



Caring for Those in Need

2024 SUMMARY

of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



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THANK YOU

RESOURCES

Cover (clockwise from top): Two women embrace following the destruction of Hurricane Helene. Students in Honduras eat a meal during recess. Photo by Oscar Levia/Silverlight for Catholic Relief Services. A farmer threshes his rice in Liberia. A woman in Japan gathers vegetables from her garden. Women demonstrate how a new tap stand works after the opening of a motorized borehole in Uganda. Photo courtesy of WaterAid. Woman in Madagascar meets with a doctor for a health examination.

Dear Friends,

We are deeply grateful for your generous donations of time and resources in 2024. Last year, members and friends of the Church were invited to seek and reach out to “the one,” as Jesus Christ taught in His parables and demonstrated through His mortal ministry.

Your heartfelt responses are truly humbling. Throughout the world, you have acted on this invitation to reach out to the one and to love your neighbor. We are thankful for your contributions and are pleased to share this year’s report of our collective efforts. This summary shows how, together, we have cared for God’s children through initiatives such as responding to emergencies, feeding the hungry, and caring for the well-being of women and children. These endeavors are made possible by your generosity, are carried out in collaboration with trusted organizations, and are amplified by the goodwill of people everywhere who strive to care for their neighbors in need.

As we continue to care for God’s children, we can help them feel His divine love. Heavenly Father loves each of His children and recognizes the good work they do. We invite you to continue serving and loving those around you. May God bless you in your inspiring efforts.

The First Presidency

Russell M. Nelson

Dallin H. Oaks

Henry B. Eyring

President Russell M. Nelson and his two counselors, President Dallin H. Oaks and President Henry B. Eyring, greet Navajo Nation President Dr. Buu Nygren and First Lady Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren.





Relief Society sisters in Tonga cook a meal for those in need in their community.

Our Commitment to Care

During Christ's mortal ministry, He gave us the first and second great commandments—to love God and our neighbor. He then “went about doing good” (Acts 10:38), showing us what it truly means to care for those in need. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints strives to follow the Savior's example of love and service. The formal welfare program of the Church, announced in 1936, was created to care for members in need and strengthen their ability to become self-reliant. In 1984, the Church launched its humanitarian outreach to extend relief to millions of people throughout the world.

Today, the Church continues its diligent efforts to care for both members and others in need through welfare and self-reliance initiatives, global humanitarian efforts, and volunteer service.

“Much welfare and humanitarian service to our fellow beings is taught and practiced by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and by us as its members.”

—DALLIN H. OAKS, FIRST COUNSELOR IN THE FIRST PRESIDENCY¹

Humanitarian Efforts

The Church supports thousands of humanitarian projects that aid those in need, regardless of race, gender, nationality, or religious affiliation.

Welfare and Self-Reliance Initiatives

Welfare and self-reliance efforts primarily benefit Church members and include fast-offering assistance, self-reliance groups, mental and emotional health support, employment services, education programs, and more.

Volunteer Service

Volunteer service is the backbone of our humanitarian and welfare and self-reliance efforts. It is made possible by the commitment of members, missionaries, and friends of the Church. These volunteer efforts include community service projects, disaster clean-up, and service missionary work at Church welfare and self-reliance operations.



Serving the One in Your Community

President Russell M. Nelson marked his 100th birthday in September 2024 with a heartfelt request for all of us to reach out and serve the one, just as Christ described in the parable of the lost sheep. In this parable, the loving shepherd went out into the wilderness to find the one in need—a reminder of how precious we are to the Savior.

Members around the world eagerly embraced this invitation to serve the one in their community—whether it be a family member, a friend, or a neighbor. President Nelson provided guidance for this effort, saying, “Over the coming months I invite you to consider prayerfully: who do you know who may be discouraged? Who might you need to reconcile with or ask for forgiveness? Has one name been on your mind lately, though you haven’t quite known why? As you bring these questions to the Lord, He will inspire you to know how you can reach out and lift one who needs help.”



Consider the following ideas to guide you in serving the one in need in your community.

- ◆ **Meet up with a friend:** Reach out to someone who could use your companionship. Find time to meet them for a chat, lunch, or a walk.
- ◆ **Make a meal:** Invite someone over for dinner or bring a meal to someone in need.
- ◆ **Mentor a child or teen:** Invite a child to read a book to you, help a student with their homework, or study with them for a test.
- ◆ **Donate clothes, food, or other items:** Give needed items to a local drive, shelter, or charity.
- ◆ **Help your family:** Do the dishes, help a sibling clean their room, or give a family member a hug.
- ◆ **Listen:** Take time to sit with a family member, friend, or neighbor and just listen. Listening shows that you care and can provide insights on how to serve them.
- ◆ **Send a text or note:** Send someone a simple text or write them a kind note to let them know they are cared for.
- ◆ **Say thank you:** Leave notes of gratitude for friends, family, or even people who help you daily, like your mail carrier.
- ◆ **Talk to your local Church leadership:** Ask your Relief Society or elders quorum president if anyone in your community needs love and service.
- ◆ **Pray for guidance:** Ask God to guide and inspire you in your efforts to care for people in need.
- ◆ **Find service opportunities on JustServe.org:** Visit justserve.org or download the app to search for service projects near you.



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Children in the Philippines receive a nutritious meal at a school founded by the Rise and Rebuild Foundation.

Caring for Women and Children

In 2024, the Relief Society General Presidency announced the expansion of a global initiative to improve the health and well-being of women and children, both within the Church and in the broader community. This initiative focuses on child nutrition, maternal and newborn care, immunizations, and education.

President Camille N. Johnson emphasized, “Global progress starts with nourishing children and strengthening women. When you bless a woman, you bless a family, a community, a nation. When you bless a child, you invest in the future.”

Members of the Church contribute to this effort daily through caring for their families and those around them. **For ideas on how you can participate in this initiative, scan the QR code at the bottom of the page.**

Child Nutrition

Around 148 million children worldwide suffer from chronic malnutrition. Healthy nutrition for children under the age of five is essential for proper brain development, immune strength, and overall ability to reach their full potential.

To combat malnutrition among children within the Church, the Church introduced an initiative

focused on child nutrition and health. This program connects children under age 5 and their parents with the resources needed to identify and address malnutrition.

Globally, the Church funds and oversees efforts with nonprofits to enhance children’s health and nutrition programs outside of the Church as well. In the Philippines, the Church donated to Caritas Manila to assist in their efforts to provide supplemental meals, vitamins, and hygiene items to prevent, detect, and treat malnutrition in children.

Maternal and Newborn Care

Prenatal and postnatal care helps ensure the health and safety of mothers and newborns. The Church plays an important role by providing healthcare professionals and clinics with essential training and equipment. Church donations to Project HOPE brought neonatal and maternal training and equipment to Colombia and Venezuela, reducing maternal mortality significantly. Additionally, the Church donated to the construction of a new maternity center and fully equipped neonatal ward to a hospital in Liberia following the destruction of the previous building and supplies due to civil conflict.



Immunizations

Immunizations are vital in protecting women and children from diseases that contribute to infant and maternal deaths. To ensure the health and safety of women and children, the Church works with organizations to deliver vaccines to vulnerable areas. In Mali, the Church donated to UNICEF to provide neonatal tetanus vaccinations for women, successfully eliminating the life-threatening disease from the country.

Education

Quality education increases an individual's ability to become self-reliant. As such, the Church is invested in connecting children with essential educational resources, regardless of Church membership.

The Church provided funding to UNICEF to support the Learning for Life program in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda. This program offers quality early childhood development and education services to an estimated 140,000 vulnerable children.

This global initiative not only connects children with education but also empowers women to achieve self-reliance, strengthening families and communities. In Slovakia, the Church donated to a local organization that trains women to become employed caregivers. Additionally, these women were given the equipment, textbooks, and uniforms needed for certification and employment, allowing them to provide for their families.

“Scaling up cost-effective, proven nutrition services is essential to transforming the lives of mothers and children globally. [Our collaboration with the Church] will help communities create lasting change so that every child has the opportunity to grow up healthy.”

—SARAH BOUCHIE, CEO OF HELEN KELLER INTL²



Left: Child in Sierra Leone receives a vaccination. **Right:** Woman in Madagascar meets with a doctor for a health examination.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Left: Volunteers package meals for Hunger Fight at the 2024 BYU Women's Conference. **Right:** A member of the Church in New Zealand participates in a neighborhood service project.

