What is Episcopal Relief & Development?

Episcopal Relief & Development is an international relief and development agency and a compassionate response to human suffering on behalf of the Episcopal Church. Our work facilitates healthier, more fulfilling lives in communities struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster, and disease—and we are committed to demonstrating a measurable impact in three transformative program priorities: Women, Children, and Climate.

What is the ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE Campaign?

ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE is a $3 million grassroots Church-wide fundraising campaign dedicated to expanding the organization’s global programs, improving the lives of children up to age six. Research shows that the first 1,000 days for children are critical in setting a foundation that affects their ability to grow, learn, and thrive over their entire lives. Around the world, 155 million children under six are not reaching their full potential due to inadequate nutrition and health care. Episcopal Relief & Development works with communities to ensure that children have access to food, clean water, and quality health care. This campaign will allow us to expand our programs across multiple communities in several countries to reach even more children and their communities.

Why did we choose the name?

• First, research shows that the first 1,000 days for children are critical in setting a foundation that affects their ability to grow, learn, and thrive over their entire lives. It is the foundation upon which our work with children is built.
• Second, the campaign 1,000 days will be the time frame for our campaign, starting with a public launch on September 4, 2019 and will continue through the end of 2022.
• Third, it is a message of unity and love. Together, for one thousand days, we are joined in the collective desire to share love by loving the children among us.

Why did we choose to do a campaign to support our work with children?

It is the very urgency of addressing the earliest days of a child’s life; that was the first reason we want to focus on children for our campaign. Secondly, when we help a child reach their potential, their families, their communities, and our world benefits. And finally, we felt that young & old across our church community—all could get involved.
How does our work support children?
Our work with children brings positive change to children’s lives by creating economic stability, nurtures healthy children through improving food and nutrition, protecting health and preventing disease, empowering parents, and protecting families, and helps children by providing access to clean water, hygiene, sanitation, and reducing the impact of disasters and building resilience.

How can you get involved?
Over 1000 days, Episcopal Relief & Development invites individuals, congregations, and dioceses to join ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE by engaging in acts of love of their own. Working together or in their own way to help communities nurture children to their full potential.

These acts can include:
• Learn about the campaign and the organization’s work with children.
• Share the campaign with their congregations and communities on social media, through online peer-to-peer fundraising and other creative campaign activities.
• Give of your time and talent as an individual or congregation to help expand the organization’s work with children.

We encourage you to visit the website to learn more about how you and your community can get involved. Regardless of how you choose to participate, we hope people will see ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE as a meaningful opportunity to join us in ministry and in loving our global community through caring and nurturing our children.

Where can I find more information and campaign resources?
We have set up an online campaign portal, campaign.episcopalrelief.org. You will find fundraising ideas, how to set up an event, photos, posters, and general campaign information.

Print resources, including posters, hope chests, bulletin inserts and donation envelopes can be ordered from Forward Movement. The resources are free. www.forwardmovement.org.

How can I share my Acts of Love?
Love. Please email photos, videos and a short description of your project to 1000DaysOfLove@episcopalrelief.org

If you have any questions or ideas, we’re eager to hear from you at 212-518-0534 or 1000DaysOfLove@episcopalrelief.org