

ANNUAL REPORT

2015
2016



Photo: ACT Alliance/P.Jeffrey



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

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With funding from the Government of Canada and CLWR, Lutheran World Federation–Jordan conducted cash distributions for Syrian refugees living in Jordan and for vulnerable Jordanian families to cover costs such as rent, medical expenses and food.

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GREETINGS



The Bible asks us Christians, “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8). This is the yardstick for supporters of CLWR to use as they measure the success of their agency

and its partners.

In January 2016, CLWR held its bi-annual Global Encounter to Ethiopia and Uganda. Fifty CLWR supporters visited some of the projects we support in the region. Some projects (food security and South Sudanese refugee resettlement) are supported through our partnership with The Lutheran World Federation’s Department for World Service (LWF-DWS) and some (drought relief, food security, small-scale irrigation infrastructure) we support through our partnership with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) and an Ethiopian NGO, Support for Sustainable Development (SSD), in the northeast of Ethiopia. All of our work in the region is undertaken with the knowledge and consent of the national governments of Ethiopia and Uganda.

And why is it important for you, a CLWR supporter, to know about these organizations with their strange acronyms? It’s because wherever CLWR works, it does so exclusively through local, national and international partnerships. This is our response to Christ’s call to work together to serve others in need. Of our national partnerships, one of the most vital is at home with the federal government’s Department of Global Affairs (Global Affairs Canada / GAC). GAC supports 25 per cent of our \$10M+ annual budget.

We will continue to choose effective partners nationally and internationally who equip us to act justly, with compassion, while walking humbly with God. We thank you for your support and partnership, which sustains us as we challenge the causes and respond to the consequences of human suffering and poverty in Ethiopia, Uganda and around the world.

Marcus Busch, *President*



Inspired by God’s love for humanity, CLWR challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffering and poverty. During the 2015-16 year, we focused on three main areas: humanitarian assistance and development, food security and

refugee resettlement. This report shares stories of the difference these efforts, with your support, have made in the lives of people around the world.

Our humanitarian assistance work focused primarily on supporting refugees and internally displaced people by helping them meet their basic needs and empowering them as they prepared for their futures through job training. Antsar’s* story highlights how CLWR supported those who have been displaced within Iraq.

To help address food insecurity, we provided food aid to vulnerable people in Jordan and agricultural support to help small-scale farmers produce more food and increase their income in Ethiopia. In Jordan, Raba’a* shares how receiving food aid provided opportunity for her to focus on supporting her family in other needed ways.

Through partnership with 50 congregations and groups, over 300 refugees began their new lives in Canada. Staff members from CLWR were pleased to join with staff from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church–Canada to sponsor a Syrian refugee family of four to Canada.

These are only some of the countless stories about how Canadians made a difference this year in the lives of people worldwide. We praise God for your partnership and continued support! As we go forward into the coming year, we will continue to work in established and new ways towards our vision of a world where people live in justice, peace and dignity.

Robert Granke, *Executive Director*

* Full name withheld for security reasons.

OURWORK



Photo: CLWR/K. Bergman Schroeder

Students in the ceramics program at The Lutheran World Federation's Vocational Training Program in Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem, create beautiful items for the tourist trade, home or industrial use.

CLWR carries out humanitarian assistance, development and food security work and refugee resettlement on behalf of Canadian Lutherans.

In 2015-16, we provided over \$7.2 million of assistance in 27 countries.* Inspired by God's love for humanity, our mission is to challenge the causes and respond to the consequences of human suffering and poverty. We envision a world where people live in peace with hope, justice, dignity and equality, empowered to achieve their universal rights to quality of life and to have their basic needs met.

Our work this year focused on:

- Meeting the immediate and short-term needs of refugees, internally displaced people and those affected by natural disasters
- Strengthening communities through renovating schools and training educators
- Feeding families through agricultural support, training and infrastructure development
- Helping refugees resettle in Canada

* Totals include international programs and We Care humanitarian aid shipments.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE & DEVELOPMENT FEATURED PROJECTS



Photo: Lutheran World Federation/Sandra Cox

Your support made it possible to provide household and winter supplies to internally displaced Iraqis affected by conflict and violence in the country.

CLWR supported refugees, internally displaced people, and their host communities in Iraq, Palestine and Uganda.

IRAQ

As of 2015, approximately 3.2 million Iraqis were internally displaced¹ as a result of conflict and violence in the country. Antsar* and her family are among those who fled their home in Mosul after hearing that the Islamic State was coming. They expected to be away from home for only a few days but that period stretched into more than a year.

"We thought we would be gone only one day or two," says Antsar. "We didn't even bring clothes for the children. We didn't know."

Her family is living in a church compound along with other internally displaced people. CLWR made life more bearable by building community kitchens and latrines, and providing harsh weather supplies such as blankets and heaters. This was accomplished with support from Canadian Lutherans, our partner Lutheran World Federation Iraq and with funding from the Canadian government. The \$1,149,545 project aimed to help reduce the vulnerability of 11,200 people in northern Iraq affected by conflict. Additional activities included the distribution of hygiene kits, jerry cans and mattresses. ■

¹ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

* Full name withheld for security reasons.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE & DEVELOPMENT FEATURED PROJECTS

CLWR launched a new program in Jordan that will improve learning environments for students and provide training for school staff.