Church Members in Action

Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints follow the Savior's example in their efforts to serve others. As part of our promise to love God and our neighbors, Church members actively care for people in need through donating to humanitarian efforts and serving others in their community.

Fast Offerings

Church members follow the admonition of Jesus Christ to fast often and "impart of [their] substance to the poor, every man according to that which he hath" (Mosiah 4:26). Latter-day Saints do this by fasting for one day each month and generously donating the value of the meals missed to help other members who are in need. These donations are known as "fast offerings." Additionally, Church members lend their time, talents, and compassion for the benefit of others. Local leaders draw upon these contributions to help individuals and families find solutions to their needs.

Serving the One

In 2024, Latter-day Saints around the world embraced President Nelson's call to "reach out to 'the one' in our lives who may be feeling lost or alone." Through countless acts of kindness and service, members spread God's love to His children around the world.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

—JOHN 13:35

In Layton, Utah, a young adult and her mother bought large plants for their garden. When the daughter severely sprained her foot, she knew they couldn't plant them alone. She and her mother reached out to their elders quorum president, who quickly organized a group of men to help plant their garden.

In Puebla, Mexico, members organized a workshop for the La Margarita Addiction Rehabilitation Center, providing support to those on their path to self-sufficiency. These efforts empowered people in recovery, showing them they deserve a second chance.

Serving Women and Children

A core purpose of the Relief Society (the women's organization of the Church) is to provide temporal and spiritual relief to individuals and families in need. Relief Society sisters worldwide fulfill this mission daily.



During Brigham Young University's 2024 Women's Conference in Utah, women participated in various service projects, from packaging meals for Hunger Fight to sewing teddy bears and blankets for children in need.

In Colombia, Church members, including Relief Society and young women volunteers, collected toys for children in hospitals. Young Primary children contributed by drawing pictures and writing letters to accompany each donation.

Youth and Young Adult Service

Youth around the world participated in Global Youth Service Day, from April 26 to April 28. In Arkansas, around 100 youth gathered together to pick up trash around a local lake. In Canada, more than 200 volunteers from the Church and the community signed up through JustServe to package 90,000 meals for people in need.

Youth and young adults of the Church engage in service throughout the year and often take the lead on service projects. At Southern Virginia University, young adults created a "service corner" on campus for students to participate in service projects and connect with others. At a conference in Utah, hundreds of young adults took part in various service activities, such as creating fleece blankets, assembling mental health comfort kits, and packing meals for children in need.

Serving in Emergencies

Wildfires in Chile destroyed hundreds of communities and homes, leaving many residents without shelter and life necessities. In response, members across several stakes distributed bottled water and supplies and provided disaster cleanup.

In the Philippines, members volunteered to assemble food packs, hygiene kits, drinking water, and bedding for those who had to evacuate their homes after the Kanlaon Volcano eruption.

"What a beautiful example the Savior has shown us—that through each of us ministering to just one within our reach, we can spread the love of Jesus Christ throughout the world."

—RUSSELL M. NELSON, PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS³



Top to bottom: Relief Society sisters in Tonga prepare meals for those in need in their ward. Church members volunteer to help at a child nutrition screening in Ghana.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Missionaries Serving Others

Service Missionaries

Thousands of service missionaries dedicate themselves to helping in Church welfare and self-reliance operations, including food production and distribution and support to job seekers. Elder Romeril, a missionary helping in Employment Services, connects individuals with employment resources by answering phone calls at the local office. He shares, “I’ve learned that when you are serving, there are a lot of things you can do, and God will magnify that.”

Emergency Relief

Both service and proselyting missionaries play crucial roles in disaster relief. After severe storms struck Switzerland, 33 young missionaries traveled to Valais, where they spent three days helping with cleanup efforts. One missionary involved in the effort reflected, “Seeing how our work improves the lives of the people here was very moving . . . we were able to achieve something really meaningful by joining forces.”

In January, a magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck the Hokuriku region of Japan, damaging tens of thousands of homes. In response, local Church members and full-time missionaries united to provide cleanup, deliver supplies, assist in evacuation centers and soup kitchens, and more. Service missionaries in the area also coordinated with local agencies to determine how to meet community needs.

Community Service

Missionaries extend their service beyond emergency relief, engaging in various community efforts throughout the world. In Axim, Ghana, the Church donated mattresses, food, water, and mosquito nets to families at the Krisan Refugee Camp. Missionaries serving in the area helped families move these donated items into their homes, bringing comfort and relief to the displaced families.

On Christmas Day, missionaries in Albania made handmade blankets and holiday greeting cards for a local orphanage. In Texas, missionaries and Church members participated in a JustServe project by renovating the floors at The Food Basket Interfaith Food Bank, which unites the community in collecting and distributing food to those in need. Through these small acts of service, missionaries help individuals around the world feel God’s love and find temporal relief.

“As I have visited missions around the world, I have seen the remarkable service of our legion of senior missionaries. It is clear they are happy doing ‘the will of the Lord’ and being about ‘the Lord’s business.’”

—RONALD A. RASBAND, THE QUORUM
OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES⁴



Missionaries in Japan serve on a local farm.





An employment services missionary helps a woman with her job search in an Employment Center.



A sister missionary restocks shelves at a bishops' storehouse.

While many Church members engage in community service, some dedicate additional time and talents to humanitarian work by serving as missionaries.

Many seniors, couples, and young adults serve as part-time or full-time service missionaries, organizing and participating in community projects to care for people in need. Additionally, married couples may decide to serve as full-time welfare and self-reliance missionaries who administer humanitarian projects in their area.

Young full-time missionaries also engage regularly in community service and help with cleanup after disasters, as needed.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

JustServe

JustServe is a movement that fosters a spirit of service, addresses local needs, and encourages community collaboration. This free resource connects individuals, families, and groups with meaningful service opportunities and provides community organizations with a platform to post projects and find volunteers. Since its inception in 2012, JustServe has facilitated more than 165,000 community service projects.

Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are encouraged to join JustServe. By sharing acts of goodness, gives inspire hope and contribute to their communities and beyond.

Global Youth Service Day

On Global Youth Service Day, more than 240 youth from Southern California participated in a service activity organized by JustServe high school clubs. The volunteers represented more than 80 local schools, with some participants traveling for hours to be involved. Projects during the event benefited more than 10 charities and included making friendship bracelets, knitting socks and blankets, writing letters to veterans, designing posters and puzzles, and crafting “sunshine boxes” for children in hospitals.

Serving Children in Need

In May, youth in Las Vegas worked together to assemble 91 new beds for the Las Vegas Rescue Mission and repurpose old beds for children at East Valley Family Services. Project coordinators initially expected around 100 participants, but they were amazed as the number of volunteers who signed up through JustServe continued to rise. The project, which was supported by a donation from the Church, provided much-needed resources for people in need and gave youth a valuable opportunity to get involved in their community.

Interfaith Service

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, countless volunteers from various faiths came together to serve their communities. For example, in Indiana, teenagers from a JustServe high school club representing Christian, Jewish, and Muslim congregations organized a service project at Wheeler Mission Center for Women and Children. They served lunches, cleaned, and forged new friendships.

In April, JustServe ran a booth at the National Book Fair in Argentina, where 23,000 new volunteers registered for JustServe and learned how to find local projects. The booth was staffed by Church members and volunteers of other faiths and resulted in thousands of school kits and notes of encouragement being prepared for children in need.

“We believe serving alongside others helps build bridges between groups of people who might not otherwise interact due to differences in backgrounds or beliefs, but who will come together through the common value of caring for one another.”

—GÉRALD CAUSSÉ, PRESIDING BISHOP⁵

What Can I Do?

- Learn the needs of local nonprofit organizations.
- Post a service opportunity on JustServe for your community.
- Serve others at JustServe.org!





Clockwise from top: Youth in California participate in Global Youth Service Day by creating containers that will be filled with toys and comforting items for children in hospitals. Volunteers registering for JustServe at the National Book Fair in Argentina. Members of the Church assemble new beds for the Las Vegas Rescue Mission. A group of volunteers clean up trash around a river in Utah.





Global Initiatives

"No leader has ever shown more courage, no humanitarian has shown more kindness, no physician has cured more disease, and no artist has been more creative than Jesus Christ."

—W. CHRISTOPHER WADDELL,
FIRST COUNSELOR IN THE PRESIDING BISHOPRIC⁶



Scan code to learn more.

