

January 11, 2023

Dear board members,

I have been praying for Steven Koko and everyone involved. I know that these are difficult times for many of us. The ministry is still continuing here in Panama and I am as hopeful as ever for a bright future in El Valle. Cities for Christ has supported the ministry financially with rent and other ministry expenses and as can be seen in the report that includes the 2022 highlights and vision for 2023. When I heard that we might be receiving a donation, I was initially excited and even thanked God because I know the work we are doing and how that money would allow us to continue that work. I am a missionary that goes by faith and ended up living in Panama, not by my plans or even time to plan. It was originally planned to be a short-term trip that ended up being permanent. I have submitted a proposal to the board with funds being proposed on January 4th, 2023.

However to be honest I didn't have complete peace about it. After I submitted the donation proposal, my wife and I have been fasting and praying and asking to hear the voice of our Shepherd. After all, He is our provider and Lord. We received our answer on January 9th. I feel I cannot go against my conscience and I am going to retract our proposal. I want to thank the board for considering a vote on this proposal, but I feel the Lord wants us to step away free and clear. The Lord has been speaking to me about how Paul learned to be content with a little and a lot and that he could do all things through Christ who strengthened him. I know that God will continue to provide for His work that He is doing here. If it's His will, then it's His bill. I remember a story where even Reinhard Bonnke had to let go of millions of dollars from a lady that God told him not to take. He was blessed for that obedience.

Since the sins of Steven Koko were brought to light, many events involving the CFC leadership have followed. I might not know everything, but I know enough. Currently, I am helping the abused woman in that video on a path to recovery. I believe her journey will be tough, but God will restore her. I might be untrained in some of these matters, but so were the disciples according to the Pharisees and God still used them. In a few weeks we have an appointment for surgery to remove the birth control from her right arm. She has stated that Steven Koko convinced her to get it implanted and funded it. We are helping her heal from years of verbal, physical, and sexual abuse from her relationship with Steven Koko. This can take a large toll on a young woman, especially a young woman who was previously abused as a child. Here in El Valle there are many women like her who have been abused and felt voiceless and we hope to continue helping them and more in the future.

Unfortunately, I don't believe in the leadership or the future of this ministry and feel it is my best interest and the will of God for me to separate. I can not continue to partner with this ministry due to the clear lack of transparency and integrity. The fact that Steven Koko is still an active member of the board and still making ministerial decisions is completely unethical. Additionally, I am appalled that the partners have not been notified.

In regards to finances, I am only requesting what has already been designated to the ministry in El Valle, which would be my final paycheck including any additional donations from December and January. For instance, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Additionally, I owe \$2,150 for a car loan. I have been making payments every month. This can be subtracted from the ministry funds.

For the month of January, I would be receiving through Western Union money for the rent of the next 2 months which would amount to \$1300.

I would appreciate it if we could separate on righteous terms and the board would allow me to receive only what has been designated to me for the work of the ministry in El Valle.

Sincerely,

Nick Gellis