

# Lifelines

For supporters of  
**ELCA WORLD HUNGER**

ELCA World Hunger is a ministry of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to end  
hunger in the United States and around the world.  
[ELCA.org/hunger](http://ELCA.org/hunger)

*Spring 2016*



**2015  
Year in Review**



**ELCA World Hunger**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



## The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director,  
ELCA World Hunger  
and Disaster Appeal

### How to give

**Online**  
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**Phone**  
800-638-3522

**Mail**  
Make checks payable to  
"ELCA World Hunger"  
and mail to:  
ELCA  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

### Contact us

**Email**  
[hunger@elca.org](mailto:hunger@elca.org)

**Phone**  
800-638-3522, ext. 2616

### View this issue online

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**ELCA World Hunger**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## Dear friends in ministry,

2015 was a year of milestones in the journey of ELCA World Hunger, the related work of Lutheran Disaster Response and initiatives, such as the ELCA Malaria Campaign and ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water.

This past year, we met new challenges, and the rate of extreme hunger in the world has fallen to what is likely an all-time low. Even so, conflict and climate change are forcing an increasing number of people to flee their homes or depend upon aid. Progress has been phenomenal, but so too is the need.

In 2015, the support for our work together has also grown with gifts received for ELCA World Hunger, going above and beyond any previous year. Growth has come both in bequests and in current-year giving (cash, stock and gifts of grain). Our growth is a sign that we are deeply rooted and growing toward the future.

Your generosity has offered us the opportunity to make an even greater impact. The strength of ELCA World Hunger continues to be our relationships in communities in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries. With the expertise of colleagues and companions, we are even better equipped to make effective, data-driven decisions with broad and deep impact. And seeing the meaningful results of our work together is exhilarating!

This past year, the ELCA Malaria Campaign came to an end with us exceeding our fundraising goal of \$15 million. In 2015, our church also rallied around ELCA World Hunger's Walk for Water at the ELCA Youth Gathering. These special opportunities reminded us of the power of God to inspire and unite us in ways that build hope and change lives.

As we look ahead and live in the life of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we are committed to reaching even more of our sisters and brothers in 2016 - the year of emphasis for ELCA World Hunger. Together, we have already begun special campaigns and initiatives to lift up the work that we are doing together. The opportunities for more impact, more activities, and more growth await us.

With a young boy's lunch, Jesus fed a multitude. With a core group of just 12, the gospel spread all over the world. ELCA World Hunger is a ministry of growth and transformation - of a mustard seed, a widow's copper coins, and a basket of fish that God uses to change the world and us. Imagine what your most generous gift might do as we work together in Christ.

With gratitude,

THE REV. DANIEL RIFT  
DIRECTOR, ELCA WORLD HUNGER AND DISASTER APPEAL

*Note: All financial references are to the fiscal year that ended on Jan. 31, 2016, in order to provide remittance for all end of calendar year gifts.*

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# WATER



Photo: The Lutheran World Federation



Photo: The Lutheran World Federation

"I have my own water tank. It's a dream come true."

-WIJANJI ASAPH



Photo: The Lutheran World Federation

## ELCA World Hunger



*When a community gains access to clean water close to home, everything changes. Women and children don't spend hours gathering water. Instead, they are able to attend school, grow food and stay healthy. ELCA World Hunger helps communities gain access to water for drinking, growing crops, sanitation and hygiene - creating healthier families and stronger economies.*

### A dream comes true

**F**or four months out of the year, the dry season in the Sembabule district of Uganda used to take a toll on people, especially children.

During these months, individuals, often children, would walk unfathomable distances - sometimes more than six miles - just to obtain water. They have to carry water back for themselves and their families and also for animal and agricultural use as well. This difficult, long task would keep children from school and keep their parents from earning an income and contributing to the local economy - deepening the cycle of poverty.

That's why providing access to clean water is one of the most powerful ways to create change. Thanks to your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, working with The Lutheran World Federation in Uganda, families like Wijanhi Asaph's were able to access clean water and experience this change firsthand, in this case through a water tank.

Access to clean water was something Wijanhi had never thought possible for his family. He says, "Whenever I heard people talking about safe, clean water, I would never believe that at any time in my life I could have that for myself."

