For supporters of

ELCA WORLD HUNGER AND LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE ELCA.org/hunger • ELCA.org/disaster

2017 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



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How to give

Online ELCA.org/hunger/donate

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

Phone 800-638-3522, ext. 2616

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"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1).

For four years, *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* has brought this church together alongside the "great cloud of witnesses" throughout generations and around the world. Together, we've renewed and strengthened our commitment to the ministries we share in together. For four years, churchwide organization staff, bishops, synod hunger teams, and lay and rostered leaders have been working with congregations and groups across the ELCA, giving voice to the great things God is doing through ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, our companions and partners.

God's grace has blessed the work of these last four years in incredible ways. In 2017, ELCA World Hunger was able to provide more than \$23 million to activities and programs to address hunger and its root causes with sustainable solutions. Nine brand new projects in six countries joined the fight to end hunger. Internationally, our work included agricultural programs in Nepal and training for women entrepreneurs in Brazil. In the United States, your support allowed us to do things like walk alongside our refugee neighbors. This work has been made possible because of the hope and energy of people like you, inspired by faith and united in our commitment to a just world where all are fed. Thank you!

In this final year of the campaign, we look back at how far we have come as church together – and ahead to "the race that is set before us" – with faithful confidence that the growth we have seen reflects who God is calling us to be. We know that we have been made new in this campaign, renewed in our commitment and courage to persevere until all are fed, trusting that through the church, God is at work in our world.

The end of our five-year campaign is just the beginning of what God has in store for us and our neighbors. I hope you will join me to finish this last year of the campaign as strongly as it began – and will be part of God's work through our church in the future.



The Rev. Daniel Rift Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

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ELCA World Hunger is our church at work, doing what Christ calls us to do. Hunger is a challenge we can overcome, and with generous, loving hands we work for a just world where all are fed.





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



Agriculture



Agricultural programs help families grow food to nourish themselves and build healthier communities for the long term. This is one of the ways ELCA World Hunger accompanies communities as we work to put an end to hunger – for good.

Growing food security in Nepal

illions of people around the world live on small farms, where they work to feed themselves and their families. While farming families work hard, their livelihoods are often vulnerable to things outside their control – like weather, pests, climate change, conflict and a lack of resources.

One of these farmers is Kala, who lives in Jayprithvi, Nepal. On their 1,500 square meters of land, Kala and her seven other family members must grow enough to feed themselves. But their production was only lasting six months, leaving them looking for other jobs to survive the rest of the year.

Everything changed when Kala became part of a women's farming group after she began to participate in an agricultural training program of United Mission to Nepal, supported in part by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

"Being a member of the group, I have been involved in every meeting, interaction session and training," Kala says. "It gave me energy and motivated me to start vegetable cultivation."

Along with the other members, Kala received improved seeds, training and materials for a greenhouse. Now, she's making her family's land go further. Growing cucumbers, tomatoes, spinach, broadleaf mustard, onion, garlic, squash and potatoes, Kala feeds her family and has more to spare to sell at the market. With this comes not only food security but also greater income so she can send her children to school and build a safety net for things like medical expenses.

"The income from vegetables has been easy and helpful for my household," Kala says. "I don't need to opt for other work and request the money lender to provide education and medicine for my children."

In addition, the program established a vegetable center for farmers to sell their produce.

"It is very helpful to sell vegetables in the collection center instead of roaming around at Chainpur with the vegetables," Kala says. "This year I have cultivated vegetables on about 1,200 square meters of land and earned more than NPR 100,000."

The additional income is about \$1,000 USD, a significant boost in a country where the gross domestic product per capita is about \$730 USD, according to the World Bank. Now Kala's family can enlarge their farming operation and save for the future.

"I am very much pleased with the regular support and would like to thank all the helping hands ... for showing me the way of income generation and building up my confidence level by organizing and delivering training in the group." -Kala



"I am planning to scale up the area of production [by renting additional land]," Kala says. "I am very much pleased with the regular support and would like to thank all the helping hands ... for showing me the way of income generation and building up my confidence level by organizing and delivering training in the group."

