

Tearfund appoints new Wales Managers

Miriam Evans, a former GP Practice Manager, and Hywel Meredydd, an Anglesey Church Minister, have been appointed the new managers of Uk Relief and Development Agency, Tearfund in Wales. Miriam and Hywel will job-share the post, bringing to Tearfund a strong blend of skills and experience from their varied careers.

Miriam, will oversee more than 180 Tearfund volunteers throughout the country, including those in Pembrokeshire, who raise funds, pray and campaign on behalf of the poor. Miriam has herself volunteered with Tearfund for more than 20 years and seen firsthand the impact of Tearfund partner's work in Kenya, Bangladesh, Thailand and Peru.

Hywel, Minister of Llangefni Evangelical Church for the last 27 years and former Welsh Secretary for the Evangelical Movement of Wales, will manage Tearfund's relationship with a vast network of churches throughout the country, also including Pembrokeshire. Formerly Chair of Tearfund in Wales, Hywel trained at Bala Bangor Theological College and the University of Wales.

Hywel is also heavily involved in his local community, as Chair of the Enterprise Board for Anglesey and Vice Chair of the Anglesey Local Health Board. His involvement in sport and passion for volunteerism has led Hywel to be a council member for the Wales Sports Council and a board member of the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA).

Revd Elfed Godding, Chair of Tearfund Wales and General Secretary of Evangelical Alliance in Wales, says, "Hywel and Miriam bring to Tearfund Wales an excellent complementary blend of gifts, expertise and experience of working with and on behalf of the poor. I look forward to working closely with them."

Hywel and Miriam replace Siôn Meredith, who left Tearfund last year after 13 years to take up a new role with the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. Miriam and Hywel will each work 3 days a week, based in Bangor.

Pembrokeshire Tearfund Media Officer, Sharron Hardwick said: ' I first came into contact with Miriam during the Make Poverty History Campaign, in fact Miriam was instrumental in igniting my interest in media work for Tearfund. I really enjoyed working with Sion Meredith in my first year as Tearfund's Media Officer. Now I am looking forward to continuing my work with both Miriam and Hywel.'

Says Miriam, "I really look forward to working with the great team of committed Tearfund volunteers that we have in Wales and together with them, build even more support for the life-saving work of Tearfund's partners in some of the world's poorest communities."

Says Hywel, "Drawing on my twenty seven years of experience as a church leader, I look forward to helping to connect churches and Christians throughout Wales to the extraordinary work being carried out by local churches in over 60 countries throughout the developing world. I will endeavour, only with God's blessing to build on the fine work of my predecessor."

Miriam, a mother of 3, lives near Porthmadog, Snowdonia with her husband Wynne. Hywel lives in Llangefni, Anglesey with his wife Carys.

Miriam and Hywel are available for speaking engagements. Please contact Tearfund Wales on 01970 626006 or 07799 076695