Before water was easily accessible, Wijanhi says, "My children were often missing school or arriving late. This is going to stop."

Clean water will change his children's lives for the better and also the life of his entire family. "Time that we normally spend looking for water can now be invested in other productive ventures like agriculture for income," he says.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger helped bring access to clean water to families like the Asaphs, and they couldn't be happier. Wijanhi says, "I have my own water tank. It's a dream come true."

# HEALTH



## ELCA World Hunger



*Hunger, poverty and health are deeply connected. That's why many programs supported by ELCA World Hunger engage in health promotion and health care as part of a comprehensive approach. Supporting programs that provide innovative solutions, education and medical assistance to meet the unique needs of women, children and families is one way ELCA World Hunger is addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty.*

Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, new stoves, along with training, were provided to 256 families in Bangladesh.



## Erasing smoke

The heart of Ramoni Rani and Nor Uttam Hawlader's Bangladeshi home is their kitchen, where the family of five gathers around the stove each day to prepare and share meals. Their stove, like many in the towns and villages in Bangladesh, is also at the center of the country's environmental and health concerns.

The smoke generated by traditional wood-burning stoves is known to cause a range of medical conditions, impacting women most frequently, including respiratory illnesses and eye infections. The daily use of the stoves has also meant life or death, with 32,000 children and 14,000 women dying each year from household fires that originate from traditional cook stoves. The stoves have also contributed to the alarming rate of deforestation in Bangladesh.

Lutheran Health Care Bangladesh, a program supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, worked with the Bangladesh Science and Industry Research Council to find a solution - a more efficient cook stove with reduced smoke emissions. The stove, called a Bondhu Chula, requires less fuel, reduces cooking time, and minimizes the health risks associated with smoke. Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, new stoves, along with training, were provided to 256 families.

Ramoni and Nor's family was one of the 256 recipients. The couple was overjoyed to find that their new stove decreased their fuel expenses by 50 percent and significantly reduced the time to cook their meals. With fewer household resources required for cooking, the Hawladars can now save more for their children's future. Thank you for your commitment to ELCA World Hunger. Your gifts are helping improve the health of women, children and families in Bangladesh and around the world.

# INCOME



Photo: ACT Alliance/Paul Jeffrey

## ELCA World Hunger



*Income-generating activities help families pay for essentials like food, medical costs and school fees, while microloans enable starting or upgrading small businesses. These and other long-term solutions to ending hunger and poverty are at the center of the programs ELCA World Hunger supports.*



Photo: Franklin Ishida

Chao Wan-shen holds one of 400 goats owned by 13 families in San-li-jiu, a remote hamlet in the village of Liming, Lijiang, northern Yunnan province, China.

## Life-giving goats

The hamlet of San-li-jiu is only about 15 miles by car from the main road, but you might think you were in another world after the first 9 miles, as the road turns into a single stone lane that quickly changes to gravel and then into a narrow dirt track. The road is steep and ends near the top of the mountain.

Xie Liang-zhong was born in San-li-jiu, part of the village of Liming in the northern Yunnan province of China. For many generations, the people of San-li-jiu – members of the Lisu ethnic minority – lived in extreme poverty, with very limited contact with the outside world.

Xie, who is now the head of the Liming village, strives to improve the lives of his people. He brings water and electricity to far-flung hamlets, walks the mountains to find the best routes for almost 160 miles of roads to connect villages, and

helps his neighbors explore sustainable sources of income, including growing walnuts and raising new breeds of goats.

First came the walnut trees. With yields as much as \$16 per 2.2 pounds of nuts, the trees provide the villagers with new means of earning and saving money. And through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, the Lisu are able to continue in their tradition of raising goats, now with breeds adapted to the local environment that are slightly smaller and mature faster. In a region where hunger has been a daily reality, the goats are a source of stability and livelihood for the people of Liming. “Goats are good for the area,” says Chao Wan-shen, a resident of San-li-jiu. “They provide a steady income.” His family is one of 13 in San-li-jiu that now have a total of 400 goats.

Xie continues to plan ahead and is working on a three-pronged approach – walnut trees, goats, and grass to feed the animals – to move other hamlets out of hunger and poverty.

