



# CWRUPDATE

The Covenant World Relief Quarterly Newsletter

FALL 2015

## Menoti and Her Tribe of Goats...

MENOTI lives in a remote village in Bihar, India. She is the mother of seven children. Her husband is an auto rickshaw driver and spends most of his little income on alcohol. Survival is a struggle for the nine-member family.

Their financial struggles often led to fighting for Menoti and her husband. At one point, their relationship reached the stage of divorce. In considering the

**“The money she earned through the sale of goats has been used for the benefit of her children.”**

consequences of divorce on her children, she decided to stay with her husband, in spite of the difficulties.

The financial situation was so bad that Menoti also decided to work. She got a job at a shelter for cows. She continued working there for a few months. But this did not resolve her problem. She had to walk three kilometers (nearly two miles) every day to the shelter and return after working for twelve hours. But her main worry was for her children.

There was no one to look after her children, who were left at home. Co-workers at the shelter also started looking at her with evil intentions. She had no option but to leave the job.

Fortunately as one of the beneficiaries of the partnership with the Hindustani Covenant Church and Covenant World Relief, she received three goats from the Covenant Cares Catalog sponsored by CWR. She took good care of these animals, and over the years these goats multiplied. Meanwhile, she returned one goat to the



Hindustani Covenant Church to give to another beneficiary and sold three goats. Even though the sale amount might seem small, it covered 30 percent of the cost for giving her eldest daughter in marriage. At present,

she owns six goats and is working to multiply her tribe of goats.

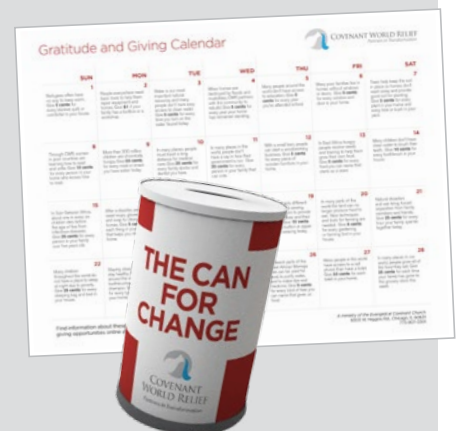
She is happy because the money she earned through the sale of goats has been used for the benefit of her children.

## Families Use Gratitude and Giving Calendar with Soup-Can Banks

The updated Gratitude and Giving calendar pairs perfectly with the CWR soup-can banks. Families can use these resources together to foster gratitude and generosity. One of the activities reads “Many children don’t have clean water to brush their teeth. Give 10 cents for every toothbrush in your house.”

One family recently said, “My family loves using the soup-can banks and the giving calendar. We use it during dinner and our kids love to put coins in the bank and learn the stories of others. Thank you!”

Find these resources at [CovChurch.org/cwr](http://CovChurch.org/cwr)



**Again I looked and saw all the oppression that was taking place under the sun: I saw the tears of the oppressed—and they have no comforter. —ECCLESIASTES 4:1a**

# Women Changing Their Community in South Africa

ONE of the great privileges that I have is to visit our partner organizations and see first-hand the quality work they are doing. On a recent trip to South Africa I was able to visit our partner organization, which is working to empower Zulu women. In eight years there are now more than 1,200 women in the community of Swaymane, who belong to small savings and loan self-help groups. Last year, these women formed a federation that is focused on bringing change to their community. On the last day of my visit after a time of prayer and singing, the leaders of the federation shared some of what they have accomplished so far and their dreams for the future:

- They meet monthly with the police department to discuss community safety and security.
- The government has agreed to provide adult education for women. Many of them were not able to attend school as children.
- The government has agreed to increase

the number of health clinics in the community. The federation is currently waiting on their request for a hospital.

