



EDWARD F. PEREZ
Three Grains of Rice Missions
President, CEO

Ed Perez came from communist Cuba to the shores of the United States as a young teenager. He arrived penniless, homeless and unable to speak English. Through the grace of God, and a great deal of hard work and determination, he has lived the "American Dream". A dream that has not only been focused on personal success, but also on elevating the quality of life of those around him. After 42 years as a CSX IT Executive, Ed retired from Corporate America. His life is now dedicated to the mission field in Northeast Florida and Globally.

Ed has served on over a dozen non-profit boards. He has participated on 8 international mission trips where he served as a translator, negotiator and laborer. He is the Past President of the First Coast Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor's Hispanic American Advisory Board, Clara White Mission and the MAYO Community Research Advisory Board for Northeast Florida. He is currently on the boards of Hope Haven Clinic and Family Center, Dignity U Wear, Presbyterian Social Ministries and the Urban League of Jacksonville. He and his wife have recently started Three Grains of Rice Missions, Inc. This non-profit organization focuses on homelessness, women in crisis and children in need through awareness, volunteerism, education, personal interaction and the organization of projects and community outreach activities.

Ed has been recognized numerous times for his commitment to our Northeast Florida community and international missions. He has been noted as one of the upcoming Hispanic Leaders for Northeast Florida, was awarded the President's Volunteer Service award and received the CSX Coaching and Inclusion Champion of the Year award. He is a graduate of Lifework Leadership and Leadership Jacksonville. Over the past four years, Ed has worked with summer interns to provide technology support to non-profit organizations that do not have the means to pay for it. The team has upgraded IT infrastructures, websites, introduced data mining and strengthened security. He is also actively working with local Hispanic pastors to educate and elevate the health and wellbeing of our Hispanic population.

Ed earned his degrees in Economics, Business Administration and Psychology from Milligan College. He is currently attending Gordon Conwell Theology Seminary as a student of comparative religion. He has also studied with the local Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish and Muslim communities in an effort to understand their culture and beliefs and to find synergies to improve the wellbeing of everyone in our community. Ed is a passionate motivational speaker who freely shares his "American Dream" story which is founded on the principal that success cannot simply be measured by personal wealth, but rather by the quality of life of all that live in our communities.

He is married to the love of his life Stacey. They have four children and one grandchild.