# NUTRITION



Inter Parish Ministry's food pantry is one of nearly 400 programs in the United States supported by ELCA World Hunger in 2015.

## ELCA World Hunger



*Soup kitchens, food pantries and meal programs provide immediate support to those in need. Community gardens and agricultural programs help families grow food to nourish themselves and build safer, healthier communities for the long term. These are some of the ways ELCA World Hunger accompanies communities as we put an end to hunger – for good.*

### 'Choice' food

It takes volunteers Melinda and her son Dave three trips to carry donations of bread, pies and pastries into Inter Parish Ministry's food pantry in Batavia, Ohio. For Melinda and Dave, volunteering at the pantry is a family affair. "This has been a way to teach my sons the importance of giving something back to the community," Melinda says. "And it gives us something to do as a family."

When clients arrive at the food pantry, they fill out a contact form and are accompanied around the pantry by a volunteer. The pantries in Batavia and Newtown, near Cincinnati, are "choice" pantries. Clients are given a shopping cart and can choose which of the items to take from the shelves.

Thanks to your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, clients like Jason have a place they can turn to when faced with unexpected hardship. A serious back injury kept Jason away from his

construction job for nearly a year. In that year, the pantries in Batavia and Newtown helped him get enough food for himself and his family. When he recovered and returned to work, he brought a neighbor in need to the pantry.

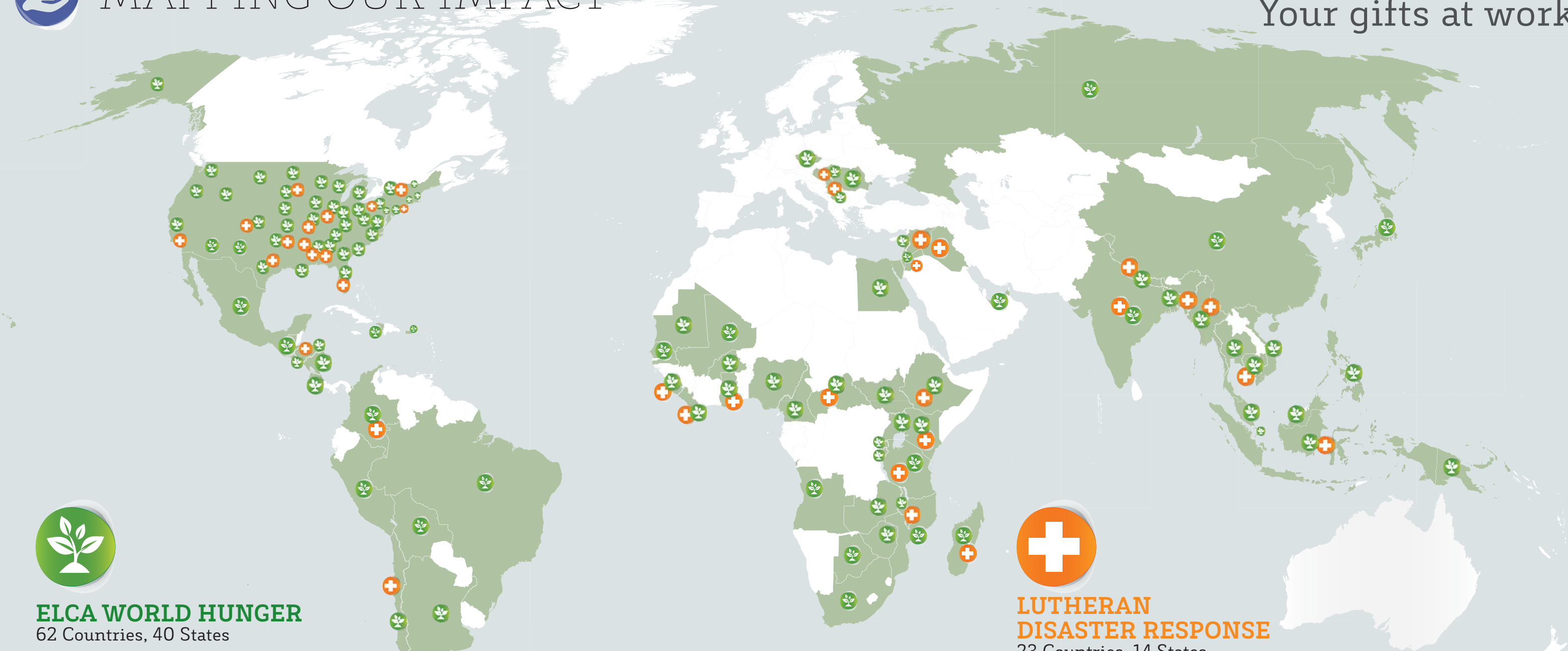
Inter Parish Ministry has been walking with families like Jason's since 1964. Today, more than 4,000 families receive food, clothing or other goods from the choice pantries in Batavia and Newtown and the mobile pantries operated by Inter Parish Ministry.

