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# CWRUPDATE



The Covenant World Relief Quarterly Newsletter

#### FALL 2020

#### **Introducing Zaya and Adam**

New faces lead Covenant World Relief (and Development), and we want you to know who they are. In May, Zaya Gilmer became the new manager. Zaya served as one of Serve Globally's administrative coordinators. Alongside her administrative skills, the gift of compassion became obvious to all. That rare combination of administration and compassion made her the right choice to manage CWRD.

As of October 1, Adam Edgerly has stepped in as the new director of CWRD. Adam brings a wealth of experience on the local, conference, denominational, and global levels.



Zaya Gilmer, CWRD Manager

Adam is a passionate visionary whose heart beats for the poor and vulnerable in the world. Building on



Adam Edgerly, CWRD Director

the solid work of Dave Husby, who retired in June, CWR(D) looks brighter than ever under Adam's leadership.



## CWR Sunday is November 22!

As always, and now more than ever due to the Covid-19 pandemic, CWR needs your generous financial support to continue to engage in transformational development with global partners responding to the pandemic as well as other natural and human-caused disasters.

To learn more about preparing for a CWR Sunday, visit **CovChurch.org/cwr.** 

### **CWRD Name Change**

We are excited to announce that CWR is now CWRD: Covenant World Relief and Development! We feel that this additional wording is necessary to convey the majority of work that CWRD global partners engage in, and the value that, together with our global partners, CWRD commits to – sustainable transformation in communities through long-term development strategy. Rest assured that the work and values of the CWR you have known, loved, and supported are not changing; rather, the name has changed to more truly reflect that same CWR.

#### Persistent Generosity Amid a Global Pandemic

Like many of our partner organizations, the Mulberries farm in Laos has been closed since the Covid-19 pandemic forced their country into lockdown. Still, these restrictions have not put a stop to our partners' incredibly hard work in community development. While staff could no longer come to work on the farm, the interns were able to continue the work that Mulberries had trained them with in their own communities. They returned to their respective villages to come alongside and equip their neighbors as they faced the many hardships caused by the pandemic.

Meanwhile, Mulberries staff used the relief grant from CWR to switch their focus to fighting the spread of the virus through education, raising awareness, and making and distributing supplies. The grant enabled Mulberries to produce over 15,000 bars of soap, 2,000 bottles of hand soap, and 800 bottles of antiseptic. The supplies were then distributed to families, schools, and healthcare centers in surrounding provinces.

The responses of our global partners to the Covid-19 pandemic have continually humbled and encouraged us. With the support of CWR relief grants, they have gone above and beyond to come alongside their communities with incredible devotion, innovation, and hard work. We thank you for your generous giving to the disaster relief fund in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, which allowed us to send 81 grants totaling over \$250,000 to 56 global partners in 29 countries.







#### A Safe Place to Be Transformed in Mexico

CWR partner MAEM, Ministry to Abused and Exploited in Mexico, works tirelessly to advocate against and educate their community of the dangers of human trafficking. They are committed to ending sexual exploitation in Mexico. Below is a testimony from Carmelita, a woman who participated in a MAEM workshop.

"I began attending the MAEM workshop because I knew that I was not well. I heard that it would help me confront myself, and that was just what I needed. There was an urgency within me that needed to be fulfilled. As I progressed in the workshop, I totally turned to God. I discovered that the more I committed to myself, to sharing, and to studying the material, the better I began to understand who I am, my attitudes, and the suffering I went through.

## **Building Capacity in Somaliland**

Nimco is a mother of six in a rural village in Somaliland. Her family is dependent on their livestock for income. The recent year of drought cost them 160 of their 200 animals and thus their livelihood.

Thankfully, World Relief is partnering with CWR to increase household resilience in Somalian communities that face unforeseeable and often devastating change. The project seeks to build the capacity of the community, especially women, to improve productivity, diversify their livelihood options, and partner with government structures to ease the impact of future shocks on the community.

"After receiving training from World

Relief, my animals are in better physical condition and produce more milk. My children have more to drink and my daily income has increased," says Nimco. Her animals were so beautiful last year, she says, that she decided to resume her training for a second year. "I continue to bear witness to the trainings I have received."





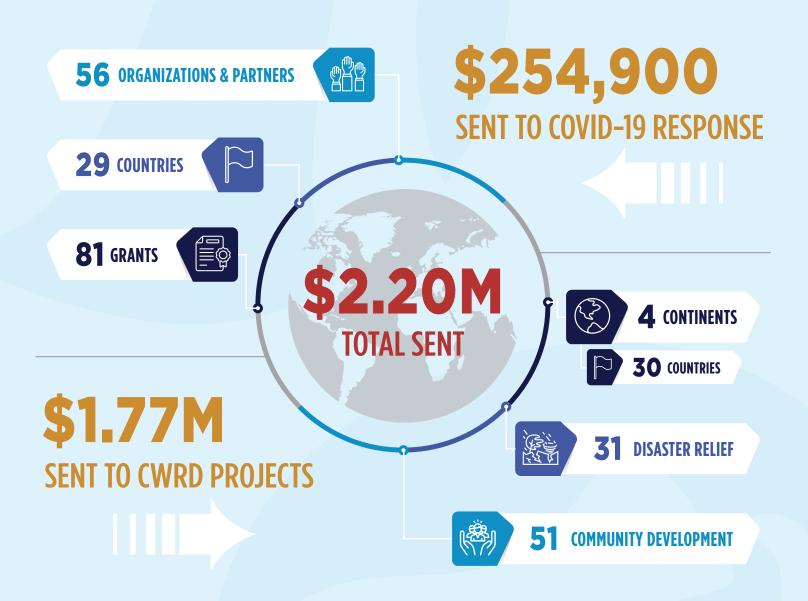
"The company of the Lord was wonderful, and the beautiful group I participated in was my safe place."

Consequently, God revealed my deep needs to me and supplied for them! The company of the Lord was wonderful, and the beautiful group I participated in was my safe place. The way I related to others transformed from aggressive and rude to forgiving and finding forgiveness. My experience with MAEM was a great blessing in my life!"



# CWRD YEAR IN REVIEW

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



**100%** of every gift to CWRD goes to ministry. **90%** of every gift goes directly to ministry programs. God has blessed us with increased partnerships and projects. **We depend fully on you to continue this ministry.** If you would like to learn more about giving to CWRD, please contact us at **cwr@covchurch.org.** 

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