- They are working with the government to improve access to clean water. They are also planning to start a bottled-water business.
- They demanded improved roads because it has been difficult to get their farm crops to market. The government has started road improvements.
- They have formed groups to do home visits to pray for the sick.
- They are caring for HIV/AIDS orphaned children and finding homes and providing funds for their education.
- They have formed a farmers association and a computer school.
- Over the past eight years they have

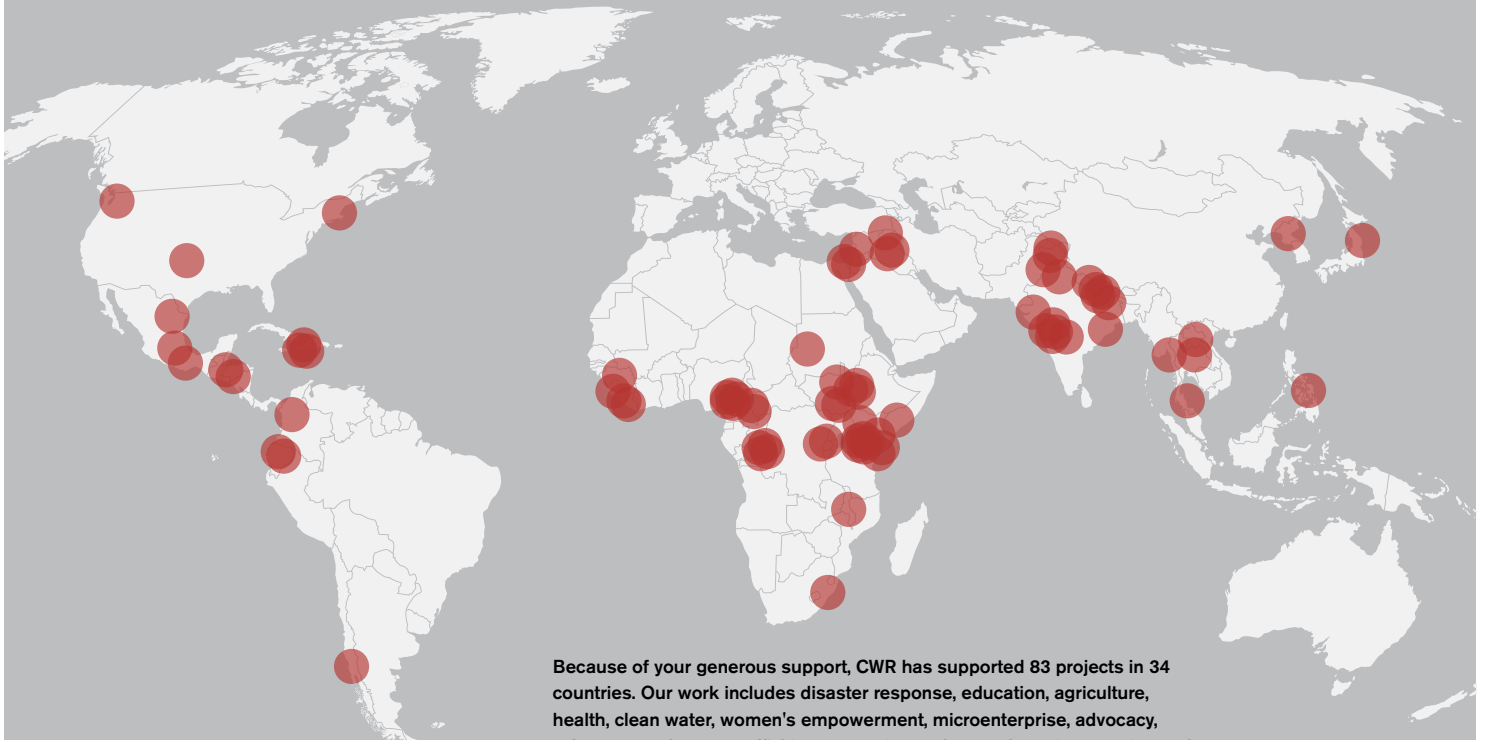


started 19 preschools.

- They are currently planning to open a supermarket for the community.

The women of Swaymane have already brought significant change to their community, but with God's help these determined women have so much more that they expect to do to bring about community-wide transformation. —Dave Husby

## Covenant World Relief Projects, 2014-15



Because of your generous support, CWR has supported 83 projects in 34 countries. Our work includes disaster response, education, agriculture, health, clean water, women's empowerment, microenterprise, advocacy, refugee care, human trafficking prevention and care, abuse intervention and prevention, peacemaking, and reconciliation.



# CWR YEAR IN REVIEW

Thank you for your generous support and partnership with Covenant World Relief. Here is a glimpse of your support of CWR this year!

