

ABOUT RICK SANTOS

Richard L. Santos is the President and CEO of Church World Service. Rick has spent more than three decades working in the relief, development and displacement sectors and has been a senior nonprofit executive for the last 15 years.

Before returning to CWS as its President and CEO in 2021, Rick previously served as the President and CEO of IMA World Health, a faith-based public health organization that he led through several strategic pivots to achieve significant growth in both impact and revenue.



In total, Rick has more than 30 years of experience working for and with faith-based organizations, including more than a decade of living and working in Asia. Rick is an expert in engaging and partnering with civil society in the development process, and his developmental approach includes building and prioritizing robust local and regional partnerships—communities, organizations, and networks. He has spent much of his career supporting local organizations to become independent and self-sufficient.

Rick continues to support innovative non-profits through governance and voluntary commitments. He is the Treasurer and a board member of Christian Connections for International Health and has recently concluded a term as the Chair of the Board of the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities and as a Fellow at InterAction. Rick also served a term as a member of the GAVI Civil Society Steering Committee and supported the leadership of the African Christian Health Associations Platform.

Rick holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Johns Hopkins University's Carey Business School, a Master of Theological Studies degree from Harvard Divinity School, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from George Washington University.

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