Gail Koford, development director for the ministry, says that besides food, clothing and school supplies, the pantries offer hope, particularly for those "who can't even imagine being in that situation" of not knowing where their next meal might come from. Inter Parish Ministry's pantries are places where needs are met, relationships are formed and lives are changed – for both clients and volunteers.



# MAPPING OUR IMPACT

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**Your gifts at work**



## ELCA WORLD HUNGER

62 Countries, 40 States



## LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

23 Countries, 14 States

### INTERNATIONAL

- Angola
- Argentina
- Bangladesh
- Bolivia
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Czech Republic
- Dubai
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Hungary
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Jerusalem
- Kenya
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mexico
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Papua New Guinea
- Peru
- Philippines
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- South Sudan
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Uganda
- Vietnam
- West Bank
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

### UNITED STATES AND CARIBBEAN

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

### INTERNATIONAL

- Bangladesh**  
*South Asian Disaster Preparedness*
- Cambodia**  
*South Asian Disaster Preparedness*
- Central African Republic**  
*Community Reconstruction*
- Chile**  
*Earthquake*
- Colombia**  
*Flooding*
- Ethiopia**  
*Food Security*
- Ghana**  
*Fire*
- Honduras**  
*Repatriated Migrant Children*
- Hungary**  
*Migrant/Refugee Crisis*
- India**  
*South Asian Tsunami, Disaster Preparedness, and Flooding*
- Indonesia**  
*Advocacy*
- Iraq**  
*Migrant/Refugee Crisis*
- Jordan**  
*Migrant/Refugee Crisis*
- Kenya**  
*Peace Building and Conflict Management*
- Liberia**  
*Ebola Relief*
- Madagascar**  
*Flooding and Drought*
- Malawi**  
*Flooding*
- Myanmar**  
*Flooding*
- Nepal**  
*Earthquake*
- Serbia**  
*Migrant/Refugee Crisis and Flooding*
- Sierra Leone**  
*Ebola Relief*
- Syria**  
*Conflict and Violence*
- Tanzania**  
*Ebola and Migrant/Refugee Crisis*

### UNITED STATES

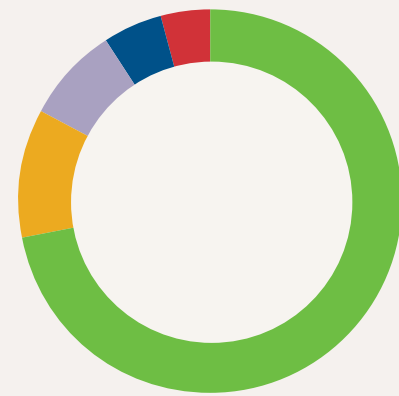
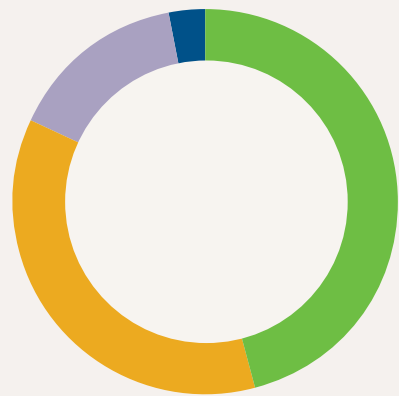
- Arkansas**  
*Tornadoes*
- California**  
*Unaccompanied and Migrant Children*
- Colorado**  
*Flooding and Wildfires*
- Florida**  
*Unaccompanied and Migrant Children*
- Illinois**  
*Tornadoes*
- Louisiana**  
*Hurricane Isaac*
- Mississippi**  
*Tornadoes*
- Missouri**  
*Flooding*
- New Jersey**  
*Hurricane Sandy*
- New York**  
*Hurricane Sandy and Unaccompanied and Migrant Children*
- Ohio**  
*Flooding*
- Oklahoma**  
*Tornadoes*
- South Dakota**  
*Tornadoes*
- Texas**  
*Unaccompanied and Migrant Children*



