

INDIA  
www.ELCA.org/hunger

## A dream that never died

Rizia (pictured) had a dream to attend graduate school and become a teacher. That dream was shattered when her family fell on hard times and her father couldn't afford to continue her education. As a young girl she had to quit school – but that didn't stop Rizia from pursuing her dream.

Although she was no longer in school, she didn't give up on teaching. Rizia started holding informal classes with the younger children in her neighborhood.

Her ambition and determination led her to become actively involved in community development projects. Because of her drive and involvement in these projects, she received a grant and was able to start taking classes again thanks to The Lutheran World Federation and your generosity to ELCA World Hunger.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support projects through The



The Lutheran World Federation

Lutheran World Federation that help people like Rizia.

It wasn't long before Rizia's dream came true. Today she is a teacher and continues to take classes to further her education.

"Thank you for helping shape my future and give meaning to my life. I pray that you would continue to bring hope to many more lives like mine," she says.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger change lives. You help people like Rizia become educated, inspired and achieve their dreams.

In India, we are working in disadvantaged communities to empower and develop female leaders. With your help, ELCA World Hunger is able to break down barriers, uphold human rights and improve quality of life – lives like Rizia's.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in nearly 50 countries around the world, including the United States. Will you help with your gift today?

**YES! I would like to support ELCA World Hunger.**

- I have enclosed my gift of \$250.  
 I have enclosed my gift of \$100.  
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Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to:

ELCA World Hunger  
P.O. Box 71764  
Chicago, IL 60694-1764

Give online with a credit card at [www.ELCA.org/hungerdonate](http://www.ELCA.org/hungerdonate).



**ELCA World Hunger**  
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God's work. Our hands.

COLOMBIA  
www.ELCA.org/hunger

## "Life has to go on!"

Gladys (pictured) could have easily given up – and she admits to having thought about it. She lost her husband, five brothers and a stepson to the conflict in Colombia that has been afflicting the country for six decades. She was driven from her home four times and eventually became a refugee in her own country.

But – "Pa'lante pa'ya!" says Gladys: "Life has to go on!"

Today Gladys is the coordinator of a self-help group, made up of women who have lost almost everything to the conflict. "Many of us were driven off our own land, and in many cases our husbands have been killed," explains Gladys.

The women in the group, including Gladys, had to pick up and start over. Many ended up in slum-like communities – without a means to sustain themselves and with little hope for the future – until they became organized.

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The Lutheran World Federation

The women formed a group and received a grant from The Lutheran World Federation, supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Now, thanks to your support, the women grow organic vegetables and raise chickens.

"We have clean, healthy food for our families and recently we have had a bit extra that we can sell," states Gladys. She is proud of the group's success. "But it's not just about producing food. We organize, help ourselves and advocate to improve the situation for women in our society."

Colombia has the second highest number of refugees in the world. The Lutheran World Federation provides service and care for 1.2 million of the world's refugees. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger help make this work possible – providing opportunities to those who otherwise wouldn't have it.

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KENYA  
www.ELCA.org/disaster

## A place of peace

Not long ago, Luley was a hopeful young bride. She and her husband had two healthy children, and their livestock were doing well. But then the conflict that has driven so many Somali people from their homes overtook this family, too.

Fearing death at the hands of the militiamen who had sought to press him into service, Luley's husband fled their home.

"I may never know if my husband is alive or dead," she says sadly. Soon after her husband left, she and the children had to leave their village, too. "I needed to look for peace for my children and myself."

Luley (pictured with her two children) found the peace she had hoped for in a refugee camp, supported by your gifts through the international work of Lutheran Disaster Response.



The Lutheran World Federation/Melany Markham

When Luley and the children arrived at the refugee camp, they weren't sure where to go. They were placed in temporary housing and given food and water right away. The staff at the refugee camp quickly found a tent for the family.

Luley and her children have a place to call home again. She says that she is adjusting to her new life as a refugee. With the support of her relatives, new neighbors and the gifts of those who responded to our Horn of Africa Relief effort, Luley has hope again.

In addition to providing a home for those who had to flee, your gifts designated for Horn of Africa Relief provide food, water and other needed services for families and communities affected by this disaster. Will you help with a gift today?

**YES! I would like to support Lutheran Disaster Response.**

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Make your check payable to "Lutheran Disaster Response." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to:

Lutheran Disaster Response  
39330 Treasury Center  
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CHINA  
www.ELCA.org/hunger

## Water renews life

In the Gulin region of China, the Miao people have lived on an isolated mountainside for centuries. This isolation has kept them from accessing some basic needs – such as water.

Wang Jia-chi (pictured) is one community leader. He explains that although water is often abundant in mountain communities, it isn't always easily accessible. The people in the village have to haul the water by hand, often for miles.

All that recently changed. Through our global companion relationships and the funding of ELCA World Hunger, renewed life – water – was brought to the Miao people.

"It gave us hope to have the ELCA work with us," Wang says.

The system is simple but the impact is great. A pond was dug at a spring. A pump was installed to get the water uphill to then be stored



Y. Franklin Ishida/ELCA

in holding tanks. From there, gravity takes the water to each home.

And the water does more than quench thirst. Another community leader, Yan Yi-you, says, "We can now drink fresh water [from our homes], provide for the goats and cows and plant our crops without worry of drought. Before it was a very hard life; now we can easily do things."

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger have helped bring water to families in this community. Wang expresses his appreciation, "Because I'm a man, I don't always have tears. But I don't have enough words to say thank you!"