2024 Summary of Efforts



3,836

Humanitarian Projects
in 2024



1.45B

in Expenditures



6.6M

Hours Volunteered



192

Countries and
Territories Served

Expenditures include:

- ◆ Aid Offered Generally
 - » Global humanitarian projects
 - » Donations of food and other goods
- ◆ Aid Offered Primarily to Church Members
 - » Fast-offering assistance
 - » Bishops' orders for goods
 - » Services from welfare and self-reliance operations

Service hours include:

- ◆ Volunteerism at Church welfare and self-reliance facilities (bishops' storehouses, canneries, farms, orchards, employment centers, etc.)
- ◆ Missions to care for those in need in many countries
- ◆ Church-sponsored community service projects, including cleanup after disasters.



A couple in Japan takes care of a garden for their community.

“[These] figures are, of course, an incomplete report of our giving and helping. They do not include the personal services our members give individually as they minister to one another in called positions and voluntary member-to-member service. And our [summary] makes no mention of what our members do individually through innumerable charitable organizations not formally connected with our Church.”

—PRESIDENT DALLIN H. OAKS,
FIRST COUNSELOR IN THE FIRST PRESIDENCY⁷



2024 at a Glance

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

SERVICE BY MEMBERS
AND MISSIONARIES

8,097,952

Relief Society members worldwide

12,277

Welfare and self-reliance missionaries

JUSTSERVE

COMMUNITY SERVICE
PLATFORM

134,143

New JustServe users registered

30,236

New JustServe projects created

WORLDWIDE AID

GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN INITIATIVES

267

Clean water, hygiene,
and sanitation projects

710

Emergency relief projects

732

Healthcare projects

71

Mobility projects

591

Food security projects

BUILDING SELF-RELIANCE

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

579

Education projects

10,809

Deseret Industries
associates served

2,503

Addiction recovery
meetings per week

128,028

Self-reliance
group participants



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Missionaries help unload emergency supplies from an airplane following severe flooding in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Photo courtesy of Divulgação Azul.

Emergency Relief

Global emergencies such as natural disasters or civil conflict bring many challenges, including needs of shelter, food and water, disaster clean up, and emotional support. During crises, the Church aims to foster hope and resilience by providing both physical aid and psychological support to anyone in need.

Psychological First Aid

Psychological first aid helps individuals and communities in crisis learn how to cope with emotional distress. Through its Family Services organization, the Church offered on-site psychological aid to many members affected by crises. In the Pacific Islands, Family Services staff members coordinated mental health resources for individuals who were dealing with political turmoil. These efforts helped many members of the Church manage their emotional distress and offer support to others.

The Church also provided on-site emotional aid to members affected by natural disasters in 2024, including the torrential floods in Porto Alegre, Brazil; deadly wildfires in Chile; and the raging California Park Fire. This psychological aid strengthened affected individuals by reducing initial distress and fostering coping skills.

Family Services staff also prepare areas before crises hit. Local Church leaders can reach out to their Family Services consultants to organize emotional preparedness training in their wards and stakes. For example, Family Services employees Teresa and Sonia trained youth in Cape Verde on principles of psychological first aid, resilience, and emotional preparedness, equipping them for emergencies.

Additionally, the Church often collaborates with various organizations to provide emotional support to anyone in crisis. In Honduras, the Church supported Project HOPE in their efforts to provide emotional first aid to displaced individuals. This collaboration reached many in need, offering them compassionate support during difficult times.

Physical Aid

In emergency situations, the Church and its members step in to provide physical aid for those in need, regardless of their religious affiliation. In Lebanon, the Church supported displaced families by donating over 10,000 needed items, including food parcels, hygiene kits, and handheld solar lights. In Romania, resettled Ukrainians struggled to find jobs due to language barriers and lack of available childcare. The





Left: A woman in Syria cooks a meal outside her temporary shelter. Photo courtesy of ShelterBox. **Right:** Two women embrace following the destruction of Hurricane Helene.

Church donated food and hygiene kits and hot meals to Asociatia La Rascurce, which the organization distributed to Ukrainians in need, even implementing a system to deliver the hot meals to homebound older adults.

In Chile, the Church and multiple aid organizations worked together to provide relief for people affected by devastating forest fires. Temporary educational and food distribution sites were established in the affected areas. Church members in Viña del Mar, Quilpué, and Valparaíso volunteered to distribute supplies and assist in cleanup operations. The Church also made significant donations to support the affected families.

What Can I Do?

- Become a certified volunteer through an organization that assists with emergency response situations.
- Prepare for potential crises by creating your own personal emergency plan.
- Download the emotional care cards on the Church's website to help guide you in difficult times.

“We seek to minister to our neighbors—near and far—to make the world a better place for all.”

—GÉRALD CAUSSÉ, PRESIDING BISHOP⁸

Serving Together in the Philippines

Several disasters took place in the Philippines in 2024, including a super typhoon, a volcano eruption, fires, and the drought effects of El Niño. The Church and the government's emergency response services provided relief goods, and local members offered their time, effort, and love to ensure these goods were packaged and distributed.

Cebu City Acting Mayor Raymond Alvin Garcia shared his gratitude for the Church's aid: “The city government is here to help and serve its constituents, but we know we cannot help everyone. So today, we can see how our partners, the private sector, and the Church help us do this part of our job. Because of institutions like yours, it makes our job easier, so we thank you very much for your donation to our constituents, especially the mountain barangays.”



[Learn More](#)

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Clean Water and Sanitation

Access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) is foundational to building healthy communities. Communities need both the necessary tools and education to improve overall sanitation systems and reduce the spread of illness. The Church's efforts in clean water and sanitation are designed to benefit everyone, regardless of their faith.

WASH Initiatives

In 2024, the Church supported UNICEF's efforts to implement WASH programming in more than a dozen countries across South America, Africa, and the Pacific. In Uganda, the Church supported WaterAid's efforts to provide safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to communities in need. They successfully installed eight piped water systems, also known as boreholes, benefiting more than 2,500 people. Along with the new water systems, they implemented hygiene and sanitation instructions at each new tap



A girl washes her hands with clean water in Ecuador. Photo courtesy of UNICEF Ecuador.

What Can I Do?

- Learn more about water, sanitation, and hygiene efforts in your community.
- Teach a child how to wash their hands.
- Begin storing water to ensure you have extra clean water in times of need.

stand. To ensure long-term care, they trained locals to operate and maintain the water supply and provided education on repair techniques.

Collaborative Community Work for Clean Water

In Kosovo, nine large families from the village of Carraleva had to carry water in cans from potentially unsafe sources after the community's well went dry. The Church collaborated with locals to build a water storage tank, ensuring access to clean water for all villagers.

Water systems in the Balkans are often antiquated or even non-existent in many areas. During winter months, power requirements for heating often overwhelm the power grid. To address this challenge, the Church donated a backup generator to the local community in the town of Hani i Elezit to provide a backup generator. This effort ensured a continuous water supply for residents during the winter.

Implementing Safe Sanitation Practices

"I asked, 'What are we lacking here in Cascas?'" recalls Alexandra. The first need that came to her mind was bathrooms.

Alexandra lives in Cascas, Peru, where she knew at least 20 percent of families lacked safe sanitation services. Without safe sanitation, the community was at greater risk for water-borne illnesses like cholera. To address this, Alexandra joined a sanitation business training hosted by the local Water for People team in Peru.

Alexandra started her business and stocked her small store with as much inventory as she could—sinks, faucets, toilets, tiles, and other materials families needed to complete their bathrooms. Now, families in Cascas can find help in Alexandra's store, where they can buy the materials needed to construct household bathrooms.



Education

Access to education often plays a vital role in improving self-reliance. The Church seeks to meet the educational needs of members and friends across the globe by providing resources and assistance that enable individuals to reach their fullest potential.

Resources for Church Members

The **Perpetual Education Fund (PEF)** program provides financial support for qualified members of the Church, helping them access education that leads to better employment and improved self-reliance. The First Presidency of the Church recently approved modifications to the program, allowing more individuals to benefit from PEF funds. These changes include loan discounts, longer loan terms, scholarships, and expanded educational offerings. Depending on circumstances, recipients can also use PEF funds for additional education-related expenses, such as housing, equipment, and transportation.

