

# Church Planting & Development

*your opportunity*  
to partner with national leaders  
and ministries

**Iraq Need: \$48,000**

The **Iraq Church Planting & Development (CPD)** fund helps resource the following strategic initiatives:

- ◆ Pastors' salary supplements
- ◆ Church planting
- ◆ Leadership development and training
- ◆ Ministry training
- ◆ Ministry to refugees



FREE METHODIST WORLD MISSIONS

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Connect with God's heart for the world.

# Iraq



## Iraq

### Mission District

- Population: 41,981,000
- Evangelical Christians: 0.4%
- FM Work Opened: 2003
- FM Churches: 4
- Church Planting Projects: 70+
- Church Planters: 30
- Church Planting Coaches: Aseel, Deler, Hany, Joanne, Simar and Weam
- Ecclesiastical Accountability: Impact Middle East Executive Director Dale



## The Free Methodist Church in Iraq

### Origins

The first Free Methodist Church in Iraq was started in 2003 in Baghdad. The intense conflict and persecution of Christians that ensued forced most Free Methodists to flee the capital city for the relative safety of northern Iraq (Kurdistan). Many of those displaced began to meet in house fellowships, and in 2007 the city of Dohuk became home to the first government-sanctioned Free Methodist church. As the political and religious unrest in Baghdad escalated, the FM church there was closed in 2013.

### Present Ministries

The church in Iraq ministers to over 30,000 refugees, consisting of various people groups and ethnic identities. The church has recently re-entered southern Iraq and Baghdad with established house churches in the city. However, most of the ministry in Iraq is centered in the north, in the Kurdistan area.

### Pray for:

- physical safety of FM church planters and those who gather in house churches in the area ripe for terrorism and political unrest
- the gospel's success in an area of religious pluralism that includes people of Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Yazidi and majority religious backgrounds
- multiplication of leaders to reach thousands of towns and villages in northern Iraq (Kurdistan) without a gospel witness