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Farming is the way of life for Hassen and Mako (pictured). In the past, it was always a challenge to yield enough crops to feed the family. There often wasn't enough and they were left hungry and weak. Hassen and Mako weren't sure what to do. All of that changed when they decided to attend training sessions on how to improve their lives and grow more vegetables in their garden. They not only learned how to produce more vegetables, but also learned how to raise and distribute seeds to sell. The health of the entire family has improved and they are now earning an income. Hassen eagerly speaks about the change in his family's life. "There is a big difference. We are now much better off than we were before. My

**Training to improve lives**  
 ETHIOPIA  
[www.ELCA.org/hunger](http://www.ELCA.org/hunger)



The Lutheran World Federation

Your gifts to the ELCA Malaria Campaign will help our companion churches in Africa provide mosquito nets, insecticides, medication, health care, education and more to eliminate deaths from this disease – for good.

**YES! I would like to support ELCA Malaria Campaign.**

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In Mozambique, a Lutheran congregation took action against malaria. With the support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign and our companion church's area churches gathered at a Lutheran malaria project, 34 leaders from seven churches learned how to help neighbors prevent and treat malaria. For two days, the leaders learned together about how the disease is transmitted, how to prevent infection, and how and when to seek treatment. And most importantly they learned how to pass on this vital information in a simple, effective and memorable way. At the end of the two-day trainings, they all took what they learned into action. Mosquito nets were distributed to pregnant women and mothers of small children. They also taught women in the community how to use the nets to

**Learning to lead**  
 MOZAMBIQUE  
[www.ELCA.org/malaria](http://www.ELCA.org/malaria)



Kristen Opalinski/ELCA

keep their families safe from malaria. Maria Jose was delighted to receive a net that day from the Rev. Eduardo Sinalo (pictured). In the less than two years since the ELCA Malaria Campaign joined the global movement to fight malaria, reduction from the number of deaths has been significant. We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. Working with local congregations, global companions, ecumenical partners and trained leaders we achieve more than we ever could alone. And your generosity is the spark that makes it happen.

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**ELCA Malaria Campaign**  
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# 2013 Reproducible Stories

Use these stories in your Sunday bulletins, newsletters and other communications to highlight the lifesaving work made possible by gifts to ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Malaria Campaign and the Lutheran Disaster Response. Visit [www.ELCA.org/hunger/stories](http://www.ELCA.org/hunger/stories) for additional stories.

Reproduce this piece on the back of your favorite story or as a stand-alone update about ELCA World Hunger.

## ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Nearly 1 billion of our neighbors – one in eight people in our world today – live in poverty. As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are called to respond.

Working with our neighbors in the United States and in nearly 50 countries around the world, ELCA World Hunger starts by listening to the needs of our neighbors and getting their ideas to break the cycle of hunger and poverty. Then we work alongside them to make those dreams a reality.

From microloans to health clinics, water wells to animal husbandry, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that get at the root causes of hunger. And they don't stop there. We engage Lutherans in advocacy and hunger education to act and speak in ways that can make a difference.

In 2013, our goal is to raise \$19 million to support programs in the United States and those identified by our global partners. We rely on your gifts – ELCA World Hunger is funded solely by gifts from people like you and in congregations like yours.

*Please give today. Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to: ELCA World Hunger, P.O. Box 71764, Chicago, IL 60694-1764. To give online with a credit card, please visit [www.ELCA.org/hungerdonate](http://www.ELCA.org/hungerdonate).*

 **ELCA World Hunger**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
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UNITED STATES: *Montana*  
[www.ELCA.org/hunger](http://www.ELCA.org/hunger)

## Hope during hard times

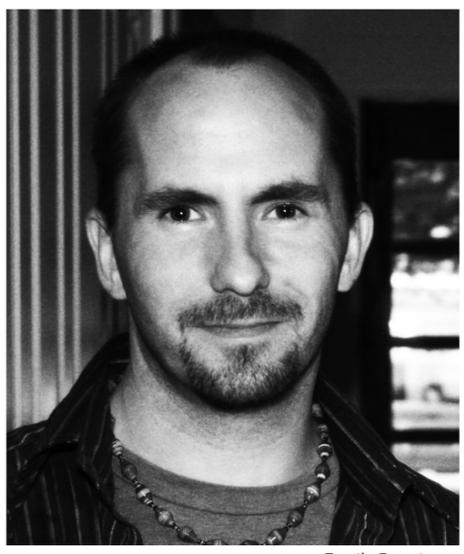
Jason Williams (pictured) had fallen on hard times. He lost hope and didn't know where to turn. All that changed after he visited Family Promise – a ministry in Bozeman, Mont., supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

Family Promise works with homeless families and individuals to tailor personalized plans to help take the necessary steps toward lasting independence.

"I cannot contain the joy the program left me with and continues to instill in me today," says Jason.

Family Promise provided Jason with food, clothing and shelter. He worked with a case manager to get back on his feet and become self-sustainable.

Many lives, including Jason's, have been touched and changed forever with the help of Family Promise. Jason



Family Promise

put in a lot of hard work and with a little help, he is back on his feet again.

Jason is thankful for the support he got when he needed it the most. He says, "I am grateful every day for Family Promise!"

Because of the support from people like you, ELCA World Hunger is able to give grants to 350 organizations in the U.S. like Family Promise. Together, we are addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty in communities in the United States and around the world.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in nearly 50 countries around the world, including the United States. Will you help with your gift today?

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