## JUNE 2014 - JUNE 2015

**\$1.3M+**   
SENT TO PROJECTS



MONTHLY DONORS

**72**

NEW DONORS

**632**

**100%** of every gift to CWR goes to the ministry of CWR. **90%** of every gift goes directly to ministry programs.

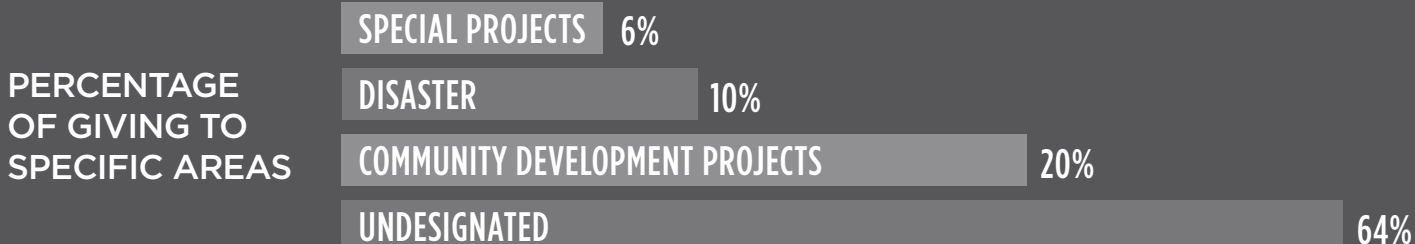
**83** PROJECTS  
**34** COUNTRIES  
**5** CONTINENTS



**\$126,015** RAISED FOR CLEAN WATER THROUGH PROJECT BLUE AT CHIC

**5K+** STUDENTS AND LEADERS PARTICIPATED IN THE PROJECT BLUE WALK FOR WATER AT CHIC

OVER **\$65K** RAISED FOR CWR IN COVENANT CARES (OVER **\$180K** RAISED IN TOTAL)



**Thank you for your generous support!**



# Partnership: The Key to Being Ready in Times of Crisis

WHEN natural and human-caused disasters happen, Covenant World Relief often has partners on the ground who are ready and able to respond immediately. This is one of the distinct advantages to working in partnership. Because of the generosity of Covenant churches and individuals in response to the earthquakes in Nepal this spring, we have been able to work in partnership with three organizations in Nepal and one in the Bihar State of India providing relief and long-term recovery. The recovery will continue for years to come, and we hope to be able to continue to respond for as long as possible. Relief and recovery efforts have included medical care, hygiene supplies and education, clean water access, temporary housing and construction supplies, and food and cooking supplies.

CWR has engaged with several other disasters in recent months—flooding in Ecuador, refugees from South Sudan, refugees fleeing from ISIS in Iraq, refugees from Syria, and refugees from the Central African Republic. Long-term recovery work continues in Japan after the tsunami of 2011, in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan in 2013, and the tornadoes of 2013 in Oklahoma. In all of these places we are grateful to partner with quality organizations who have expertise and experience in disaster response. We are also grateful to all who give so that we can respond with our partners in times of crisis.



A family in Nepal receives needed housing reconstruction supplies after the devastation.



## Share the CWR Story...

You can now setup your own page on the CWR website to share the CWR story with your community. Join us now at [CovChurch.org/cwr](http://CovChurch.org/cwr)



**PROJECT BLUE**  
COVENANT WORLD RELIEF

## Resources for Your Church

### Walk for Water

Churches and communities can host an interactive walk for water.

### Kids Helping Kids: Clean Water

This free supplemental resource helps children here develop a larger kingdom view and to impact the world by supporting CWR clean water efforts.

### Biblical Reflection on Water

This 4-part reflection was designed for students to discuss global water issues prior to their engagement with Project Blue at CHIC. It is adaptable for groups of any age.

### ECC Resolution on Clean Water

The Commission on Christian Action presented this resolution to the 2015 Annual Meeting.

### Shift: the Curriculum

Shift: the Curriculum is a six-week, intergenerational opportunity for the whole church and includes resources for adults, youth, and children. The final week culminates with the Walk for Water.

Learn more and get involved at [CovChurch.org/projectblue](http://CovChurch.org/projectblue)