ELCA.org/hunger 7



Refugee resettlement



More than 65 million people around the world have been forced to leave their homes due to war, conflict and disaster, according to the United Nations. Helping newcomers resettle in a new country, through our congregations and partners, is one way ELCA World Hunger is pursuing a world of justice where all are fed.



Weaving a new fabric of home

ouad was born in Darfur, Sudan, where she lived with her parents and 11 siblings. When conflict broke out in the early 2000s, Souad and her family were forced to flee and then spent 13 years living in a refugee camp in Chad.

When Souad was 25, she and her family came to live in Tucson, Ariz., as refugees. While it was an unfamiliar world, it wasn't long before Souad's father took her and as many of her siblings as they could fit in a car to Iskashitaa Refugee Network (IRN), where the whole family began volunteering.

IRN is an intergenerational network of Tucson volunteer and refugees from Africa, Asia and the Middle East who harvest and redistribute locally grown fruits and vegetable that would otherwise go to waste. Groups of volunteers glean food that would otherwise be unharvested from a variety of locations around the city, such as citrus fruit at mobile home park where residents have given permission to pick from their trees.

IRN's goal is to empower recently arrived refugees by connecting them with a wide variety of resources and opportunities to interact with the community. Your gifts ELCA World Hunger helped support this important work 2016 and 2017.

Programs like IRN are important ways our church accompanies our neighbors as they build lives for themselves far from home. As the number of displaced

d	people around the world increases, accompaniment of internally displaced people, refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers continues to meet a critical need. ELCA World Hunger works with refugees in every step of their journey, from displacement to resettlement or repatriation.
cs oles t a n	IRN founder and director Barbara Eiswerth calls the program a "multicultural exchange" that's unique in its format. The network is addressing several needs at once: reducing food waste, breaking down barriers between people and helping refugees resettle. In addition to taking home food that's been gleaned, refugees also are connected with other services through the network. At food preservation workshops, participants can practice their English skills and share recipes and techniques from their home countries, such as pickled pumpkin seed paste, fermented pumpkin leaves and date vinegar. It's a perfect example of ELCA World Hunger's integrated philosophy in action, crossing lines between food security, agriculture, education and more.
11	"We're ever developing the ways that we can help people," Barbara says. "It's not going to be home, but we can help refugees weave a new fabric of a new home."
to : in	Today, Souad is 27 and working at a merchandise company. While she works most weekdays and spends time at home cooking and helping care for her younger siblings, she still spends her Saturdays volunteering, picking and sorting produce. To her, volunteering is part of the fabric of her life.
	"I like belging people" abe serve "It's good for me"

"I like helping people," she says. "It's good for me."



Income



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 supported by ELCA World Hunger.

Strengthening the rights of women through fair trade and solidarity

he life of Isabel Cristina de Souza Cunha and her family, who live in the city of Viamão in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, changed radically in 1996. Brazil was going through a period of political and economic crisis, the number of people who were unemployed was growing fast, and both she and her husband, Harold, had lost their jobs.

For Isabel's family, as well as for thousands of other Today, the cooperative is called Cooperborn. The families, the struggle was for survival. Isabel and Harold's challenges continue, especially in the areas of bringing biggest concern was for the well-being of their children, together the various groups involved in this co-op and Anderson (7), Eduardo (4), Francieli (3) and William (1). navigating competition from larger bakeries and food Employment opportunities were rare; sometimes she could production businesses. find cleaning jobs, and her husband eventually found work as a mason. But there was no guarantee of either food on To assist them in overcoming these challenges, the table or the means to purchase basic necessities.

In the midst of this uncertainty, Isabel chose to look for opportunities rather than sit still. For years she had felt the need to work on something that would make a difference, not just for her but for her entire community. It was during this time she heard about the fair- and solidaritytrade movement, which focuses on people working together to make sure that their skills are recognized and they are compensated fairly. She learned how women who had marketable skillsets like craft-making, sewing and preparing food joined in groups, associations and cooperatives to produce and sell their goods together.

When the Good Samaritan Child Nursery (linked to the Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil), where Isabel's children attended school, expressed concern about the number of families suffering as a result of the financial crisis, Isabel saw her opportunity. The nursery proposed that the parents form a business cooperative, and she and her husband immediately decided to get involved.

