

CRISIS RESPONSE REPORT 2023



"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Psalm 46:1-3

You are receiving this report because you have partnered with MAI to support these relief responses. Thank you for joining us with financial support and prayer for this important area of ministry in 2023.



WHY CRISIS RESPONSE?

With a 400% increase in world-wide disasters between 2010 and 2020, communities where MAI serve are often impacted, as was the case in 2023. In moments of disaster, we effectively combine a wholistic and developmental approach, making use of available local resources, while encouraging community ownership.

Networking in disasters requires open minds, open hands, and open hearts. When the situation in the field is dire, it is essential to work together to provide relief to those in need. MAI is available to other organizations as their partners on the ground provide an excellent framework for assisting in distribution.

Early intervention during a crisis is crucial. In 2021, MAI created a **'Crisis Response Fund' [U 020]**, allowing us to respond within 48-72 hours when a CHE community reaches out to us for help. MAI participates through trainings and fundraising in each of the four stages of the Disaster Cycle: Response, Rehabilitation, Mitigation, and Preparedness.

UKRAINE WAR

As the Ukrainian war continues into its second year, MAI remains committed to provide assistance to those affected.

Crisis Fund donations contributed to the purchase of container houses for internally displaced persons (IDPs) that have moved from the frontlines to the Ukrainian border town of Uzhhorod, and to the purchase of a new van to transport goods across the border from Michalovce.

Dr. Bibiana MacLeod, MAI's Technical Advisor for Disaster Preparedness & Response and Zuzana, MAI Missionary, traveled to Ukraine in October 2023 to visit beneficiaries from our partnership with Cirkev Bratska, a Slovakian, evangelical denomination. Pastor David showed them the facilities, with a dining area that feeds, not only the 13 families living in the container houses, but about 300 other IDPs living in the surrounding areas.



Container houses for refugees.

UKRAINE WAR



Providing essential supplies.

They also visited with the Michalovce team in Slovakian border with Ukraine, where part of the MAI contributions was used to rent a storage space at a hospital. There, they receive donations that are sent to Ukraine by land with the vehicle they purchased. The older van that MAI had paid for in 2022 is now serving in Ukraine North-eastern town of Kostopil.

MAI also partnered with MEK Hungary to support Pastor Leonard, who travels through Romania, Hungary and Slovakia, gathering supplies to cross the border into Ukraine people lacking essential supplies to survive in communities close to the fight.

Crisis Response Fund Budget Utilized: \$28,432.50

TURKEY EARTHQUAKE

Turkey suffered a devastating earthquake in February 2023, destroying whole cities, leaving many homeless and a high death toll. MAI responded by sending three facilitators to train the REMAR team, who have been assigned to manage a newly built refugee camp for 65 families.

This trip to Antakya showed us firsthand the great need for seeing survivors as great resources for community organization and make them active responders and not passive receivers.

We also offered Trauma Healing sessions to those responding to the needs of survivors, both Syrians and Turkish citizens.

Crisis Response Fund Budget Utilized: \$5,890



Homes destroyed by earthquake.

SOUTH ASIA FLOODS



Clean drinking water provided.

MAI CHE partners were able to provide food, clean water and transportation to families affected by the flooding in rural areas of South Asia. Our team in the area required a dependable vehicle to distribute aid, which was made possible by funds from the Crisis Response Fund.

In addition, we provided online training to aid in disaster management and organized response teams in the immediate aftermath.

Crisis Response Fund Budget Utilized: \$5,000

KENYA FLOODS

Heavy rains in December caused severe flooding that destroyed a major road, turning transportation of goods and people into a perilous exercise.

A CHE's trainers' wife was forced to navigate the floodwaters, moving from bus to motorcycle to a man's back to a boat.

Unfortunately, the disaster has led to several challenges such as food shortage due to impassable roads, loss of crops, and displacement of people.

Thankfully, MAI was able to provide initial funds to purchase supplies for 100 families right before Christmas.

Crisis Response Fund Budget Utilized: \$2,800



Unprecedented flooding in Kenya.



Supplies provided to families.

CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN HAITI



MAI trainers viewing test strip results.

In the battered country of Haiti, where street gangs and lack of law reinforcement have made life so insecure, a new threat emerged in early May, with cholera outbreaks in different parts of the country, both in and around many of our CHE communities.

Immediate help was sent for the purchase of Oral Rehydration Salts in the neighboring country of Dominican Republic, along with a video explaining how to chlorinate water with powder chlorine available for purchase in local markets.

In August, Dr. Mac Leod met with CHE senior trainers in Haiti to provide training on the use of test strips to ensure appropriate level of water chlorination.

CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN HAITI

Despite several CHE communities reporting cases of cholera, MAI was quick to react by providing educational resources and implementing preventative measures.

As a result, the cases were contained and did not escalate into a larger issue.

Crisis Response Fund Budget Utilized: \$1,000



Dr. Bibiana Mac Leod providing educational resources to CHE Trainers in Haiti.

BECAUSE OF YOU

Medical Ambassadors International mission is to equip communities through Christ-centered health and development. By your generous donation to the MAI Crisis Response Fund, you are providing a quick and thorough response to the areas of greatest need throughout the world. Please continue to pray for us and share this booklet with others that may be interested in our mission.

God Bless You!






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