



EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT Seventy-Five Years of Healing a Hurting World

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## Foreword

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For 75 years, Episcopal Relief & Development, formerly the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, has been guided by the challenge of Jesus Christ to love and care for the most vulnerable. The pages of this book provide a glimpse into the work and history of Episcopal Relief & Development, transporting you to many of the nearly forty countries that the organization serves on behalf of all Episcopalians.

The first section of this book is a catalog of the 75th Anniversary Photo Exhibition. Each image has been selected for its beauty and the story it tells. Each photo represents a different element of the core programmatic work of Episcopal Relief & Development, giving it a human face. The exhibition's curator, Joanna Lehan, and the staff of Episcopal Relief & Development reviewed over twenty thousand organizational photos to bring together a collection that is both moving and inspiring.

The second section of this book is a history of Episcopal Relief & Development and the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. Born out of the need to help those fleeing war-torn Europe, the founding of the Presiding Bishop's Fund was one of the earliest ecclesiastical responses to World War II. This kind of proactive and transformative action continues to be a hallmark of this ministry of compassion. In the last 75 years, the world has experienced great transformations. Through cycles of famine, disaster and war, Episcopal Relief & Development has served as a compassionate response of the Church through programs designed to strengthen communities.

From the formative years working with refugees to the recent success of programs such as the *NetsforLife*® partnership, the organization has

become a practitioner of a methodology known as Asset-Based Community Development. This integrated approach helps communities to recognize their inherent assets, enabling them to become sustainable by using the tools and resources already present. In this way, the people served by Episcopal Relief & Development gain the confidence necessary to grow in self-sufficiency, toward more abundant life.

I invite you to enter the pages of this book with an open heart, allowing the Holy Spirit to speak to you. The faces of each man, woman and child represent the more than three million lives touched by Episcopal Relief & Development each year. This work is made possible through the generosity of Episcopalians from all walks of life.

I know you will gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of how Episcopal Relief & Development has become a world-class relief and development organization, representing The Episcopal Church in the work of healing a hurting world.

On behalf of individuals and communities around the world, thank you for partnering with Episcopal Relief & Development for its first 75 years. We look forward to having you join us in this good work for many years to come.

In Christ,

THE MOST REVEREND KATHARINE JEFFERTS SCHORI  
Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Episcopal Church –and–  
Honorary Chair of the Board  
Episcopal Relief & Development



Moved by faith to nurture justice and wholeness in a hurting world, Episcopal Relief & Development is a compassionate response of The Episcopal Church to human suffering worldwide.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus calls us to feed the hungry, care for the sick and welcome the stranger. We invite you to join us in living our joyful response, seeking and serving Christ in all persons through our partnerships in nearly 40 countries.

Our locally led, context-driven programs integrate these four core development areas into sustainable strategies for a thriving future:

**Alleviating Hunger and Improving Food Supply**

**Creating Economic Opportunities and Strengthening Communities**

**Promoting Health and Fighting Disease**

**Responding to Disasters and Rebuilding Communities**





## MOZAMBIQUE

Photograph by MARCUS BLEASDALE/VII

## **EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT PROMOTES HEALTH AND FIGHTS DISEASE**

Our integrated programs mobilize local volunteers and health workers to educate their communities about common diseases, focusing on prevention through immunizations, nutrition, maternal and child health, proper hygiene practices and water and sanitation systems. Globally, there are 800 preventable childbirth-related deaths each day, 99% of which occur in developing countries. Birth attendants like this woman from the Anglican Diocese of Bo, in Sierra Leone, learn how to actively engage with families and monitor child health, saving lives and strengthening their communities.

### **SIERRA LEONE**

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Photograph by MIKE DUBOSE, United Methodist News Service





In the Episcopal Diocese of El Salvador, Dr. Daniella Flamenco and her six colleagues provide clinical services, nutrition education and agricultural training in Salinas del Potrero, a rural village 90 minutes by car from San Salvador.

Episcopal Relief & Development's partnership enables the Church to send the team to eight base areas, serving a total of 60 communities.

Although faced with ubiquitous gang violence on top of a tight budget and a modest-sized staff, Dr. Flamenco is undaunted. "Most diseases we have can be prevented," she says. "I believe God wants to keep me here."

## EL SALVADOR

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Photograph by COREY EISENSTEIN for Episcopal Relief & Development



Episcopal Relief & Development is committed to ensuring that safe, clean water is accessible even in rural areas like San Marco Evangelista, Izalco, El Salvador.

As the community grew, increased use and agricultural activity left the water in the nearby reservoir unsafe for drinking. Dr. Daniella Flamenco helped the community build a well and install a pump to bring fresh water from deep underground and prevent cycles of waterborne disease.

Now the reservoir is used only for swimming, providing welcome relief on hot days.