The Church also provides other educational resources for its members, including:

- ◆ **BYU–Pathway Worldwide**, which helps members access affordable higher education online.
- ◆ **Benson Scholarships**, which supports members seeking to obtain post-secondary education in nutrition and agriculture-related fields.
- ◆ **EnglishConnect**, which offers free English instruction to any who are interested, including people who are not members of the Church.
- ◆ **Succeed in School**, which helps youth develop skills that improve their education.

Resources Provided Generally

The Church also supports educational needs worldwide by funding refurbishments and teacher training and providing equipment such as desks,



A girl in Japan learns how to count.

chairs, internet access, and textbooks. Among hundreds of other education projects, the Church completed a large renovation for the Zapai Public School in Liberia, which included refurbishing bathrooms, installing electrical wiring, and delivering 300 new chairs. This renovation will increase the school's capacity.

Achieving Dreams through PEF

When Princess returned from her service mission, she immediately turned her attention to her dream of becoming a licensed accountant. The costs of pursuing higher education were significant—but thanks to the Perpetual Education Fund, this young woman from Catanduanes, Philippines, was able to receive the necessary financial support to continue working toward her goal. Princess is now in her last year of accountancy school.

"[PEF] became a bridge to fulfill my dream of becoming a CPA and to follow President Russell M. Nelson's counsel to continue my education in the best way I can," Princess says. "I have gained a testimony that the Lord is always mindful of our righteous desires."

What Can I Do?

- Help someone with their homework.
- Volunteer in a classroom.
- Tell family and friends about educational resources available to them.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Left: An operations supervisor trains Deseret Industries associates on the sales floor. **Right:** A man receives job search help at an Employment Center.

Employment

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints assists individuals by providing resources that foster self-reliance. This includes services and resources to help people find and qualify for employment opportunities.

Employment Services

Employment Services is a resource available to anyone who is unemployed, seeking better employment, or reentering the workforce. Employment missionaries offer various types of support:

- ◆ Résumé help
- ◆ Interview preparation
- ◆ Job leads
- ◆ Networking contacts

Employment Services operates employment centers where Church members and others can access resources and receive in-person help. Job seekers can also visit the Employment Services website, employment.ChurchofJesusChrist.org, to access virtual services such as online groups and workshops, remote coaching, and an online job board.

In early 2024, Employment Services expanded internationally, allowing individuals worldwide to access employment support and resources.

Deseret Industries

Deseret Industries (DI) is a thrift store that primarily operates as a job training facility for Church members and others who are facing barriers to employment. Individuals receive job training and certification through DI's Ready for Work program, which helps associates achieve their employment goals. In addition to teaching practical job skills, the Ready for Work program focuses on behavioral skills essential for workplace success.

Deseret Industries associates are trained and coached by full-time employees, including operational supervisors and development counselors. In 2024, operational supervisors from all 46 DI locations participated in trainings designed to better prepare them to support the associates they work with. These sessions covered topics such as career and leadership development, processing standards, customer service, and human resources.



Development Counseling Services

Development counselors are credentialed professionals who assist DI associates and anyone referred by a Church leader with goal setting and career planning. They assess an individual's overall well-being and needs, provide counseling, and offer vocational assessment and educational support.

Development Counseling Services (DCS) collaborates with other Church resources—including Family Services, Deseret Industries, and Employment Services—to help individuals overcome barriers to employment. DI associates work with DCS counselors as part of the Ready for Work program to learn important workplace behaviors. Development counselors also work closely with Family Services and Employment Services, referring individuals to these resources for mental health support or job placement assistance.

Transitional Services

The Church has nine Transitional Services offices across the US. Transitional Services is available to anyone who needs help integrating back into their community—including people exiting correctional facilities; women rescued from trafficking, veterans, and individuals who have experienced homelessness.

Transitional Services primarily focuses on helping individuals become self-reliant by connecting them with community and Church resources, including employment and mental health services.

Humanitarian Center

The Church's Humanitarian Center recycles and processes excess donations from Deseret Industries stores for humanitarian aid. Like DI, the center serves as a training ground to help individuals gain employable skills. Many associates come from different countries and religious backgrounds and do not speak fluent English. Associates have the opportunity to learn English as part of their workday.

"I used to think that the best way to love someone was to help them. But as I thought about it, I think really the best way to help someone is to love them."

—L. TODD BUDGE, SECOND COUNSELOR
IN THE PRESIDING BISHOPRIC⁹

Finding Dee's Dream Job

Dee was looking to reenter the workforce after taking time to raise a family for 14 years but wasn't sure what she wanted to do. She tried out three different jobs before her bishop referred her to Development Counseling Services.

Dee met with a development counselor regularly, taking assessments and personality tests to understand what job would be the best fit for her. After she spent some time searching, her development counselor encouraged her to apply for an administrative clerk position at the Deseret Industries she worked at. Dee quickly realized that the position fit her personality and interests, and she got the job. "I kept telling myself I don't belong anywhere, but turns out I do!" Dee says.

"I am so happy to be here, and I am so grateful to my development counselor."

What Can I Do?

- Donate items to your local Deseret Industries or similar job-training thrift store.
- Review the résumé of a friend or family member.
- Learn more about the Church's employment resources and encourage others to use them.



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Environmental Stewardship

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints continues to accelerate its efforts to care not only for people in need but also for the earth. Individual and community well-being are closely tied to a healthy natural environment, making environmental sustainability an integral part of the Church's mission.

In 2024, the Church expanded its Sustainability Office, which coordinates global initiatives across six key priorities: promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency, conserving water, avoiding material waste, minimizing transportation emissions, designing and constructing sustainable buildings, and practicing sustainable agriculture and ranching.

Humanitarian Work

Environmental sustainability is a component of many Church humanitarian projects. Food security, energy independence, and clean water access are all supported by greater climate adaptation and resiliency.

For example, in Sudan, the Church donated to ADRA to install solar-powered water pumps and train local water committee members in proper maintenance and management. Meanwhile, in Kurdistan, the Church supported Catholic Relief Service's effort to construct four schools powered by solar energy.

Materials Use

Across the Church's US and Canada operations, all old electronics are diverted from landfills. Instead, the Church donates hundreds of computers annually to domestic and international charities. For electronics that cannot be viably reused, individual metals and other components are recycled.

At the Church's flagship printing center, all excess paper scraps—from manufacturing scriptures to lesson manuals—are carefully bundled and returned to paper suppliers to be turned into new pulp.



A meetinghouse of the Church in Peten-Playa del Carmen, Mexico, uses solar panels to harness the power of the sun.

In Latin America, Church stores are replacing plastic bags and packaging with biodegradable or reusable alternatives. Additionally, Peru-based magazine printing now uses sustainably sourced wood. In Brazil, some youth conferences are using recyclable T-shirts.

“If we are to preserve the earth in its bounty and beauty, a great part of this work will be done within the walls of our homes, within our families.”

—PATRICK KEARON,
THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES¹⁰

What Can I Do?

- Use reusable or biodegradable bags and water bottles.
- Dispose of toxic waste appropriately, including batteries, medications, and paint.
- Learn to repair or upcycle products instead of replacing them.



Healthcare and Mobility

Jesus Christ cared for people with physical disabilities and illnesses during His mortal ministry. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints continues this mission globally by providing healthcare and mobility aids to anyone in need through various programs.

Vision Care

In Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, the Church helped fund the construction of a facility equipped with solar power and anesthetic resources. Other organizations like The Fred Hollows Foundation, PNG's National Department of Health, and local universities work together to run the facility, which aims to enhance eye health systems and achieve regional eye care goals. A training program also helped graduates become skilled eye care professionals, ensuring a lasting impact on eye health in PNG.

Immunizations

In 2024, the Church donated to UNICEF's efforts to boost immunization coverage in Ethiopia, ensuring vaccines are accessible and equitable. This collaboration increased vaccination rates in the country, protecting more children from preventable diseases and fostering a healthier future for Ethiopian communities.

More than half a million women in Malaysia did not have a chance to receive a cervical cancer vaccine after school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Church donated to the National Cancer Society of Malaysia to help provide women in the eastern part of the country access to these life-saving vaccinations.

Providing Health Care to All

The Church supports numerous projects to improve healthcare for people in need. In Quito, Ecuador, the Church provided care and hygiene kits to more than 19,200 individuals and families, improving their

living conditions. In Venezuela, the Church worked with Project HOPE to deliver health, nutrition, and psychological support, benefiting mothers, caregivers, and children.

