-755-5958** or visit our website at [www.editorialmh.org](http://www.editorialmh.org)