ELCA WORLD HUNGER

REVENUE \$21,944,702

EXPENDITURES \$20,107,209



- 46% SYNODS & CONGREGATIONS**  
\$10,037,831
- 36% INDIVIDUALS & OTHERS**  
\$7,889,587
- 15% BEQUESTS AND MISCELLANEOUS**  
\$3,406,098
- 3% ENDOWMENT AND ELCA DONOR ADVISED FUNDS**  
\$611,186

- 72% INTERNATIONAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT**  
\$14,412,198
- 11% U.S. RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT**  
\$2,177,157
- 8% FUNDRAISING AND ADMINISTRATION**  
\$1,659,474
- 5% ADVOCACY**  
\$1,052,433
- 4% HUNGER EDUCATION & NETWORKING**  
\$805,947



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

REVENUE \$6,877,871

- 51% SYNODS & CONGREGATIONS**  
\$3,523,266
- 39% INDIVIDUALS & OTHERS**  
\$2,702,083
- 10% GRANTS**  
\$652,522

EXPENDITURES \$7,965,105

- 50% INTERNATIONAL**  
\$3,997,817
- 49% UNITED STATES**  
\$3,864,213
- 1% COMMUNICATION AND ADMINISTRATION**  
\$103,075

2015 HIGHLIGHTED EXPENDITURES

INTERNATIONAL

- 44% ASIA**  
(Earthquake, Flooding, Cyclone, Migration)  
\$1,772,775
- 21% AFRICA**  
(Ebola, Flooding, Drought, Migration, Conflict, Cyclone)  
\$835,832
- 11% MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE**  
(Flooding, Conflict, Migration)  
\$445,000
- 4% CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA**  
(Earthquake, Hurricane, Migration)  
\$144,050
- 11% EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND GLOBAL MITIGATION**  
\$440,000
- 9% COORDINATION, PLANNING, AND GENERAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**  
\$360,160

U.S.

- 35% TORNADOES**  
\$1,363,839
- 30% HURRICANES**  
\$1,143,631
- 9% FLOODING**  
\$325,139
- 8% FAMILY CASE SUPPORT SPECIAL GRANT**  
\$319,087
- 5% MIGRANT MINORS**  
\$186,989
- 13% MULTIPLE DISASTERS, NETWORK SUPPORT, PROGRAM COORDINATION**  
\$525,528



# DISASTER



Photo: ACT Alliance/Paul Jeffrey



Photo: ACT Alliance/Paul Jeffrey



Photo: ACT Alliance/Paul Jeffrey

Thanks to your generosity, gifts for the Nepal earthquakes totaled more than \$2 million.

[Actual total: \$2,032,303.59]

## Lutheran Disaster Response



*Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.*

### Building back better

**O**n April 25, 2015, a powerful 7.8-magnitude earthquake rocked central Nepal. Again on May 12, a major earthquake struck Nepal with almost 400 aftershocks. More than 8,460 people were killed and more than half a million homes destroyed. As a church, we walk with our sisters and brothers of Nepal, responding to the needs of our neighbor.

By working together, we are able to do far more than we ever could alone. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with a network of partners actively engaged within communities. Just days after the earthquakes, resources were mobilized. One year later, we are still working with our network of partners, including The Lutheran World Federation, United Mission to Nepal, Shanti Nepal and Lutheran World Relief, helping to rebuild communities and improve lives.

"We are grateful for organizations that have helped us during this time. We received food and tents as initial relief. Then afterwards, we received seed, galvanized sheets for temporary shelter, and winterization materials," says Angela Tamang whose home was destroyed in the earthquake.

Emergency relief was provided to people like Angela in the form of ready-to-eat food, blankets and hygiene kits. Water filtration units, personal care kits and temporary shelter were also priorities in the beginning stages of recovery.

