



SITUATION REPORT

Mexico Earthquake



SEPTEMBER 25, 2017



MEXICO

SITUATION

On September 7, an 8.1-magnitude earthquake struck off the Pacific coast of Mexico (54 miles southwest of Pijijiapan) resulting in over 90 deaths in the states of Chiapas, Oaxaca and Tabasco. Over 2 million people were affected by the strong tremors and thousands of homes were reportedly damaged.

On September 19, less than two weeks after, another earthquake struck the country with 7.1 magnitude resulting in over 225 deaths, 45 collapsed buildings, and major damages in Mexico City, Puebla and the state of Morelos.

On September 23, another strong earthquake occurred once again in Oaxaca Mexico. The 6.1 magnitude earthquake resulted in five casualties and affected more than 8,000 people.

As of Sept. 25th, the government of Mexico has reported over 2,600 people were injured and more than 20,000 buildings damaged. The majority of casualties occurred in Mexico City (167 deaths and approximately 2,000 injured). Search and rescue operations are ongoing, as well as damage assessments and the response to critical humanitarian needs. The government's response is ongoing, with the Secretary of Defense and the Marines activated to lead the response.



RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with local partner, Amextra, for reconstruction and psycho-social support activities in the state of Morelos, Mexico, where 20 of the 33 municipalities were severely impacted. According to a needs assessment conducted by Amextra, while the communities have received immediate relief such as food and shelter, many are distraught by the loss of their homes and businesses. Many people are still in shock and are experiencing symptoms of post-traumatic stress.

Lutheran Disaster Response is also coordinating with other ecumenical partners for immediate relief and long-term recovery.



"I started to move the dirt with my hands. My house was adobe, when it fell there was a lot of clay and dirt. While I was doing this, my grand-kids were yelling and crying, 'Mom, mom!' I told them, 'We're OK.'"

Photo: AMEXTRA

ONE MORE THING...

ELCA and Amextra have a long-standing partnership with providing health, education and economic support through World Hunger to the most vulnerable and marginalized communities in rural Mexico. This includes building capacity for community leaders, implementing health/nutrition workshops, family gardens, reforestation, nonviolence workshops, child development workshops for parents, green technologies and fertilizers, and savings and loan groups.



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