THE ADVANCE: DISASTER RELIEF PROJECTS

Helping You and Your Congregation
Direct Your Generosity

www.umcmission.org/DisasterRelief
From the Philippines to Iraq, and from Wyoming to South America, the Advance project of UMC’s Global Ministries has been assisting with disaster response and relief efforts all around the world for more than 75 years.

With UMCOR, these projects respond to disasters of great magnitude that overwhelm a community’s ability to recover on its own. We provide funds to our partners to supply food, hygiene supplies, shelter, and other basic needs to ease human suffering. In the long-term, we work with local partners towards recovery and reconstruction.

The Advance disaster relief projects are healing to communities.

- Offer disaster preparedness training
- Provide essential relief supplies
- Support long-term rebuilding efforts
- Assist communities as they adapt

With your generosity, we can bring compassionate relief to people all over the globe.

When you give through The Advance, a United Methodist Church Global Ministries project, you can be assured that 100% of your donation is earmarked for the Advance Project you choose.

This is a catalog of our Disaster Relief projects that you can support generously. We encourage you to rally your congregation, your small group, your family, and even your community behind these efforts.
NOMADS TRAVEL THE COUNTRY HELPING TO REBUILD LIVES

By Heather Peck Travis
Freelance writer based in Glasgow, Ky.

The nomads in literature wander the earth hopping from place to place on an adventure. The United Methodist group called Nomads On a Mission Active in Divine Service (NOMADS) fit in new construction projects or help communities rebuild after disaster as they wander.

“I love having the opportunity to help others as a way of repaying God for the blessings he’s given us,” say Perry and Jeannie Hansen, seven-year members of a group of mostly United Methodist retired couples who travel the United States building and repairing churches, homes and other structures.

“We are blessed with health and the physical ability to work, so instead of spending our retirement vacationing or cruising we use our energies in service to others...and we are blessed by it,” says the couple originally from West Haven, Fla.

NOMADS (Advance Project #982658) help with new construction and remodeling and repairing churches, children's homes, camps, colleges and outreach missions.

Since 2008, NOMADS have contributed more than $11 million in labor costs. They have completed projects in more than 31 states, assisting more than 43 agencies with more than 7,600 volunteer hours! On a typical project, each person works 24 hours a week or four six-hours-a-day shifts. Team size varies from six to 20 volunteers.

After natural disasters, NOMADS may serve on site from one week to several months. One year, they worked 12,209 disaster-project volunteer hours, says Mahan.

Individual couples sometimes assist “drop-in” projects as they travel, usually in their personal RVs, through areas served by United Methodist agencies. Most winter projects are in southern California, Arizona, South Texas, and Florida. Mahan and her husband, Wayne, have been volunteers for 13 years. The couple says NOMADS “gives meaning to our retirement.”

The Hansens have volunteered at retreat centers, church camps, children’s homes, community outreach projects, and disaster relief areas.

“While every project is rewarding as we are helping rebuild lives with God’s love,” says Perry, “some projects are held nearer and dearer to our hearts. My wife, for example, loves helping with children's homes. And I love rebuilding homes that were totally destroyed by floods, tornadoes or hurricanes. It's very fulfilling to offer a new house and the opportunity for new life.”

Perry also recalls a memorable spring project when he and his wife helped a Christian-based boys’ home in Lampe, Mo. “We are told, ‘thank you’ all the time when we work for NOMADS,” he says, “but it’s really we who are the ones being blessed.”

Your congregation’s generosity to The Advance Disaster Relief Projects empower people like the NOMADS to bring relief all over the world. To find a Relief initiative to support, visit our disaster projects on umcmission.org/DisasterRelief.
When a natural or human-caused disaster strikes outside of the United States, UMCOR serves as the primary channel for United Methodist assistance, responding to dozens of unsung disasters every year. The support of this project allows UMCOR to respond quickly to meet emergency needs worldwide.

UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community’s ability to recover on its own. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters.
#901455

United Methodist Volunteers
In Mission - South Central Jurisdiction

Annual Goal: $10,000
Location: Global, Global

The South Central Jurisdiction includes a significant number of communities with individuals who need physical and spiritual help. The goals of this project are to provide opportunities to educate on healthy, sustainable, and highly relational missional responses that adhere to the “best practices” of United Methodist missions.

#901463

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission - Western Jurisdiction

Annual Goal: $10,000
Location: Global, Global

Families and communities in the Western Jurisdiction experience homelessness, hunger, poverty. Many live without clean water or sanitation, have medical and dental and educational needs. This project connects and empowers short-term volunteers to be servants of Jesus Christ in this area.
UMCOR - Where Most Needed

Annual Goal: $7,000,000
Location: Global, Global

UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response in the United States and internationally. Our efforts are targeted in places where natural disasters, war, or conflict have done so much damage that communities are unable to recover on their own.

United Methodist Volunteers In Mission - Southeastern Jurisdiction

Annual Goal: $85,000
Location: Global, Global

The communities in the Southeastern Jurisdiction are affected by disasters and poverty, and a lack of healthcare, education, sanitation and clean water. This project connects and empowers short-term volunteers to be servants of Jesus Christ in this area.

United Methodist Volunteers In Mission - North Central Jurisdiction

Annual Goal: $25,000
Location: Global, Global

Various needs in the North Central Jurisdiction include disaster clean-up, education, pastor training, clean water and sanitation, among others. This project connects and empowers short-term volunteers to be servants of Jesus Christ in this area.
UMCOR Sager Brown

Annual Goal: $500,000
Location: Global, Global

This project provides opportunities for both short and long-term volunteers to engage in the hands-on work of responding to disasters with relief supplies.

Church World Service, Blankets and Tools

Annual Goal: $475,370
Location: Global, Global

The Blankets and Tools program provides financial support for a variety of projects that provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs.

United Methodist NOMADS

Annual Goal: $25,000
Location: United States, North America

This project provides volunteer labor for UMC organizations needing construction, remodeling, and repairs.
Material Resources

Annual Goal: $400,000
Location: Global, Global

UMCOR relief supply kits make a big difference to families facing emergency situations. With support from this initiative, volunteers can procure and distribute relief-supply kits to help provide care for the most vulnerable people during times of crisis, as well as crop varieties for farmers that can be used for drought and flood resistant crops.

Acción Médica Cristiana (AMC)

Location: Nicaragua, Latin America and Caribbean

This project empowers poor communities through leadership and capacity-building, for health and development.
#982760

**United Methodist Volunteers in Mission - Northeastern Jurisdiction**

Annual Goal: $3,600  
*Location: Global, Global*

This project seeks to respond with disaster recovery, safe housing, health care clinics, training, church building and other ministries by providing training, education, best practices and resourcing to promote short term mission work.

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#3021951

**Sustainable Development**

Annual Goal: $250,000  
*Location: Global, Global*

The goal of this project is to transform and strengthen global communities through long-term recovery following disasters and to provide assistance to transition into sustainable development.
Get to know all of The Advance programs and projects by visiting www.umcmission.org/DisasterRelief