The Church also focuses on projects supporting maternal and newborn care, aligning with the Relief Society's global initiative for the well-being of women and children. In parts of Africa, newborn mortality rates are among the highest in the world. In response, the Church collaborates with other organizations to train healthcare workers, helping to reduce infant deaths. In the United States, the Church works with the NAACP to lower infant mortality rates in Black communities across the country.

Providing Wheelchairs in Sierra Leone

Thanks to a donation from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, hundreds of people in Freetown, Sierra Leone, received wheelchairs, crutches, and white canes. This support, along with training for local technicians and physiotherapists, has greatly improved mobility and independence.

One individual, who had been crawling since childhood, expressed deep gratitude for the newfound freedom and dignity.

What Can I Do?

- Learn more about vaccines and share your knowledge with friends and family to keep everyone informed.
- Get involved by volunteering at vision screenings and health fairs in your area.
- Make a meal for someone who isn't feeling well.



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Children in Ghana helping to make dinner.

Feeding the Hungry

To assist people struggling with hunger, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints first addresses their most urgent needs and then supports long-term plans for self-reliance. The Church does this by donating to projects addressing immediate needs, collaborating with other organizations focused on long-term food security, and running its own child nutrition program.

Commodity Donations

The Church operates 122 bishops' storehouses across 6 countries. These storehouses, filled with food and other essential commodities, are used by local Church leaders to care for members in need within their congregations. In locations where storehouses are unavailable, the Church often works with local grocery store chains to provide needed goods.

In addition to meeting members' needs, bishops' storehouses distribute food and supplies to charitable organizations throughout the United States and Canada. In 2024, more than 39 million pounds of food from bishops' storehouses were donated through humanitarian organizations and food banks, which comes to around 32 million meals for those in need. For example, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints donated to Catholic Community Services in

Salt Lake City, Utah, to provide meals and security to people experiencing homelessness and anyone else needing assistance from Catholic Community Services' food bank.

In Spain, the Church responded to a recent influx of people seeking refuge by supporting the organization El Hogar Buen Samaritano in procuring a new van to transport goods to people in need.

The Member-focused Child Nutrition Effort

Many children ages zero to five across the world experience malnutrition. The Church's Child Nutrition Effort is designed to help member children reach their full potential physically, mentally, and spiritually. Children are screened for malnutrition, and their parents or caregivers are connected with resources and education to help them improve their children's nutrition. Wherever the program is set up, community members are invited to participate.

In addition to its member-focused program, the Church supports other global organizations prioritizing child nutrition. In June 2024, the Church announced a donation to eight organizations that contribute to maternal care and children's health. The Church also



“No humanitarian effort is more foundational to Christ’s Church than feeding the hungry. . . . As we serve together, we extend the reach of Christ’s loving arms.”

—CAMILLE N. JOHNSON, RELIEF SOCIETY GENERAL PRESIDENT¹¹

donated \$5 million to Edesia Nutrition, which makes life-saving foods that treat malnutrition. In addition to these larger global projects, the Church supports localized efforts across the world, as with its donation to the Tonga Ministry of Education and Training’s Free Breakfasts for Schools program, which serves approximately 21,000 students across Tongatapu and the outer islands of Tonga.

Self-reliance in Resolving Food Insecurity

Self-reliance principles empower individuals to provide for themselves and others, improving mental health and fostering community connections. This is why the Church works with global programs and organizations that uphold these principles.

In Hungary, the Church contributed to a project by Bodva Valley Women’s Roma Association, which helps struggling families develop their own pig farms. This project will allow about one hundred people to raise food, provide for themselves, and reduce food insecurity in their area.

In Ghana, the Church funded a project by International Development Enterprise (iDE) that works to provide agricultural training and farming equipment. This helps families provide for themselves and sell surplus crops to support other long-term needs. Shei, a participant in the program, was eventually able to sell her crops to pay for her children and another child from the community to return to school.

The Church also continues to offer the Benson Scholarship to help members of the Church afford agricultural-oriented education that will improve farming practices in their communities.

Helping Julio Reach His Full Potential

In Guatemala, Julio was born premature and acutely malnourished. His mother took him to a nutrition screening through the Church’s child nutrition effort, where she received nutrition supplements to pass on to him through breastfeeding. When Julio turned six months old, he was given nutrition supplements to eat directly. Julio is now four years old, has overcome acute malnourishment, and will soon reach his ideal weight. Thanks to the child nutrition effort, Julio now has a better chance of reaching his full potential mentally and physically.



A UNICEF worker uses a MUAC tape to detect malnutrition in children in drought-stricken areas of northeastern Uganda. Photo courtesy of UNICEF.

What Can I Do?

- Volunteer at your local food bank.
- Grow a garden and share the produce with your neighbors.
- Invite people in your community to attend your ward’s self-reliance group.



[Learn More](#)

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Housing Support

Following natural disasters, conflicts, or other challenges, many people often find themselves in need of shelter. The Church supports housing efforts worldwide to help people recover from these difficult situations, and it collaborates with trusted organizations to transition individuals to more permanent housing solutions or to build and furnish new homes or businesses.



Displaced people living in donated temporary shelters in Mexico.

Finding Housing after Escaping Conflict

Many people all over the world face the reality of fleeing their homes to escape conflict. Without the stability of shelter and basic necessities, their mental health, education, ability to work, and other aspects of their lives are severely impacted. At the Minawao Refugee Camp in Cameroon, the Church supported ShelterBox in their efforts to provide displaced individuals arriving at the camp with essential items, including tents. This support not only offered a safe place to sleep but also created a home where families could be together and start rebuilding their lives.

Rebuilding after Natural Disasters

After a natural disaster, affected individuals face a long road to recovery, from clearing debris to rebuilding and refurnishing their homes. In February 2024, a massive fire burned through the communities of Quilpué, Villa Alemana, and Viña del Mar in Chile, marking the most destructive fire in Chile in the past decade.

In collaboration with Desafío Levantemos Chile, the Church funded hundreds of gift cards for residents to purchase construction and household furnishings. These gift cards provided crucial financial aid, enabling people to start rebuilding their lives.

Finding Home in Temporary Shelter

Kaltoumi and her young children had to flee their home for safety one night, with just the clothes on their backs. After safely arriving at the Minawao Refugee Camp, Kaltoumi received a tent for her small family through the support of the Church and ShelterBox. The tent has become their home, and Kaltoumi now grows peanuts and vegetables outside the tent to feed her children.

“I love farming,” she says, “because it feeds my family without depending on anyone.” The shelter has given her a chance to start a new life for her family and a place to become more self-reliant.

What Can I Do?

- Assist someone in repairing or replacing their roof.
- Volunteer at a local homeless shelter.
- Donate your old furniture to a family in need.



Mental Health

Mental and emotional struggles can limit people's ability to feel joy, connect with God and others, or believe in their individual worth. The Church offers several programs and resources to help individuals facing these challenges achieve greater relief, hope, and resilience.

Family Services

Church members facing mental, emotional, or behavioral health issues can request a referral to Family Services from their bishop. Through a member consultation, appropriate resources are identified, which may include referrals to community providers, self-help resources, or no-fee Family Services skills classes, group therapy, and individual counseling.

Family Services also offers:

- ◆ Counseling for missionaries
- ◆ A helpline for leaders
- ◆ Psychological first aid training and interventions
- ◆ Emotional self-help worksheets

Addiction Recovery Program

In 2024, the Church's addiction recovery program was renamed *Healing through the Savior: The Addiction Recovery Program* to reflect the Savior's power to heal. This free and confidential program supports Church members and others struggling with addictive and compulsive behaviors. It offers resources like the updated *12-Step Recovery Guide*, as well as support for the family members of those in recovery.

Other Mental Health Resources

The Church provides several resources to help Church members and others seeking mental health support, including the Finding Strength in the Lord: Emotional Resilience course. Additional resources released in 2024 include:

- ◆ **Emotional care cards:** These prompt cards advise people on managing their own emotional challenges and supporting others.
- ◆ **Webpages on mental health topics:** Practical guides to help people struggling with mental health.

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”

—GALATIANS 6:2

Healing through the Savior

Through resources available in *Healing through the Savior: The Addiction Recovery Program*, Lisi overcame his addictions and moved forward with a better quality of life. The program's 12-step process helps people to confront their issues, connect with others, and better understand Jesus Christ's Atonement. Lisi is now sober, has a family with two beautiful children, and seeks to support others in overcoming addiction.

What Can I Do?

