

## BILL DEANS, PRESIDENT



Bill Deans believes the calling of the Great Commission – sharing the good news of the Gospel – is not optional, and his life is a reflection of that philosophy.

Since 2002, Deans, a retired businessman, has served as the president and CEO of Mustard Seed International (MSI), volunteering his time and experience to serve the needs of those that need it most. His vision for MSI is for the ministry to make a significant spiritual impact in far-away and often forgotten places.

Deans grew up in Charleston, S.C., and attended The Citadel. During college he lost his father to cancer and, just a year later, his mother was tragically killed. It was through these hardships that Deans truly began to realize the depth of God's love and his faith became even stronger.

Before accepting the opportunity to lead MSI, Deans volunteered with several other humanitarian organizations. He served as country director for Bosnia with Samaritan's Purse, where he was responsible for development and management of projects to physically, emotionally and spiritually rebuild the lives of people affected by years of war and extreme suffering. He also served as a volunteer for Samaritan's Purse in a project to secure donations of medical supplies and equipment for Rwanda and oversaw relief efforts in the United States following Hurricanes Hugo and Andrew.

Over the years, Deans has volunteered his time with Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, MUSC Children's Hospital Fund, Metropolitan Exchange Club, Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy, East Cooper Baptist Church and Citadel Square Baptist Church as well as James B. Edwards Elementary and Wando High Schools.

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In addition, Deans' leadership skills were sharpened in his private sector business career. He was president, owner and chairman of the board of J.R. Deans Company, a wholesale distribution company. He also founded, owned and served as CEO and president of Covenant Group, a warehousing and logistics support company; Hope Real Estate, LTD, a property holding company; and Best Insulation and Drywall Company.

Deans currently resides in Charleston with his wife, Hope. He has three daughters: Kimberly, Elizabeth and Rebecca and several grandchildren.