Forming the cooperative took work - a lot of work. But Isabel persisted, learning, working and caring for her family.

In the early years, Isabel and the other members had to learn a lot, including how to run a business. In a field dominated by men, she and the other women ensured the cooperative's board of directors was composed only of women.



"The issues were many, but slowly we learned how to do it," Isabel says.

Cooperbom decided to join the Fair and Supportive Trade Network project, which was launched by the Lutheran Foundation of Diakonia in 2012 with partnership and support from ELCA World Hunger. The network brings together enterprises like Cooperbom, focusing on the areas of food production, handicrafts, manufacturing and recycling. Cooperbom guickly became one of the most valued partners in this project.

The Fair and Supportive Trade Network is opening up spaces within Brazilian Lutheran communities and Lutheran schools. Now instead of acquiring food and other products from larger companies, Lutheran communities have the opportunity to buy from enterprises like Cooperbom, increasing the income of women. The network also assists enterprises like Cooperbom in overcoming obstacles by providing training and support for women entrepreneurs on topics like sustainability, management, quality assurance and gender justice.

"I think of my history, the problems and opportunities that have brought me here, and I see how much the Cooperbom has grown and developed after joining the Fair and Supportive Trade Network," Isabel says. "As a result of this support, we have improved the quality of our products. We are able to continually invest in improving our enterprise, and we have gained new consumers. The improvement of the income of Cooperbom's associates and their quality of life is a direct result of working with the Fair and Supportive Trade Network."



Advocacy



The longstanding work of this church to address hunger is furthered by specific efforts of advocacy based on the experience of Lutheran congregations, ministries and projects around the world and in communities across the United States. As part of its holistic and transformative strategy, ELCA World Hunger works for just public policy with the purpose of ending hunger in our lifetime through lasting systemic change.

Amplifying the work to end hunger through advocacy

n 2017, more than 1 in 10 people in the world couldn't access the food they needed to live active, healthy lives, according to the United Nations. Through ELCA World Hunger, your gifts are at work to change this statistic in a variety of ways - from sustainable development to health to education.

As part of this holistic approach, ELCA World Hunger supports advocacy work focusing specifically on the powerful way that governments can work to end hunger in our lifetime. Thanks in part to gifts to ELCA World Hunger, the ELCA engages directly with local, state and national governments and equips people of faith to seek economic, racial and gender justice.

"Ending hunger requires not only our faithful service as individuals," says Amy Reumann, director of advocacy at the ELCA, "but also a societal response shaped by faithful advocacy to prioritize meeting the needs of neighbors who struggle to feed their families."

One of the newest advocacy efforts is the ELCA Hunger Advocacy Fellowship, a program that combines leadership development and faith formation with effective advocacy. This year, four fellows are connecting with congregations and communities to inform them about the ELCA's advocacy work related to hunger and inviting them to participate.

"We have sufficient food in this world to be able to feed each human being. and yet hunger is still a problem," says Elena Robles, one of the fellows. "I see advocacy as important in that it allows change and disruption to occur within the ways that decisions are made in our political system."

Kendrick Hall, another fellow, was inspired to participate in the fellowship after he discovered his passion for justice while working in ministry in north Minneapolis.

"I love seeing people prosper and just smile," Kendrick says. "The work I do, I know I'm not doing it for myself. It's much bigger than me. We all need to share a light with the world."

As of this printing, ELCA Advocacy was working for the continuance of the Global Food Security Act. In 2016, the act passed Congress with enormous bipartisan support. Since becoming law, it has enabled the U.S. government to improve the way food and nutrition programs are implemented and accounted for in low-income countries, including by working with smallholder farmers. The legislation outlined a specific approach for stimulating economic growth through investments in sustainable agriculture, with the goal of fighting hunger and poverty broadly. The 2018 reauthorization would allow for the continuation of this work and continue the U.S. commitment to fight global hunger and poverty.

ELCA Advocacy worked for the passage of the 2016 legislation. And Lutherans from around the country contacted their legislators in support of the bill, which made a big difference. In order to sustain this work, ELCA members and supporters are encouraged to mobilize once again to ensure passage of the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act. Visit ELCA.org/advocacy to take action.