- Ask your local Church leaders about creating an addiction recovery group if there isn't one in your area.
- Learn more about psychological first aid, possibly through a certification course.
- Consider using emotional care cards to facilitate mental health conversations in your local meetings.



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Self-Reliance

The Church seeks to help everyone become self-reliant and increase their capacity to care for their families and communities. Self-reliance fosters dignity and helps people reach their full potential.

Self-Reliance Groups

To help individuals become self-reliant, the Church offers several courses:

- ◆ Starting and Growing My Business
- ◆ Personal Finances
- ◆ Emotional Resilience
- ◆ Education for Better Work
- ◆ Find a Better Job for Self-Reliance

In Paris, France, a stake president held training sessions for leadership in his stake and encouraged each ward to call a welfare and self-reliance specialist. These specialists learned how to conduct self-reliance groups and have guided many people in the area toward a path of self-reliance.

One couple attended the Personal Finances and Starting and Growing My Business groups and shared how these courses affected their lives: “The self-reliance groups and courses are inspiring and help us to ‘awaken and expand our capabilities.’ [We’re] grateful that [we] took them. Five years later, [we] can still see the blessings every day.”

Self-Reliance Efforts

In Liberia, the Church donated to the World Food Programme’s efforts in agricultural training, farmers’ cooperatives, and agribusiness centers. These programs taught farmers in Liberia how to improve farming practices, boost crop yields, and increase their income. Additionally, the Church funded the construction of centers and warehouses, which improved farming efficiency and helped the community.

In Brazil, the Church supported a Portuguese language training course that helped migrants improve their job prospects.

Empowered through Self-Reliance Courses

Juanita experienced homelessness for three years before finding and joining the Church. Soon after, she took the Education for Better Work self-reliance class and says, “My life has not been the same since.”

Juanita then took both the Personal Finances and Emotional Resilience courses. “Every class has taught me something about myself,” she says. Juanita is now enrolled in college classes, is able to pay her bills, and aims to eventually work in human resources.

What Can I Do?

- Join a local self-reliance group.
- Teach a class and share your skills.
- Volunteer for projects that support self-reliance.



Woman searches for a job at an Employment Center.



“Young people and families don’t want a handout—they want a hand up.”

—BARRON SEGAR, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM USA¹²



Clockwise from top: Farmers watering their community garden in Liberia. A woman in Tonga sells goods out of her shop. A collaboration with Muslim Aid provides individuals in Bosnia with beehives and education on beekeeping. Relief Society sisters teach others in their community how to read and write.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Worldwide Aid

"If we each truly follow our Savior's example of loving and serving, truly coming to know on a personal level those who we think are so different than we are ... we truly will become one in Christ."

—J. ANETTE DENNIS,
FIRST COUNSELOR IN THE RELIEF SOCIETY GENERAL PRESIDENCY¹³



Scan code to learn more.



Students in the Democratic Republic of Congo play at a UNICEF-supported mentoring and development center. Photo courtesy of UNICEF.

Africa

Our goal is to help people meet their basic needs, build self-reliance, and strengthen their communities. To meet this goal, the Church supported efforts to provide access to food, education, clean water, and sanitation to communities throughout Africa.

Food and Clean Water Access

On World Water Day, the Church announced the donation of a 10,000-liter motorized borehole and new toilet facilities to the Mboshi Aji Community in Nigeria. This project, in collaboration with WaterAid Nigeria, provided clean and fresh water to the community and promoted proper sanitation and hygiene.

In Zimbabwe, the Church prioritized access to clean water at Zimburi Primary School by installing a

new water system. The headmaster and teachers celebrated the new installation, which reduced monthly absenteeism by providing functional showers for the girls and sufficient water for the school's garden.

Education

In Ghana, students at Foase School needed more classrooms and functioning toilets. The Church provided a 10-classroom block for about 1,000 students, a toilet facility, and a borehole. Additionally, the Church added a water filtration system to make the water drinkable. These improvements created a safer environment for students and staff, resulting in higher student attendance.

“More than 2.2 billion people globally are living without adequate safe water and sanitation. This is a source of great tension for people and governments throughout the world. The World Water Day is celebrated annually to raise awareness of the need for fresh water and sustainable sanitation.”

—SOLOMON AKPANUFOT, ENUGU COORDINATOR OF WATERAID NIGERIA¹⁴





Left: A woman in Liberia pours clean water from the village well. **Right:** Midwives participate in the Helping Babies Breathe training organized by Project HOPE with the Church in Sierra Leone.

The Church also supported educational initiatives by contributing to a UNICEF project focused on early childhood education. This effort provided 6,000 out-of-school children with alternative learning programs or catch-up classes and gave 140,000 children access to quality education programs.

Healthcare and Disabilities

In Nwinsa, Ghana, the local government completed the construction of a health clinic, but there were no rooms for the medical staff to rent nearby. To meet this need, the Church constructed nurses' quarters, allowing the medical staff to have a safe place to live. The compound was also furnished with medical equipment and an electrical system essential for using the donated equipment.

In Mali, the Church's donations helped UNICEF to successfully eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT), a disease that endangers mothers and children worldwide. MNT claims the lives of tens of thousands of infants each year, and nearly all affected babies do not survive without access to treatment facilities. This makes it a critical health risk for women and children in endemic countries. Mali's remarkable

achievement in eliminating MNT is a testament to the collective efforts of the country and several trusted organizations, including UNICEF.

Providing Food Security after Conflict

Nadia recently returned to South Sudan after a conflict, where the influx of returnees created urgent humanitarian needs. Thanks to a collaboration between CARE and the Church, Nadia and 1,300 other households received vital food supplies to help with the adjustment. Nadia can now provide food for her family for the next three months.

"Coming back from Sudan with no food for the family left us in despair," Nadia said. "This assistance is a tremendous relief."

What Can I Do?

- Learn more about water, sanitation, and hygiene efforts in your local community.
- Talk to a local food shelter about ongoing needs.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



A woman in Japan reads to her children.

Asia

In 2024, numerous natural disasters devastated areas all over Asia, leaving people in need of humanitarian aid. The Church and its members responded to these disasters with empathy and love, providing relief to others in their communities. Additionally, the Church prioritized education and healthcare efforts to increase self-reliance in the area.

Education

In Mongolia, the Church supported a project to provide computers to secondary schools in rural areas. The Church worked with the Ministry of Education to deliver 1,000 school computers to secondary schools in western Mongolia. This project blessed approximately 43,000 students with enhanced education opportunities.

Throughout Cambodia, many young students lack access to quality education. In 2024, the Church funded several construction and renovation projects to create safer and more sustainable learning environments for students. These projects included building new classrooms to mitigate overcrowding, updating facilities to enhance safety, and repairing facilities in need of maintenance.

Healthcare and Clean Water

In 2024, the Church supported efforts in Asia to provide quality healthcare, including updating healthcare facilities, supporting individuals with disabilities, and promoting water and sanitation initiatives.

In Indonesia, the Church donated lower-limb prosthetics to enable individuals to participate in activities like going to school, caring for their families, and being involved in their communities.

In Timor-Leste, the Church worked on a project to bring much-needed water to remote villages. Water tanks were purchased to support the individuals and families living in these villages. This effort significantly improved the quality of life for people who lacked access to water.

Emergency Response

Members of the Church seek to “bear one another’s burdens . . . mourn with those that mourn . . . and comfort those who stand in need of comfort” (Mosiah 18:8–9) while providing emergency assistance to those affected by various natural disasters.





Left: Missionaries in South Korea help an individual move into a new apartment. **Right:** Children in Mongolia use donated computers at school.

In April, the Mount Ruang Volcano erupted in Indonesia. In response, the Church collaborated with the local government and other organizations to provide shelter, clothing, and other necessities for around 3,600 displaced individuals.

Other areas in Asia also experienced natural disasters throughout the year. In response to an earthquake that devastated Japan's Noto Peninsula in January, the Church donated funds to assist with historical preservation. The donation helped cover repair costs for sacred religious shrines and temples in the area. Church members also worked tirelessly to clean up communities destroyed by the earthquake.

Rebuilding Homes and Lives Again

Mila's* home was severely damaged by flooding in eastern Malaysia. Like her neighbors, Mila and her family began clearing their home of debris and started rebuilding their lives after the water receded. Many of their household items were lost or destroyed, including Mila's bed. Mila received a mattress and bedding as part of a donation distributed by the Church. Finally, after struggling to reestablish her life, Mila had a safe and clean place to lay her head at night.

