



# COVENANT WORLD RELIEF

Partners in Transformation

Issue #10, Fall 2012

Families in Haiti are being transformed with increased access to health care, safe shelter, and new agriculture projects.



## PARTNERS IN TRANSFORMATION

Covenant World Relief (CWR) has adopted a new tagline: "Partners in Transformation." This slogan communicates the breadth and heart of our ministry. Those unfamiliar with CWR might think our main focus is disaster relief, but the majority of our time and resources are spent on long-term community development programs. Responding to disasters by providing food, water, medical care, and shelter is vital to saving lives and facilitating recovery. CWR has a long history of involvement in this important work and will continue to respond to disasters. However, when addressing extreme poverty and injustice, it is through long-term engagement in community development programs that individuals, families, and communities are truly transformed.

Transformation is the change from existence contrary to God's purposes to life in full harmony with God and others.\* Transformation is ultimately the work of God and all of us are in need of God's transforming work in our lives.

Partnership is foundational to CWR. First, we recognize the vital importance of partnering with God, as God is the only one who can bring about true transformation. Without joining God, our work would be fruitless. Second, CWR partners with highly capable, time-tested, and trustworthy organizations, most of which are based locally and are a part of the local community. Finally, CWR partners with Covenant individuals and churches who give generously, pray, advocate, and serve. We are deeply grateful for your partnership because without the donations of Covenanters, CWR would not be able to carry out our mission to love, serve, and work together with the poor, the powerless, and the marginalized.

\*adapted from IFECOUR [1996], 7.

## BE A PARTNER IN TRANSFORMATION

Your gift to CWR makes a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable. You can give online, by check, and regularly through automatic withdrawal. If desired, you can designate your giving to a specific project, area of interest (clean water, hunger, etc.), or geographic region.



## GIVE A LIFE-CHANGING GIFT WITH COVENANT CARES

The newest Covenant Cares catalog is now available. You can purchase a gift that sustains, heals, equips, and nourishes.

Clean Water \$25 • Chicken \$5 • Sheep \$60  
Goat \$80 • Water Buffalo \$500 • Disaster Response \$25 • Women's Empowerment \$50 • School Supplies for Refugees \$25

*The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.* PROVERBS 29:7



## DOES MY SOUP CAN BANK MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Growing up I remember getting the CWR soup can label and fighting off my siblings to be the one to put it on the can or the first to drop a coin into the bank. I also remember asking my mom where all of our coins were going. If we put them in the soup can bank at our house, how would they get to someone who needed them more? Who gets to use that money and why do they need it?

As you read this update, you will meet Lakshima, David, Ms. Tshangase, and others. These are all people whose lives are being transformed because you and others like you have given to CWR. Thank you! —Kaci Norman, North Park University student and intern with CWR

## WE WILL VISIT YOU!

Perhaps as a child you were curious like Kaci about your soup can bank, or are even curious now about how your gift makes a difference. Or maybe you are curious about how you can get more involved. If so, we can come visit your church to share about our ministries around the world. Contact us if you are interested in learning more about a visit from our staff. We can preach, meet with small groups, and lead a Deeper with CWR event. We are glad to customize our visit to your needs.

## WOMEN GROWING OUT OF POVERTY

**K**aren, Sharon, and Domtilla are three women who are participating in the CWR Jitokeze agriculture project. This project empowers women in rural western Kenya, giving them stable sources of income and food security.

Women in this community are beautiful and strong; faithful and nurturing. They have diverse capabilities and amazing potential. However, these women have been marginalized because of their gender, the recent severe drought, and conflict. They are being trained to grow drought resistant crops, engage in agroforestry, and breed chickens. Through this training, the agriculture project provides them with increased income.



They now have access to the resources they need to provide for their families. Your gifts to CWR are helping these women rise out of poverty and stand on their own two feet.

## HOPE FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE



**D**avid Pur is a beneficiary of the Vulnerable and Orphaned Children project in South Sudan. David's father was killed by a landmine in 2003. His mother, Nyandit, who has a physical disability caused by a bone disease, is the one taking care of David.

CWR's project has provided David with basic health care and has also allowed his mother to receive vocational training. Nyandit has been trained in sewing and tailoring and is now able to design clothes. She is selling them and making a living wage in order to support David and her whole family.

**This year CWR is partnering in 45 community development projects and has responded to disasters in 16 countries.**

## MS. TSHANGASE

**M**s. Tshangase is a single mother of two in South Africa. Her house was falling apart and she barely made enough money to survive and care for her children. She joined a self-help group with our partner Zimele. Through this group, she has received a small loan and the encouragement to grow her craft business. Her business has grown enough now that she has repaid the loan so another woman can borrow the money for her own business. She is building a new house since her previous home was beyond repair.



BEFORE



AFTER

At least 90% of all donations to CWR go directly to global programs serving the most vulnerable.

## THANKS FROM THE PEACE-MAKING PROJECT IN MEXICO



## KIDS HELPING KIDS: INDIA

**T**his year our annual children's discipleship and giving project, previously known as the Children's Service Project, is focusing on the children of India. Kids Helping Kids provides children in your church with the opportunity to:

- serve God and others;
- develop a bigger view of God's kingdom;
- connect with children from India through their stories; and
- help to meet some of the basic needs of children living in poverty.