## EL SALVADOR

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Photograph by COREY EISENSTEIN for Episcopal Relief & Development







Each year, Malaria kills over 650,000 people—most of them children under five.  
**EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT AND ITS AWARD-WINNING,  
FLAGSHIP MALARIA PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP, *NetsforLife*®**,  
work with corporations, foundations, NGOs and faith-based  
organizations to save lives in 17 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

In collaboration with our partners, we address the need for malaria prevention  
at the grassroots level. Local volunteers train as Malaria Control Agents,  
educating their communities about the disease, hanging nets in homes  
and following up to ensure that the nets are being used and maintained properly.

To date, *NetsforLife*® has reached more than 31 million people,  
distributing 11 million nets through 93,600 Malaria Control Agents and  
saving the lives of 100,000 children under five.

#### SIERRA LEONE

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Photograph by MIKE DUBOSE, United Methodist News Service



## GHANA

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Photograph by HARVEY WANG for Episcopal Relief & Development







In November 2010, Sierra Leone launched its largest ever organized health effort, aiming to cover 100% of those most at risk for contracting malaria—pregnant women, and children under age five. To complement national efforts, the government engaged **NetsforLife**® and Episcopal Relief & Development's malaria prevention partner the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to mobilize communities, train volunteers and hang nets in Bo and Pujehun Districts.

#### SIERRA LEONE

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Photograph by MIKE DUBOSE, United Methodist News Service







Many of the communities served by **NetsforLife**<sup>®</sup> are quite literally beyond the end of the road. Inadequate road access separates people from key services such as education and health care, and poses a significant barrier to investment and development from government and non-government agencies.

However, in most of these communities the Church has long been a trusted presence. Working with our partners, **NetsforLife**<sup>®</sup> is able to go the extra mile to prevent malaria and save lives.

Through volunteer teams of Malaria Control Agents, we distribute millions of mosquito nets using boats, bikes and feet. Home visits ensure that everyone is able to learn and ask questions about using nets over sleeping areas to keep their families safe and healthy.

#### GHANA / ZAMBIA

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Photographs, top row, from left:

LAURA ELLEN MUGLIA;

(following four) DR. STEPHEN DZISI for Episcopal Relief & Development;

JOHN ROBINSON for Episcopal Relief & Development



Views along the Zambezi River highlight the remoteness of the region served.  
Basic health care, when available, is often a day's journey away on foot.

## ZAMBIA

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Photograph by RON HAVIV/VII









Photographs, clockwise from top left:  
 EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSISSIPPI, USA;  
 COREY EISENSTEIN, Guatemala, for Episcopal Relief & Development;  
 BARBARA CASE SENCHAK, Ghana;  
 HARVEY WANG, Philippines, for Episcopal Relief & Development;  
 HARVEY WANG, Ghana, for Episcopal Relief & Development;  
 NAGULAN NESIAH, Solomon Islands, for Episcopal Relief & Development;  
 Opposite page:  
 HARVEY WANG, Ghana, for Episcopal Relief & Development;



**EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT  
RESPONDS TO DISASTERS AND HELPS REBUILD  
COMMUNITIES IN THE US AND WORLDWIDE.**

The massive earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010, killed more than 300,000 people and left 1.3 million homeless.

Even Holy Trinity Cathedral, the spiritual center of the largest diocese in The Episcopal Church, crumbled—along with its magnificent murals. Soon after the disaster,

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori visited the Rt. Rev. J. Zaché Duracin, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti, to witness the loss and offer solidarity in Haiti's time of need.

Since the earthquake, Episcopal Relief & Development has worked with the Diocese of Haiti's relief and development arm (CEDDISEC) to provide assistance and engage Haitians as they rebuild their lives and their country. Our programs continue to focus on home reconstruction and economic rehabilitation through training and access to micro-finance services.

HAITI

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Photograph by LAUREN STANLEY, Episcopal News Service









During Superstorm Sandy, the massive storm surge inundated the sanctuary at All Saints Church in Bay Head, NJ, hitting with such force that it caused the foundation to crumble. But even storm-battered congregations like All Saints found ways to minister to their communities in Sandy's aftermath. As volunteer crews banded together to clean and repair their church home, they found comfort and strength in each other's company, and the congregation became more mindful of the most vulnerable in their midst. Episcopal Relief & Development provided emergency support to impacted dioceses for parish-based relief activities following the storm, helping congregations expand feeding ministries and provide shelter and transportation assistance for those in need.

## NEW JERSEY

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Photograph by MARCUS YAM

**EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT'S US DISASTER PROGRAM  
INSPIRES, CONNECTS AND EQUIPS CHURCH LEADERS AS  
THEY PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO DISASTERS.**

The long-term presence and vital outreach ministries of Episcopal congregations nationwide have supported thousands of vulnerable people in moving toward a full and sustained recovery.

After Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast, we worked with an ecumenical partner and nine Episcopal dioceses to distribute food, water, baby formula, first-aid materials and other essential supplies. Working with the dioceses of Louisiana and Mississippi, our multi-year recovery program included psychosocial support, spiritual care, livelihood rehabilitation and home reconstruction to help families rebuild their lives.

We also partnered with Episcopal Migration Ministries to help people displaced by the disaster as they temporarily relocated to cities throughout the United States.