Now, our immediate response has transitioned to long-term recovery. Homes are starting to be rebuilt. Masons are being

trained to build earthquake-resistant homes; families are receiving technical support and grants for reconstruction.

Support for sustainable livelihoods is driving economic development. Cash-for-work programs have been initiated for debris cleanup. Small grants for self-help groups are being organized. Training in agriculture, livestock support and income generation are happening in remote areas. Support has been given to farmers with seed distribution, irrigation projects and soil management. Ten mini tractors have also been supplied.

The ELCA has a long history of walking with the people of Nepal. Before the earthquake, gifts to ELCA World Hunger helped empower communities through education and health care. Strong partnerships with the Shanti Nepal primary health clinic helped provide emergency medical treatment immediately after the earthquake. Support for the clinic is continuing with repairs, training and equipment. Temporary learning centers have been constructed while schools are being rebuilt, and the Elim Kids Academy, a Christian school that the ELCA helps support, is also being rebuilt.

Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to helping communities in Nepal increase their resilience to future disasters. Gifts to the Nepal earthquakes made it possible for our church to respond - bringing help, hope and healing to our Nepal neighbors. Thank you.

# Together, we have made a great impact.



The ELCA joined the global effort in the fight against malaria by initiating the ELCA Malaria Campaign with a goal of raising \$15 million in five years. The church met this challenge with creativity, engagement, generosity and fundraising success, reaching \$15.45 million in 2015. Thank you!

In Africa, malaria programs grew from the strong foundations of existing relationships and health ministries. Standing together with our companions and partners in 14 African countries, the ELCA Malaria Campaign empowered communities to lay the foundation for a healthier future. Our Lutheran companions and partners now have strong networks of trained leaders and volunteers, communities are educated in prevention and control of malaria and families have improved livelihoods.

## Expanding to Madagascar!

Thanks to your generosity, malaria work with the Malagasy Lutheran Church is underway – expanding our work to 14 countries.

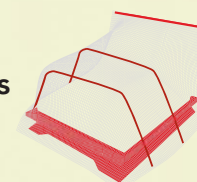


## Together, we have achieved things we could never do alone.

ELCA members, hand-in-hand with our Lutheran sisters and brothers in Africa, have contributed – and will continue to contribute – to the global movement against malaria. The work to address malaria in Africa and around the world will continue through gifts to ELCA World Hunger.



Distributed **60,000** nets



Financially empowered **14,000** households



Tested **200,000** people and, if positive, treated them



Trained **12,000** in prevention and treatment



Educated more than **2 MILLION** people

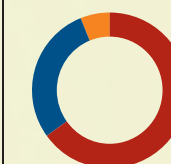


Provided **32,000** pregnant women prevention medication



Numbers are reported by country programs.

### ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN FINANCIALS



**REVENUE**  
\$16,381,535

**Synods and congregations**  
65% | \$10,699,230

**Individuals**  
29% | \$4,748,693

**Startup grants**  
6% | \$933,612



**EXPENDITURES**  
\$16,381,535

**Programing and commitments**  
88% | \$14,351,142

**Interpretation**  
4% | \$665,995

**Fundraising**  
8% | \$1,364,398

"There are many people today who cannot understand what love is, because there is so much that is hindering them from seeing that love. And the mission that we, and the ELCA, must embark on is to remove those obstacles that hinder people from seeing the love of Christ. Malaria is one of them. HIV and AIDS is another. Poverty is the root of all these hindrances. As we continue our work, we can be assured that Christ will be with us, because this is the mission that Christ sent us to do."

– Bishop Joseph Buvmbwe, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi

# LifeLines

For supporters of ELCA World Hunger *Spring 2016*

2015 Year in Review

ELCA World Hunger  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
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## 2016 is the ELCA World Hunger year!

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Did you know your giving to ELCA World Hunger is part of an ELCA-wide effort to raise \$198 million by Jan. 31, 2019? ELCA World Hunger is one of 10 priorities of the ELCA's first comprehensive campaign, *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*.

2016 marks the campaign's year-of-emphasis on ELCA World Hunger and we want you to join us! Together, with generous, loving hands, we work for a world in which all are fed.

[ELCA.org/hunger](http://ELCA.org/hunger)

*Always*  
being made  
**New.**