

Episcopal Relief & Development

Your support in 2008 made a world of difference in helping Episcopal Relief & Development change the lives of close to 3 million people in more than 46 countries—another milestone in ERD history! Episcopal Relief & Development worked with more than 60 partners from the worldwide Church, ecumenical groups and other local organizations as we responded to needs around the world. These partnerships provided an entrée and trust, allowing us into the very heart of communities to share ideas, expertise and resources and to develop lasting solutions to poverty, hunger and disease.

Working Together to Help Heal a Hurting World, Episcopal Relief & Development addresses the following areas:

- Alleviating hunger and improving the food supply
- Creating economic opportunities and strengthening communities
- Promoting health and fighting disease
- Responding to disasters and rebuilding communities

Through our programs, we have brought healing to a hurting world. We answered the call of Matthew 25 by providing food for the hungry, care for the sick and opportunities for the stranger and those in need. Today, many more people are healthy, children are well-fed and communities are thriving because of Episcopal Relief & Development's commitment to heed Christ's words and share our resources with our family around the world.

Myanmar was decimated by Cyclone Nargis, which killed hundreds of thousands of people and left many more homeless. In partnership with the Church of the Province of Myanmar, Episcopal Relief & Development helped secure shelter, food, water and other relief needs for people displaced by the cyclone. We also continue to participate in the rebuilding process and support the struggle against poverty by focusing on economic development including agriculture, livestock, micro-loans, clean water and education programs in five dioceses in the country.

NetsforLife, Episcopal Relief & Development's program partnership, focuses on malaria prevention and delivered its 1 millionth insecticide-treated net in sub-Saharan Africa. Along with providing treated nets, the program indirectly benefited nearly 12 million people with information on how to use nets, malaria symptom recognition and environmental control of mosquitoes. West Missouri promoted NetsforLife with bulletin inserts for parishes to use during Lent, emphasizing the newly opened NetsforLife program in our companion diocese of Botswana and for which Bishop and Mary Howe were on hand for the inauguration, together with other representatives from the Diocese of West Missouri.

In the United States, Episcopal Relief & Development's domestic disaster response work has supported ongoing rebuilding efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina while also responding to other disasters like Hurricane Ike and the Midwest floods. Episcopal Relief & Development funded disaster relief efforts in the Diocese of West Missouri following tornado damage last year (three of them in about as many weeks) in Newton County. Through the efforts of Episcopal Relief & Development Parish Rep Vicki Hanna, St. John's, Neosho, we were able to obtain a grant of \$25,250 for the Newton County "Community Organizations Active in Disaster" organization to assist with helping many in the devastated area in both 2008 and 2009.

Honduras, suffers from extreme income disparities and high rates of poverty. Therefore, Episcopal Relief & Development and its local partner, the Diocese of Honduras, implemented a community garden to improve the income potential and health of local residents in the mountainous rural areas, which are especially poor.

In Swaziland, an impoverished country with the highest HIV rate in the world, Episcopal Relief & Development and the Diocese of Swaziland are creating integrated programs that promote HIV prevention and address hunger and poverty. Clergy and community leaders are trained to teach HIV prevention, promote voluntary testing and provide counseling to HIV-infected people. Soup kitchens are supported so that AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children are fed on weekends and school holidays. Training is provided in improved agricultural and

animal-husbandry techniques so that an adequate food supply is secure and families have surplus to sell at the market.

- At Episcopal Relief & Development, we use all financial contributions in the most effective ways possible to serve and support suffering people worldwide.
- In 2008, Episcopal Relief & Development spent 85% on program versus 5% on administration and 10% on fundraising. Support for organizational expenditures is provided through contributed services from the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and income from investments, ensuring that **92% of every donor dollar goes directly to our programs.**
- **2008 Total program expenses: \$ 25,460,805**
 - Food security \$6,322,989
 - Primary health care \$10,504,860
 - Emergency relief and rebuilding \$8,632,956
- **2008 Revenues: \$ 19,730,220**

The people and churches of The Diocese of West Missouri

- **contributed \$18,011 during 2008,**
- **23.4% increase over the \$13,808 contributed in 2007,**
- **42.5% increase over the \$10,364 contributed in 2006.**

We have a long way to go, but we are making progress! Of the 12 dioceses in Province 7, West Missouri ranks 8th in contributions for the first six months of 2009.

We have added new parish representatives to the Episcopal Relief & Development Network, bringing our total to 30 parishes with ERD representatives and 22 (42%) without a rep. Every Episcopalian should be given the opportunity to hear about Episcopal Relief & Development, its work, its achievements and its impact on a hurting world.

We have a long way to go—lots to do. The World Food Program and Food and Agriculture Organization reports

- 985,000,000 people live on less than \$1 per day.
- Over 820,000,000 go hungry every day.
- More than 60% of the chronically hungry are women.
- One in 4 children in developing countries are underweight.
- In the United States, 11.7 million children live in households where people have to skip meals or eat less to make ends meet. That means one in ten households in the U.S. are living with hunger or are at risk of hunger.
- **Every 5 SECONDS a child dies of hunger!**

“...Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” -- Matthew 25 :40 (NRSV)

Dave and Alice Williams
Diocesan Coordinators
Episcopal Relief & Development
“Healing a hurting world”