Donald Barb and Bruce Davidson have been together for 35 years. When the Lutheran Church in America, one of the ELCA's predecessor bodies, introduced a world hunger appeal in the 1970s, Bruce, then in his first call as a pastor, responded to engage his congregation immediately. Meanwhile Donald, who grew up in a Lutheran farming family, knew well what it meant to be connected to the land and to community.

Over the decades. Don and Bruce have become more and more involved in fighting hunger together, from volunteering at soup kitchens to meeting with their legislators to discuss issues related to hunger. And early this year, they decided to donate \$15,000 to a fund called Advocacy to End Hunger to raise awareness about how advocacy can fight hunger and invited the rest of the church to be part of this important work.

"Changing the systems that create hunger requires the intervention not just of good-minded and warmhearted individual Christians, but a whole community that realizes that we are both part of the solution and part of the problem," says Bruce, who previously served as director of the ELCA public policy office in New Jersey.

For Bruce and Don, supporting ELCA World Hunger is an easy fit. They're committed to holistic, sustainable solutions and are passionate about raising up a new generation to join the fight to end hunger, including the ELCA Hunger Advocacy Fellows.

"I think for our heritage and at the pinnacle of who we are as Lutherans, it's about grace and mercy and love. It's not about deserving or earning or being worthy. That really helps me in my outlook to generosity across the board - specifically with hunger," Don says. "Who qualifies, who gets what, time limits, time frames - that takes so much energy and we, as Lutherans, don't need to bother with that. We just help people in need. Period. Full stop."

To give to the advocacy work of ELCA World Hunger, visit ELCA.org/advocacytoendhunger.

Your gifts at work

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Tucson, Ariz. Refugee resettlement programs and food rescue. Read more on page 9



Washington, D.C. Hunger supporters advocate for policies that further work to end hunger. Read more on page 13

St. Croix, **U.S. Virgin Islands** Relief and recovery for survivors of hurricanes. Read more on page 19

> Brazil Fair trade networks for women entrepreneurs. Read more on page 11

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ELCA World Hunger

63 countries, 46 states and territories

The highlighted countries on the map show new! where we supported one or more new projects through our companions in 2017.

INTERNATIONAL

Angola	Egypt
Argentina	El Salvador
Bangladesh	Ethiopia
Bolivia	Ghana
Botswana	Guatemala
Brazil	Haiti
Burkina Faso	Honduras
Burundi	Hungary
Cambodia	India
Cameroon	Indonesia
Central African	Japan
Republic	Jordan
Chile	Kenya
China	Lebanon
Colombia	Liberia
Costa Rica	Madagascar
Czech Republic	Malawi

Malaysia	Russia
Mali	Rwanda
Mauritania	Senegal
Mexico	Serbia
Mozambique	Sierra Leone
Myanmar	South Africa
Namibia	South Sudan
Nepal	Tanzania
Nicaragua	Thailand
Niger	Uganda
Nigeria	United States
Palestine	Vietnam
Papua	Zambia
New Guinea	Zimbabwe
Peru	
Philippines	
Romania	

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UNITED STATES

Maine

Alabama Alaska Arizona California Colorado Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Idaho Illinois Indiana lowa Kansas Kentucky

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Ohio Louisiana Oklahoma Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Tennessee Missouri Texas Montana Vermont Nebraska Virginia Nevada New Hampshire West Virginia New Jersey Wisconsin New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota

Pennsylvania Puerto Rico South Carolina South Dakota Washington

Lutheran Disaster Response

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programs for

women farmers.