MISSISSIPPI

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Photograph courtesy of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi





In April 2011, clusters of tornadoes destroyed homes and property in Alabama and several other states across the Southeast. Episcopal Relief & Development provided long-term assistance to congregations in Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, Cullman, Sawyerville, Madison County and Dekalb County as they accompanied affected families through their rebuilding and recovery process.

#### ALABAMA

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Photograph by MIKE SMITH









St. Paul's, an Episcopal chapel affiliated with Trinity Wall Street, is the oldest surviving church building in Manhattan. It sits adjacent to the World Trade Center. For months after the attacks of September 11, 2001, Episcopal Relief & Development supported the work of hundreds of volunteers who were present around the clock to provide hospitality and pray with firefighters, construction workers, police officers and anyone in need. The healing space of the chapel and the community of volunteers from the Episcopal Diocese of New York and beyond represent what Episcopal Relief & Development unlocks in communities impacted by disaster. With our partners, we help congregations recognize and mobilize their capacity to respond to local needs after disasters, both natural and those due to acts of violence.

## NEW YORK

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Photograph by TEODORO HALPERN

**EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT CREATES  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND STRENGTHENS COMMUNITIES.**

In collaboration with Church partners and local organizations, we empower individuals and families by helping them find creative ways to generate and increase their income. Seeking a better future for themselves and their families, these women in the Diocese of Tamale, northern Ghana, have enrolled in a training program to become seamstresses. By learning a skill and studying business management and marketing, they will be able to open small businesses and earn income. When women are breadwinners in their families, they gain independence and a voice in household decision-making, empowering them to provide nutrition and health care to help their children grow strong.

GHANA

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Photograph by HARVEY WANG for Episcopal Relief & Development





## GHANA

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Photograph by HARVEY WANG for Episcopal Relief & Development



With five generations depending on the income from their small home bakery, a micro-finance loan made a huge difference to María Elena and Verónica, a mother and daughter in Texiguat, Honduras. Episcopal Relief & Development works with the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras and its Anglican Agency of Development (AANGLIDESH) to promote community-based savings and education groups and offer individual and collective micro-finance loans.

Both programs provide business and finance training, in order to ensure the success of the investments and keep the cycle going for new entrepreneurs. For many people, owning a small business can be a pathway to earning income, supporting a family, and becoming self-sufficient.

However, without access to basic financial services such as savings and loans, starting an enterprise can be difficult, if not impossible. Episcopal Relief & Development partners with local churches and community organizations to offer micro-finance services, along with business and vocational training. The programs also provide loans, enabling entrepreneurs to purchase materials or inventory, along with business and marketing training that positions them to succeed.

## HONDURAS

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Photograph by COREY EISENSTEIN for Episcopal Relief & Development











Women's self-help groups in the Diocese of Durgapur, part of the Church of North India, offer micro-finance opportunities and community solidarity, encouraging participants to save money, learn skills and start income-earning projects to provide for their families.

Episcopal Relief & Development also supports the diocese in offering loans to families, women, seniors and young people who cannot access formal banking services, empowering them to launch or expand their small businesses and build a better future.

## INDIA

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Photograph by NAGULAN NESIAH for Episcopal Relief & Development

In Ghana, Episcopal Relief & Development works with the Anglican Diocesan Development and Relief Organization to offer micro-finance opportunities in combination with literacy and skills training. In addition to reading and writing, literacy groups teach basic finance and civic education, empowering people with the knowledge to set up and run successful small businesses and take advantage of programs that promote economic growth.

#### GHANA

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Photograph by HARVEY WANG for Episcopal Relief & Development





**EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT AND ITS PARTNERS  
ALLEVIATE HUNGER AND IMPROVE FOOD SUPPLY  
THROUGH INTEGRATED, COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS.**

Each year, more than 10 million children under five die from malnutrition and hunger-related causes.

We work with communities as they identify their own unique resources, knowledge and skills, and create long-term agricultural strategies that will help families feed themselves while protecting the environment. These locally developed programs address the specific context of hunger and have a wider impact on the health and economic well-being of the community.

In the Philippines, Episcopal Relief & Development supports a sustainable agricultural initiative of the Episcopal Church in the Philippines, known as SRI (System of Rice Intensification), which allows for higher yield organic crops with less required water.

PHILIPPINES

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Photograph by ASHLEY CAMERON for Episcopal Relief & Development



Margaret Achieng Adie wheels a cart full of passion fruit seedlings to her plot of land. She purchased these from her 427-member agricultural cooperative, the Manywa Fruit Growing Self-Help Group, which started with support from Episcopal Relief & Development's local partners the Anglican Church of Kenya and Anglican Development Services-Nyanza. The cooperative runs a greenhouse where high-yield fruit branches are grafted onto disease- and drought-resistant local trees, creating hybrids that produce abundant fruit with minimal need for pesticides or chemical fertilizers. The fruit she grows will provide her family with nutritious fresh food and a source of income from sale at the market.

#### KENYA

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Photograph by MIKE SMITH for Episcopal Relief & Development











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