**Name has been changed*

“We are all brothers and sisters, helping one another. We feel the love from the Church. The renovated buildings are beautiful, and the patients are happy to receive care here. The hospitals are now cleaner and have better hygiene.”

—HE NHEK BAN KHENG, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF KAMPONG THOM¹⁵

What Can I Do?

- Volunteer to tutor at a local school.
- Cook a meal for a struggling family in your neighborhood.
- Donate cleaning products to a local shelter.



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CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Australia, Philippines, and the Pacific

The Church's humanitarian efforts in the Pacific are often tied to the many natural disasters that affect the area, including volcanoes, cyclones, and flooding. The Church also collaborates with like-minded organizations in the Pacific to address other regional needs such as improving child nutrition and providing greater access to clean water.



Young adults and missionaries in New Zealand volunteer to help restore homes.

Emergency Response

Many residents on the North Island of New Zealand are still feeling the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle, which devastated the island in 2023. To alleviate challenges resulting from this disaster, the Church helped to rebuild homes in the heavily impacted community of Wairoa.

In Negros Occidental, Philippines, the Church supplied food packs, drinking water, bedding, and hygiene kits to more than 80 families evacuated after the eruption of the Kanlaon Volcano.

Child Nutrition

The Church prioritizes improving child nutrition across the globe so children can reach their full potential mentally, physically, and spiritually. This effort is especially important in the Philippines, where many local contributions support this cause. In addition to

the Church's local child nutrition initiatives focused on helping malnourished children within the Church, the Church collaborated with Tonga's education ministry to provide breakfast for thousands of school-aged children at risk of malnutrition across 168 schools.

Clean Water

The Church contributed several million dollars for humanitarian projects in the Pacific, enabling UNICEF to implement water, sanitation, and hygiene programs in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea. Additionally, the Church helped fund a project by WaterAid to improve water facilities at schools in Papua New Guinea.

Reaching Developmental Milestones

In Pampanga, Philippines, then-four-year-old Amara was screened during a local child nutrition program run by the Church. The results of the assessment indicated that Amara suffered from malnutrition. She was treated using micronutrient powder, vitamin supplements, and medication. Her diet was also fortified with foods that addressed her nutritional deficiencies. Additionally, Amara's parents were educated on proper nutrition, hygiene practices, and childcare, and the family received better access to clean water and health units.

Through these efforts, Amara gradually improved her health. She is now in the normal weight category for her age and has reached significant developmental milestones.

What Can I Do?

- Look for local opportunities to care for people in need.
- Help your children eat a nutritious breakfast.
- Teach a child how to wash their hands.



Caribbean

In 2024, the Church supported education initiatives to help students in the Caribbean “seek learning, even by study and also by faith” (Doctrine and Covenants 88:118). The Church and its members also focused on providing relief to those in need through healthcare and emergency response efforts.

Education

The Church worked on projects in the Caribbean that created safe and modern learning environments for teachers and students. For example, Church members in Paramaribo, Suriname, repaired three local schools, providing children in the area with a better setting for learning.

Healthcare

Caring for the health of individuals enables them to become self-reliant and care for others. With the help of Church donations, Charity Vision connected thousands of children at schools in the Dominican Republic with vision examinations. If needed, these students received eyeglasses, giving them a better learning experience both in and outside of school.

Emergency Response

After Hurricane Beryl devastated many areas, members of the Church from surrounding locations volunteered and traveled to Union Island to deliver much-needed supplies, such as food and hygiene kits. Members also served alongside other organizations to clear roads of debris from the hurricane.



Young adults in Jamaica plan a service project together.

Providing Quality Education

At Garvey Maceo High School in Jamaica, Ms. Vincent, head of the Agricultural Department, received specialized equipment for teaching technical and vocational classes.

Ms. Vincent said of the donation, “We promise to take care of these gifts and, while we use them, [we] give thanks for blessing us in such a way.” Now her students produce honey with the donated equipment, learning skills they can use to become self-reliant and provide for their future families.

What Can I Do?

- Read a book with a child.
- Take someone who needs a ride to the doctor.
- Help with community cleanup efforts.

**“Many times when we need help, He points us to someone else in need.
And in offering His relief to others, we find our own relief in Him.”**

—KRISTIN M. YEE, SECOND COUNSELOR IN THE RELIEF SOCIETY GENERAL PRESIDENCY¹⁶





A doctor weighs a child as part of the Member-focused Child Nutrition Effort.

Central America and South America

Amid natural disasters, Church members turn to their neighbors in need. In Central and South America, natural disasters have left many in need of shelter, food, and other emergency supplies. The Church prioritized disaster relief efforts in the area in 2024, along with food security, education, and healthcare initiatives.



Photo by Oscar Leiva/Silverlight for Catholic Relief Services.

Disaster Relief

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints provided crucial aid to flood victims in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, where severe flooding displaced 200,000 people and resulted in more than 90 deaths. The Church established 21 shelters, distributed food

packages, and delivered six tons of emergency supplies, including mattresses and hygiene kits. Additionally, members of the Church donated supplies and participated in cleanup efforts to support those affected.

In the town of Mistolar, Paraguay, a multi-year drought led to a severe water crisis. The Church funded the installation of rainwater cisterns and a mobile water tank to meet the community's needs.

In Chile, Church members served one another and those affected by the destructive wildfires by opening meetinghouses as shelters, delivering meal kits, and distributing aid.

Food Security

In Nicaragua, the Church contributed to a World Food Programme effort that provided children with school meals. The project also included infrastructure and kitchen upgrades in schools across the country, improving the learning environments for students.

Education Support

In Argentina, the Church donated funds to provide scholarships for students. These scholarships, part of Caritas's Plan Emaús, will benefit many students in



need across the country, increasing their future job opportunities and helping them become self-reliant.

Healthcare

In 2024, the Church was recognized in La Paz, Bolivia, for its significant role in blood donation campaigns, thanks to members who generously donated their blood to people in need.

The Church also supported Operation Smile Peru's 99th surgical program at Daniel Alcides Carrión National Hospital, providing essential supplies and medical evaluations to help children with cleft lips and palates.

What Can I Do?

- Donate blood at a local blood drive.
- Find opportunities on JustServe.org to serve in your community.
- Participate in cleanup efforts near you after a disaster.

Donations of Blood and Love

Dr. Alfaro, head of the blood bank at the Benjamin Bloom National Children's Hospital in San Salvador, El Salvador, thanked members of the Church for donating blood to their hospital.

Nearly one hundred donors, including members and friends of the Church, participated in the San Salvador Stake blood drive as a show of love for their neighbors. Dr. Alfaro says, "With these . . . donations, we were able to supply the blood reserve of our hospital and provide an immediate emergency response to at least 230 children. These are undoubtedly real actions of love."

"Faith, service, and sacrifice draw us beyond ourselves closer to our Savior. The more compassionate, faithful, and selfless our service and sacrifice are in Him, the more we may begin to fathom Jesus Christ's atoning compassion and grace for us."

—GERRIT W. GONG, THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES¹⁷



Students in Honduras eat a meal during recess. Photo by Oscar Levía/Silverlight for Catholic Relief Services.



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Europe

Natural disasters and political conflict were among the many challenges Europe faced in 2024. In response, the Church funded and collaborated on numerous humanitarian projects in the region, focusing on disaster relief, vulnerable populations, and food security.



Missionaries in Switzerland assist with cleanup efforts after severe storms.

Emergency Response

Türkiye is still recovering from a major earthquake in 2023. The Church collaborated with other organizations to rebuild areas of the country, including projects to reconstruct schools and implement clean water systems.

The conflict in Ukraine has led to a large-scale crisis, resulting in 55 humanitarian projects in the region in 2024. One such project was a collaboration with CARE, in which Church funding helped provide individuals with hygiene kits, household NFI and winterization kits, and hybrid energy storage systems in Ukraine. In Russia, the Church funded projects in response to major floods, supplying essential items to people in need.

Helping Vulnerable Populations

Church donations to Project HOPE provided healthcare for displaced individuals in Moldova, including women, seniors, and people with disabilities. The Church also donated food packages and hygiene kits to vulnerable populations across Europe, including those in Greece, Norway, and the Czech Republic.

