The development team’s vision statement reads:

Our purpose is to develop relationships that make the mission of the RCA known, inspiring financial partnerships that make the ministry of the RCA possible.

Imagine … Strong relationships with prospects, donors, and churches, where we know the answer is “yes” before we ask.

Imagine … Finances are no longer an obstacle for ministry.

Imagine … Every RCA staff member inspiring financial partnerships.

This statement defines our goals on behalf of the RCA.

The development team’s responsibility is to encourage churches and individuals to generously give of the financial resources God has entrusted to them to support the ministry and witness of the Reformed Church in America. We coordinate all GSC fundraising efforts, including, but not limited to, support for RCA Global Mission, Transformed & Transforming, and the Church Growth Fund. We strive to not only develop and strengthen relationships with donors, potential donors, church leaders, and others to inspire financial partnerships, but also to promote the mission and vision of the RCA.

Development team members raise financial support through outright gifts, bequests, life income plans, and grants. Gifts may be designated for a specific ministry area or left undesignated for the greatest need. Undesignated gifts are typically assigned to the RCA Ministry Fund, a fund that supports the operational budget and the work of Transformed & Transforming. The development team also assists with raising resources through Church Growth Fund savings certificates, Partner in Mission shares, estate planning, and special project funding or capital campaigns. Gifts to the RCA enable and empower ministry throughout the church, transforming lives both at home and around the world.

The mission and ministry of the RCA is largely possible because of the generosity of God’s people. In fiscal year 2018, 52 percent of the RCA’s total income came from voluntary support. Only 33 percent was derived from assessments. Other income, such as investment earnings and fees paid for services rendered, accounted for the remaining 15 percent of the RCA’s total income in 2018.

The funding structure of the RCA relies heavily on gifts received from individual donors and from churches that give above and beyond assessments. And we are truly grateful for those who have chosen to invest in the ministry of the RCA. A copy of the 2018 Ministry Impact Report is available on the RCA website and will be available in hard copy at General Synod.

The development team represents the GSC throughout the RCA, but individual staff members primarily oversee these regions:
Amanda Bruehl (abruehl@rca.org): New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Amanda also coordinates the annual Ministry Fund appeal process.

Alex DeWaal (adewaal@rca.org): Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Nebraska, and Oklahoma.

Larryl Humme (lhumme@rca.org): Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Ken Neevel (kneevel@rca.org): Arizona, California, Florida, Michigan, Washington, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Dann Stouten (dstouten@rca.org): Canada, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio.

Additionally, Scott Engelsman is responsible for defining missionary and mission project support needs, for the communication of those needs, and for guiding Global Mission fundraising. Michele Quick oversees development operations and donor research.

The RCA continues to partner with Barnabas Foundation for resources around estate planning, planned giving, and planned gift resource management. The easiest gift you can make is a gift through your estate plan. Consider tithing your estate to the ongoing work of the RCA. For information about how you can include the RCA in your estate plans, or how you can derive lifetime income from a planned gift that will benefit you during life and the RCA after death, please contact Michele Quick at mquick@rca.org.

The mission and ministry of the RCA can only happen with the generous support of people throughout the church. As was noted previously, only 33 percent of the RCA’s work is resourced through assessments. Please consider including a gift to the RCA in your regular giving. To give an outright gift in support of the RCA’s mission and ministry, please visit www.rca.org/give or contact a development team member directly.