Our History

Full Timeline

- Late 1980s Malcolm and his church began working in Asia in literature ministry, evangelism, and church planting.
- Late 1980s and early 1990s Expanded to working in other nations in Central America, Africa, and the former Soviet Union.
- Early 1990s Began a clear refocusing on leadership and leader development as our core purpose after seeing the tremendous need, and with the clear direction of the Holy Spirit.
- 1998 Launched LeadershipLetters.com, focusing on Christian leadership and leader development.
- 1999 Applied for public charity status for Strategic Global Assistance, Inc. from IRS, which was granted in September 2000.
- 1999 Established deep connections with church-planting networks in Asia, increasing our leader development work very rapidly.
- 1999-2000 Developed the 5C/4D model of leader development.
- Early 2000s Published the SpiritBuilt Leadership series of books.
- 2000 Brought on our first Asian staff members.
- 2000 The first full-time one year 5C4D training program for emerging leaders is held in the USA.
- 2001-2002 The first full-time one year 5C4D training programs for emerging leaders are held in Asia.
- 2001 Began leader development work in Africa.
- 2003 Began our first Asian ConneXions team at the initiation of the national leaders.
- 2003 Began leader development work in the Middle East.
- 2004 Received our first major financial grant.
- 2005 Held our first Leader Development Consultation (www.LDC.io) a collective of leaders from many nations who gather for encouragement, networking, and learning in Chicago, IL.
- 2005 Held the first Building Healthy Leaders course in Elkhart, IN.
- 2006 Convened the second LDC in Los Angeles, CA.
- Late 2000s Entered into Stage 2 of our work, developing relationships in dozens of nations, new models, and simple organizational structures.
- 2007 Initiated LeaderSource as a division of SGA, along with Strategic Press.

- 2007 Began extensive leader development work in India.
- 2007 Developed the Building Healthy Families model in partnership with Awana International.
- 2008 Convened the third LDC in Hong Kong.
- 2008 Developed the LDQ model of leader development evaluation.
- 2009 Began 5C4C campus leaders training work in Asia.
- 2009 Experienced our first unreached people group breakthrough when graduates from a 5C4D program for emerging leaders in Asia established the first believers and church in two entirely unreached peoples.
- 2010 Developed the Transformational Theology model.
- 2010 Convened the fourth LDC in Hong Kong.
- 2010 The first major 5C4D personal discipleship program (www.safar.org) is designed by Elam.
- 2010 Held the first 5C4D LeaderTrek in Asia.
- 2010 Held the first 5C4D Spiritual Life Retreat in Asia.
- 2011 Began extensive leader development work in West and Central Africa.
- 2012 Began our first long-term 5C4D Prototype Program in a major city in Asia.
- 2012 Received the first of five Leadership 500 Excellence Awards for Consulting, Non-Profit Organizations, Best Global/International Leadership Programs, and Top Leadership Partner.
- 2013 Convened the fifth LDC in Hong Kong.
- 2013 The first organization-wide 5C4D HR program is designed and instituted by Hope International.
- 2013 The first 5C4D training program is held for marketplace leaders in Asia.
- 2014 Began 5C4D sports camps in Asia for youth.
- 2014 Launched HealthyLeaders.com, with a vision to make available the very best writings on Christian leadership and leader development.
- 2014 Passed a milestone of distributing 1,000,000 of our books worldwide.
- 2014 Convened the sixth LDC in South Bend, IN.
- 2014 Initiated 5C4D work serving slum children in India.
- 2015 The first 5C4D-designed bachelor's and master's degree programs at New India Bible Seminary are accredited by ATA.
- 2016 Launched the LeaderStream model of generational succession.

- 2017 Entered into Stage 3 of our work, nurturing a movement of leader development in many nations across the globe and forming LeaderSource teams in Indonesia, Nigeria, Cameroon and Egypt.
- 2017 Convened the seventh LDC in Chiang Mai, Thailand for over 850 leaders from 30+ countries.
- 2018 Launched the Building Healthy Churches model.
- 2018 Held the first global meeting of our new Country Team Leaders.
- 2018 Developed the *Seven Things LeaderSource Staff Do Nurturing a Movement* strategic model.
- 2019 Built international support and operations teams to support leader development work in the nations and added new teams in Niger, Liberia, and Cote d'Ivoire.
- 2020 Released our 5C Checkpoint tool (www.5CC.io), a holistic and wideranging evaluation of every aspect of a disciple or leader's life and ministry.
- 2020 Launched the Transformational Thinking and Acting model.
- 2020 Passed a milestone of delivering over 1,000,000 Training Days for more than a quarter of a million participants since our inception.
- 2020 Received official accreditation by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA).
- 2020 Held our first CXI in Siem Reap, Cambodia a time of prayer, training, envisioning, encouragement and celebration for most of our global staff.
- 2020 Appointed a team of Regional Leaders to oversee all our work on the field.
- 2020 Launched our LeaderCare team, adding intentional care for our global staff and other members of the large LeaderSource family.
- 2020 Developed the Nurturing a Culture of Generosity course in partnership with GenerousChurch.
- 2020 Experienced a rapid multiplication of impact during the COVID-19 pandemic by moving to a combination of online and in-person trainings.
- At present: Ongoing leader development engagements in dozens of nations, with some degree of impact in more than 100 nations worldwide. We have published over 60 books on a range of leadership, leader development, biblical and spiritual life focuses, and our materials have been translated into dozens of languages.