

From Relief to Development

Natural and human caused disasters are continually occurring around the world. Most receive little if any media attention. At the writing of this article, CWR is responding through our partners to recent disasters in Libya (conflict), Japan (earthquake/tsunami), Alabama (tornados), Ivory Coast (conflict), Kenya (drought), and Sri Lanka (flooding).

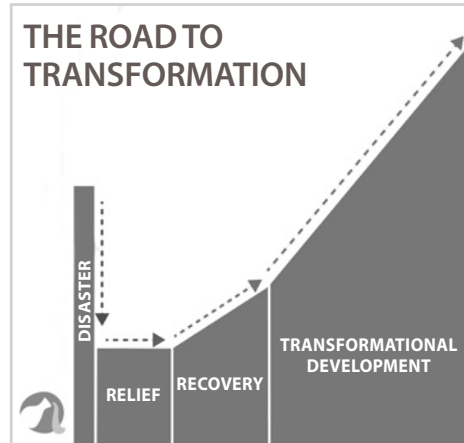
Response to disasters requires immediate relief— food, clothing, shelter, and medical treatment—followed by a period of recovery in which efforts are made to restore the community to the condition it was before the disaster. After a disaster relief is necessary to keep people alive and restore their communities. However, relief rarely brings about significant long-term change in the lives of people.

Whenever possible CWR and its partners seek to remain and participate with local people in long-term transformational community development long after the disaster is over. Long-term community development seeks to empower people to bring about transformation in themselves, their families, and the community.

CWR is still working with partners doing community development in areas devastated by the 2004 tsunami in south Asia. Work with recovery and development after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 was recently completed.

Although there is little media attention, the work of recovery and long-term development continues in Haiti. CWR has recently entered into partnership with Habitat for Humanity to work with Haitians in building houses. Nearly one million Haitians are still living in tents and other temporary housing. Also in Haiti, CWR is working with Medical Teams International to improve medical delivery systems and with World Relief in agricultural development.

We are extremely grateful to the individuals and ECC churches who make it possible for CWR to respond to disasters. In order to make it possible to respond immediately after a disaster occurs, please consider giving to our disaster relief fund.



COVENANT WORLD RELIEF

Loving, Serving, and Working Together.

A ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church • 8303 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, Illinois 60630

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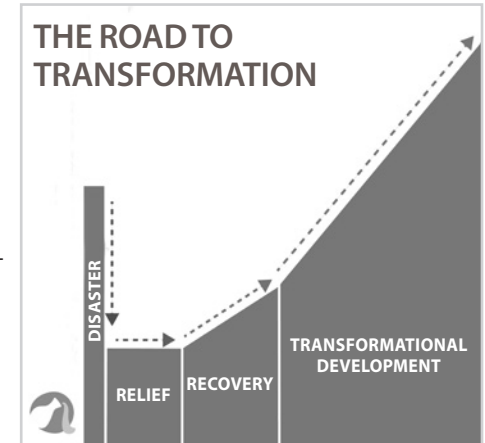
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- Disaster Response
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