By praying and donating to a weekly monetary offering (rather than collecting and sending items), children in North America can provide children in India with tangible items such as:

- Bed nets (\$10 each)
- Blankets (\$10 each)
- Health services (\$14 per child)
- HIV/AIDS treatment and counseling (\$200 per child)
- Identify, rescue, and rehabilitate children from slavery (\$25 per child)
- Mid-day meals (\$18 per month)
- School costs (\$20 per month)



One of the best parts of the Kids Helping Kids project is its two-way nature. Children in India aren't the only beneficiaries; we also benefit from the project when we learn about the world through the stories of children in India. The change in name from Children's Service Project to Kids Helping Kids reminds us that we are changed by this project just as the children in India are.

## FROM TRASH TO THE TREASURE OF EDUCATION

While education is something that we often taken for granted in North America, an unfortunate reality for many children living in the urban slums of Bangkok is that they may not have the necessary means to complete their education. Many must drop out of school in order to help support their families.



Through CWR's partnership with the Thailand Faith and Music Foundation, a ministry of the Thailand Covenant Church, young people from three slums in Bangkok are participating in a recycling program and the profits from selling the recycled materials are then saved to pay for their education.

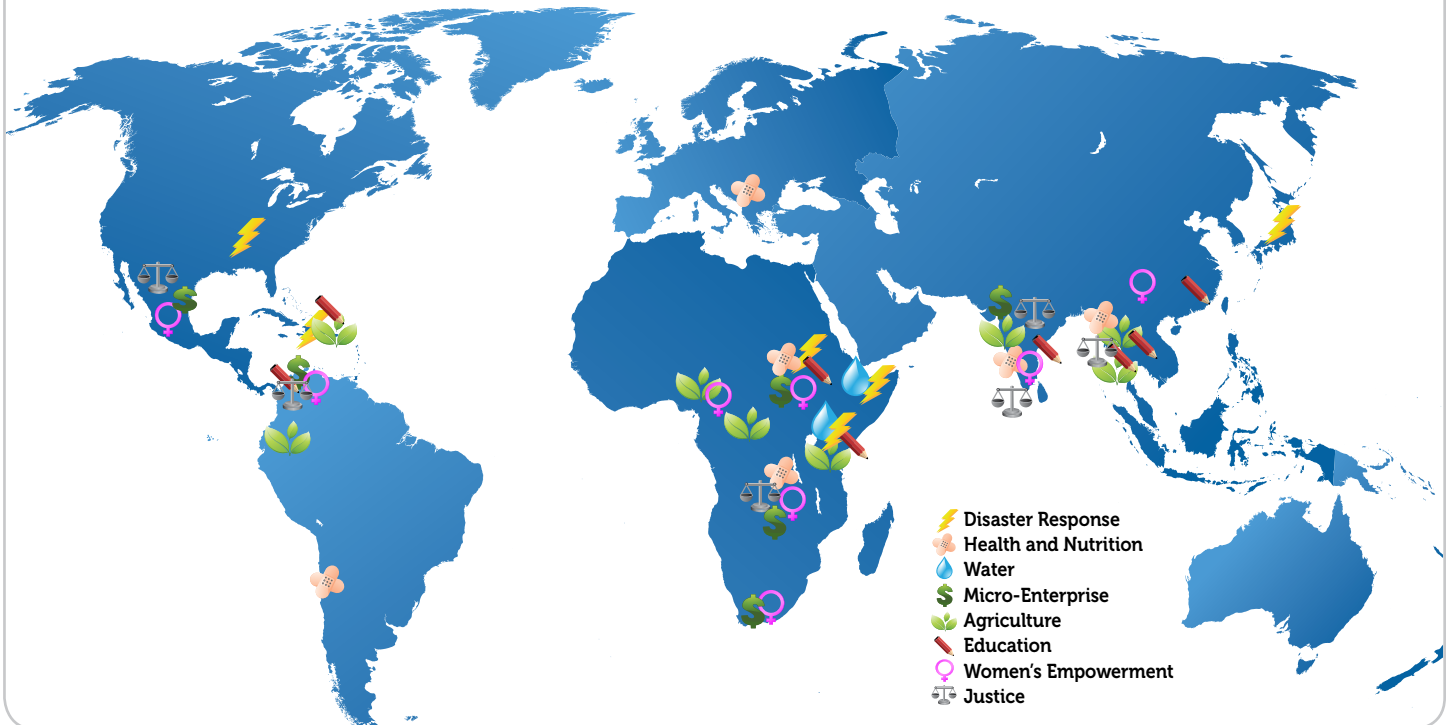
Through this project, the children's and teens' earnings are matched so that they may save up even more to pay for school, books, supplies, and uniforms. Our partner says, "The desired outcome would be that people would feel empowered to make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of those in the slum. We want them to make an investment in their education and see that they can make a difference in caring for the environment by making use of something that others throw away."

## MEET LAKSHIMA



Lakshima sells vegetables in India and is responsible for her family's income. The CWR project with India for Christ Ministries has allowed her to expand her work and better care for her family.

## CWR PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD



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*Partners in Transformation*

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**Give:** Online, by check, by electronic funds transfer