Agricultural training

Read more on page 7

Nepal

20 countries, 16 states and territories

INTERNATIONAL

Bangladesh	Liberia	Pe
Flooding, refugees	Ebola	Floo
Chile	Madagascar	Ph
Fires	Cyclone, drought	Typ
Colombia	Malawi	Sie
Mudslide, peace-building	Flooding	Mu
Costa Rica	Mexico	So
Conflict, tropical storm	Earthquake	Dro
Cuba	Myanmar	So
Hurricane Irma	Internally displaced people	Fan
Haiti	Nepal	Ve
Hurricane Irma	Flooding, earthquake	Foo
India Flooding	Nigeria Conflict	



eru looding hilippines phoon ierra Leone udslide, Ebola omalia rought outh Sudan amine enezuela od shortages

UNITED STATES

California Wildfires

Florida Tornadoes, Hurricanes Irma and Matthew

Georgia Hurricanes Irma, Matthew; tornadoes

Louisiana Flooding

Minnesota Flooding

Mississippi Flooding

Missouri Flooding

New Jersey Hurricane Sandy

New York Legal services for unaccompanied minors

North Carolina Hurricane Matthew

Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria

South Carolina Floodina

South Dakota Tornadoes

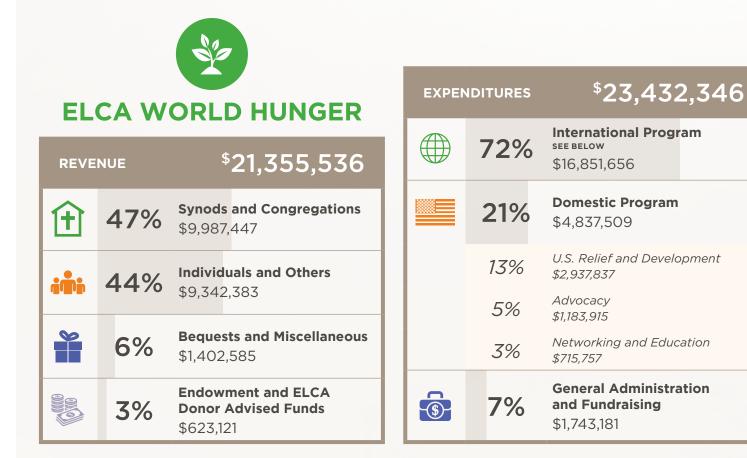
Texas Hurricane Harvey

U.S. Virgin Islands Hurricane Maria

West Virginia Flooding

2017 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

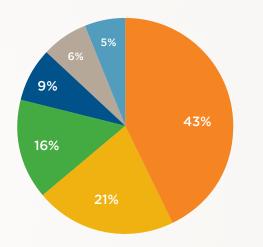
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



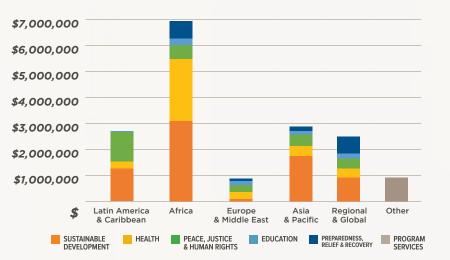
A fund balance from income excess of expenditures in 2015-2016 allowed for expenditures to exceed income in 2017.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

ELCA WORLD HUNGER International Grants by Sector (FY2017)



ELCA WORLD HUNGER International Grants by Geographic Region (FY2017)





LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

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REVE	NUE	\$22,896,43
i n i	49%	Individuals and Others \$11,221,197
Û	43%	Synods and Congregations \$9,795,179
	8%	Grants \$1,880,060
EXPEI	NDITURES	\$4,630,62
	52%	United States \$2,388,374
	39%	International \$1,805,042
Q	9%	Communications and Administration \$437,210

Note: Lutheran Disaster Response revenues are allocated and expensed for specific disaster-related response, in which relief, recovery and rehabilitation efforts can occur in multiple years. LDR continues to honor donor's intent for the specific disaster to which support is directed.

н	2017 HIGHLIGHTED EXPENDITURES		
	INTERNATIONAL		
	49%	Asia (Earthquake, flooding, refugees and internally displaced people, typhoon) \$885,541	
7	22%	Africa (Conflict, cyclone, drought, Ebola, flooding, health, mudslide) \$385,370	
	21%	Latin America and Caribbean (Conflict, earthquake, flooding, migration) \$372,572	
	8%	Coordination, Planning and General Program Activities ^{\$} 144,675	
	UNITED STATES		
ø	36%	Hurricanes ^{\$} 870,561	
0	26%	Program Management and Preparedness \$617,315	
O O	18%	Capacity Development and Consultation \$432,241	
•••	15%	Severe Storms ^{\$} 354,946	
	2%	Wildfires ^{\$} 50,000	
Ż	2%	Flooding ^{\$} 49,709	
↑Ť	1%	Migrant Minors ^{\$} 13,601	

Note: These numbers are unaudited financial highlights from the fiscal year that ended Jan. 31, 2017.