Food Security

In response to immediate food needs in Ukraine, Church contributions helped the World Food Programme to provide enough food to feed individuals for a year. The Church has also continued its collaboration with Muslim Aid to help individuals in Bosnia on their path to self-reliance. This collaboration provides greenhouses, beehives, and pregnant heifers, enabling individuals to support themselves and their families.

Baby Booties in Türkiye

Erika, a Relief Society sister in Germany, is a great example of how anyone can serve those in need. She regularly knits baby booties for family and friends and decided to knit about 50 pairs during Christmas break to give to new families in need in Türkiye.

At a refugee camp in Antakya, Türkiye, one couple was thrilled to receive the booties, as were others in mobile hospitals throughout the area. All recipients of this small and simple donation were grateful for Erika's kindness and felt God's love in return.

What Can I Do?

- Donate food and hygiene kits for people in need.
- Search JustServe.org for projects supporting people in need in Europe.
- Volunteer to help at your local food bank.



Middle East

In 2024, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints worked to address needs throughout the Middle East, including support for critical projects focusing on healthcare, food security, and housing in places such as Lebanon, Sudan, and Yemen. In addition, the Church collaborated with multiple international relief agencies in Gaza and Israel to provide medical and mental health support, as well as food, water, and hygiene items to internally displaced individuals.

Healthcare

In early 2024, the Church donated more than one thousand wheelchairs to Al Hussein Society in Jordan, including 300 specialized pediatric wheelchairs. With this donation, Al Hussein Society also trained staff to teach parents how to use and maintain the equipment, giving their children new freedom.

In Pakistan and Yemen, Church contributions helped UNICEF and other organizations increase vaccinations, particularly for maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT), which claims thousands of lives each year. Elsewhere, the Church funded the reopening of an eye clinic in Beirut, giving the gift of sight to those in need.

Additionally, the new Nursing and Midwifery Development Center in Kurdistan officially opened in January 2024, thanks to the combined efforts of the Church, the Kurdistan government, and the vision of the center's director. The center will train up to 7,000 nurses and midwives annually, better equipping them to help newborns survive.

Support for Vulnerable Populations

Many thousands have been forced to flee their homes and find refuge elsewhere, with women and children being particularly affected in Yemen, Syria, and Lebanon. The Church seeks to alleviate the suffering of displaced persons by donating to relief programs and assisting initiatives that empower these individuals.



Children are fitted for new specialized wheelchairs at the Al Hussein Society.

For example, the Church donated 150 sheep to Al Jahuth to create a milk-sheep farm in Jordan. This farm trains locals in dairy product creation and generates income to support displaced people in resettlement camps. The Church also collaborated with Rahma WorldWide in Lebanon, the Coptic Orthodox Church in Egypt, and other organizations to offer urgent food support to vulnerable populations.

Supporting Healthy and Safe Pregnancies

In Yemen, Arwein worried when she found out she was pregnant. “I know of a woman in my neighborhood who lost her first child during delivery . . . they lost the baby because the local midwife used contaminated tools during childbirth,” she said.

As part of its efforts to care for women and children, the Church collaborated with UNICEF to bring immunizations to women like Arwein so they could have a safe and healthy birth. Thankfully, she received a tetanus vaccination from this collaboration, and her baby son was born healthy and happy.

What Can I Do?

- Volunteer at a resettlement center that helps displaced people in your community.
- Learn more about your local area's healthcare needs and how you can assist.
- Take a self-reliance course and share your learning with your community.



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED



Young single adults in Utah assemble food boxes as part of an event marking the 10th anniversary of collaboration between the Church and the World Food Program.

North America

Across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, the Church participated in numerous humanitarian efforts to care for people in need of shelter, food security, healthcare, and more.

Vulnerable Populations

Inspired by the Lord's words, "I was a stranger, and ye took me in" (Matthew 25:35), we strive to care for people who have faced the loss of house and home. With this in mind, the Church has donated products and funds to Haven for Hope, the International Institute of St. Louis, Safe Harbor Crisis Center, and many other organizations to help provide dignified shelters for people seeking refuge.

At the Church's second annual young single adult Conference in Salt Lake City, attendees contributed to several service projects throughout three days. They made blankets for people experiencing homelessness, packed emotional care kits, helped with local service projects, and assembled meals to help children in need.

In Florida, devastating hurricanes left many residents in need of necessities and disaster clean up. More than 21,000 members of the Church gathered to provide relief, totaling around 311,000 volunteer

hours across 10,300 homes in the southeastern U.S. The Church also sent trucks of water, food, hygiene kits, and other essential supplies to the locations of greatest need.

Food Security

Jesus commanded His followers to feed His sheep, both spiritually and physically. Across North America, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has sought to help vulnerable populations access food through bishops' storehouses, food bank donations, and collaborations with organizations focused on improving food security, including the World Food Programme (WFP).

In 2024, the Church and WFP celebrated 10 years of serving together with a gathering of the two organizations and hundreds of young adults in Utah to assemble over 4,300 food boxes for food pantries in the state.

In Canada, the Church donated to the Daily Bread Food Bank, which helps individuals in Toronto cope with the rising cost of living. Across North America, programs focused on self-reliance have also encouraged food security to ensure both immediate and long-term care for people in need.



“The reason our [collaboration] has staying power is because we share so many common values—humanitarian spirit, a call to serve, building trust.”

—CLIFF HOLTZ, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF AMERICAN RED CROSS¹⁸

Healthcare

Access to healthcare is not distributed evenly across the world, and a lack of proper equipment can have a lasting and permanent effect on people's lives. As the Savior dedicated so much of His life to healing the sick, so the Church seeks to help close the medical gap to improve people's quality of life, both temporally and spiritually.

In southern Mexico, efforts focus on providing healthcare to communities and individuals in need. A specialized diabetes telemedicine program was instituted to help patients in rural Veracruz receive necessary care, and the Church collaborated with the Mexican Red Cross to update its imaging equipment so the organization could better serve people who would not otherwise have access to medical support.

Additionally, Church contributions helped Catholic Relief Services and Adventist Development and Relief Agency Mexico to provide shelters, medicine, and healthcare exams to vulnerable people migrating through the country. Women and children are the most vulnerable among these populations as they seek refuge, and the healthcare support will help deter malnourishment and other preventable illnesses.

What Can I Do?

- Find a local food pantry and volunteer time or goods.
- Establish an emergency preparedness plan for your home and neighborhood.
- Consider ways you can forge relationships with and support displaced people in your area.



Youth in Ohio participate in a community service project.

Finding Hope after Devastation

Hugh and Martha*, a couple in Texas, lost a third of their livestock in the largest wildfire in Texas's history. Due to the fire, the grasslands their cattle grazed on were also destroyed, leaving the herd with almost nothing to eat.

In response to the fires, the Church's bishops' central storehouse sent bales of hay to farmers in the area, including Hugh and Martha. Instead of having to sell what they had left to provide for their family during this difficult time, they could feed their cattle and continue running their ranch.

**Names have been changed*



Learn More

CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone—members and friends of the Church—for participating in our efforts to care for all of God’s children around the world. Your donations of time, money, and talents are noticed and make a tremendous difference and are greatly appreciated.

We are also grateful for our work with other nonprofit organizations to expand our humanitarian reach. We look forward to continuing these collaborations in the years to come and are excited to see what we will accomplish together in the future.

God hears your prayers and sees your efforts to care for people in need. We hope that your service has blessed your life with peace, hope, and love, and we invite you to continue to show love to God and to one another.



Learn more about the Church’s commitment to care at Caring.ChurchofJesusChrist.org



Scan code to download the JustServe app and get started on a local service project in your area.

Visit Us Online to Learn More

- ◆ ChurchofJesusChrist.org
- ◆ Caring.ChurchofJesusChrist.org
- ◆ JustServe.org
- ◆ DeseretIndustries.org
- ◆ AddictionRecovery.ChurchofJesusChrist.org

Additional Resources

Instagram

- ◆ [@Caring.ChurchofJesusChrist](https://www.instagram.com/Caring.ChurchofJesusChrist)
- ◆ [@DeseretIndustries](https://www.instagram.com/DeseretIndustries)
- ◆ [@Just_Serve](https://www.instagram.com/Just_Serve)

Facebook

- ◆ [@Caring.ChurchofJesusChrist](https://www.facebook.com/Caring.ChurchofJesusChrist)
- ◆ [@DeseretIndustriesThrift](https://www.facebook.com/DeseretIndustriesThrift)
- ◆ [@JustServe.org](https://www.facebook.com/JustServe.org)



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