Lutheran Disaster Response



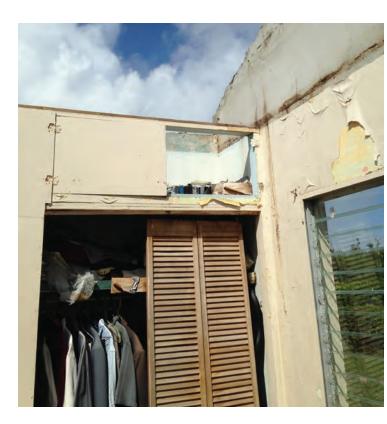
Lutheran Disaster Response brings hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. Our approach is comprehensive and extensive.

'Just keep trusting in the Lord'

T nez Walker worked as a cook for Queen Louise Home for Children, a Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands (LSSVI) children's home, for more than 40 years.

Last summer Inez, now 84, had left St. Croix with her daughter, Lorraine, to seek medical care in Florida.

"I'm glad we got here when we did," Lorraine said. Hurricane Maria, one of the strongest storms in recent history, came shortly after Inez reached Florida.



"It destroyed everything," Lorraine says.

When the hurricane hit, Inez had just finished renovating her home with new carpeting and furniture. The storm blew off portions of the roof, dumping water all through the house and destroying most of her belongings. She had been in her home for almost 50 years.

While the Walkers' family memories remain, Inez hasn't been able to return home. Their house is one of many in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico that was damaged by the hurricanes. The home had an estimated \$91,000 in damage. While Inez was offered a loan for a portion of that, she can't afford the payments and insurance on her fixed income.

"Ever since the storm, [my brother Joseph] has been busy trying to do whatever he can to secure tarps. It's very hard for him, but Mom is confident. One thing she keeps telling us is, 'Just keep trusting in the Lord.""

-Lorraine

Tarps as temporary roofing can prevent further damage to homes, but tarps are hard to come by on the island, and continuing rains are adding to the damage already done.

"Ever since the storm, my brother Joseph has been busy trying to do whatever he can to secure tarps," Lorraine says. "It's very hard for him, but Mom is confident. One thing she keeps telling us is, 'Just keep trusting in the Lord.'

Lutheran Disaster Response, through local partner LSSVI, is helping people like Inez get back into their homes. Earlier this year, Lutheran Disaster Response approved a grant for \$1.16 million to support a three-year volunteer rebuild and repair program for St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Through the work with LSSVI, Lutheran Disaster Response will accompany Inez and other survivors as they create and implement their recovery plans. This could include leveraging volunteer hours through a volunteer program to help rebuild her home or connecting her to resources for other unmet needs.

The road ahead is long for survivors of hurricanes and other disasters, but thanks to your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, this church can accompany them and provide practical support and refreshed hope.



ELCA World Hunger Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 8765 West Higgins Road Chicago, IL 60631

ELCA WORLD HUNGER AND LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

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ELCA WORLD HUNGER'S



ELCA World Hunger's Global Farm Challenge is a yearlong, youth-driven fundraising challenge to support the agriculture-related programs of the ELCA's ministry to end hunger and poverty. The goal of the challenge is to equip communities around the world and in the United States with livestock, seeds, tools, training and other agriculture-related activities to turn a hungry season into a hopeful season. And now, thanks to generous friends of the ELCA, we can do even more together.



All gifts toward the challenge will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$515,000.

Learn more and encourage the youth of the ELCA by participating.

GIVE ONLINE ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge

GIVE BY PHONE 800-638-3522

GIVE BY MAIL

ELCA P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Please make checks payable to "ELCA World Hunger" and include "Global Farm Challenge" on the memo line so it can be included in the national total.