JORDAN

The Improved Learning Environments for Children (ILEC) project will improve access to quality learning and teaching environments and strengthen school staff's ability to respond to students' hygiene and psychosocial needs. More than 42,000 students and 265 education staff will benefit from this project, which will focus on renovating, repairing and upgrading school buildings, and training education staff on hygiene promotion; environmental awareness; movement, games and sport; child protection; and non-violent communication. The \$6,020,000 four-year project is funded by Global Affairs Canada. ■

PALESTINE

CLWR supports job training for Palestinian youth through The Lutheran World Federation–Vocational Training Program. Training is offered in automobile repair, carpentry, catering, craftwork, metalwork, plumbing and central heating, secretarial work and telecommunications. Students are equipped to enter the job market immediately or start their own businesses upon graduation. They receive advice, assistance and personal follow-up to ensure they are successful. CLWR and the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation supported 35 internships from 2013-15. ■

UGANDA

Rosemary, who lives in Adjumani District, Uganda, is learning how to sew and tailor clothes as a way to earn an income and support her family. The tailoring training she's receiving will help her pay for her daughter's education and care for her aging parents.

"I picked tailoring because it is quick to learn and will improve the future of my family," she says. "Once I have my own machine, I can open my shop and start a business."

Many in Adjumani District are South Sudanese refugees who fled their homes when war broke out in December 2013. To help meet the education needs of refugees and host community members like Rosemary, Lutheran World Federation Uganda is providing vocational training to young adults.

To reduce the vulnerability of the 40,500 people in Adjumani, this \$816,613 project also supports refugees and host community members through the provision of non-food relief items; water, sanitation and hygiene services; and shelter upgrades to people with specific needs. Funding is provided by Global Affairs Canada. ■



Once Rosemary completes her tailoring training, she'll be able to start her own business to provide for her family. She's learning business skills, financial management, marketing and recordkeeping to ensure that her business will thrive.

FOOD SECURITY FEATURED PROJECTS



Members of the Shumshaha Watershed Cooperative have seen positive changes in the region such as improved soil conservation, increased vegetation and heightened ground water levels.

CLWR provided agricultural support to help small-scale farmers produce more food and increase their income in Ethiopia.

ETHIOPIA

Watershed conservation committee members in Lalibela, Ethiopia received training in natural resource conservation, dryland farming and other sustainable agricultural practices to increase local crop and forage production. Members of the Nakutola'ab Watershed Cooperative shared that their efforts have produced significant changes in the local environment, including improved soil conservation, increased vegetation, and heightened ground water levels. With the forage that they collected from the protected watershed, the committee members were well-equipped to feed their livestock throughout a recent severe drought.

This \$1,527,863 three-year project is helping over 1,200 food insecure families to protect and rehabilitate the natural environment and increase their grain and vegetable production, creating a stable and healthy source of food and increased incomes. The Lalibela Food Security project is funded through your support and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and is implemented by Lutheran World Federation Ethiopia. ■

FOOD SECURITY FEATURED PROJECTS

CLWR provided food aid to vulnerable people in Jordan.

JORDAN

Through the Emergency Food Assistance for Syrian Refugees project, 7,000 refugees and vulnerable Jordanians were provided with redeemable vouchers to purchase food of their choice at participating grocery stores. Raba'a and her children, who fled Damascus and sought safety in Jordan, are some of the beneficiaries of this food assistance.

"I feel more relaxed because I've secured food for my kids," she says. "I can start thinking more about how I can support my kids in other ways."

Raba'a's* family is especially vulnerable because they are of Palestinian descent. Instead of receiving food aid from the United Nations World Food Program, which supports Syrian refugees, refugees of Palestinian descent are supported by the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which is chronically underfunded.

The majority of this \$1,005,671 project's beneficiaries were Palestinian refugees from Syria. The project was funded by CLWR and Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and implemented by Lutheran World Federation Jordan. ■

* Full name withheld for security reasons.



Photo: CLWR/J.Clark

After completing a hairdressing course offered by a local non-governmental organization, Raba'a opened her own business. Though she doesn't earn much, she says it's enough to pay rent, utilities and cover her children's expenses, like school supplies.

EMERGENCY RELIEF FEATURED PROJECTS

CLWR appealed for funds to respond to natural disasters in Haiti and Nepal; supported people affected by Ebola and continued supporting communities in the Philippines affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

NEPAL

Following the earthquakes in April and May of 2015, donations from Canadian Lutherans and funding from Manitoba Council for International Cooperation supported our partner, Lutheran World Federation Nepal as they met immediate needs for over 4,300 people by distributing blankets, tarps, hygiene kits and ready-to-eat food. Shelter reconstruction and stabilization helped over 2,040 individuals affected by the earthquakes have a safe place to stay long-term. Psychosocial support helped people deal with the trauma they experienced. In 2015-16, support to Nepal totaled \$455,285. ■



Your support helped meet the immediate needs of those affected by earthquakes in Nepal in April and May of 2015. Tulsi Maya Guvaji received blankets and tarps distributed by Lutheran World Federation Nepal.

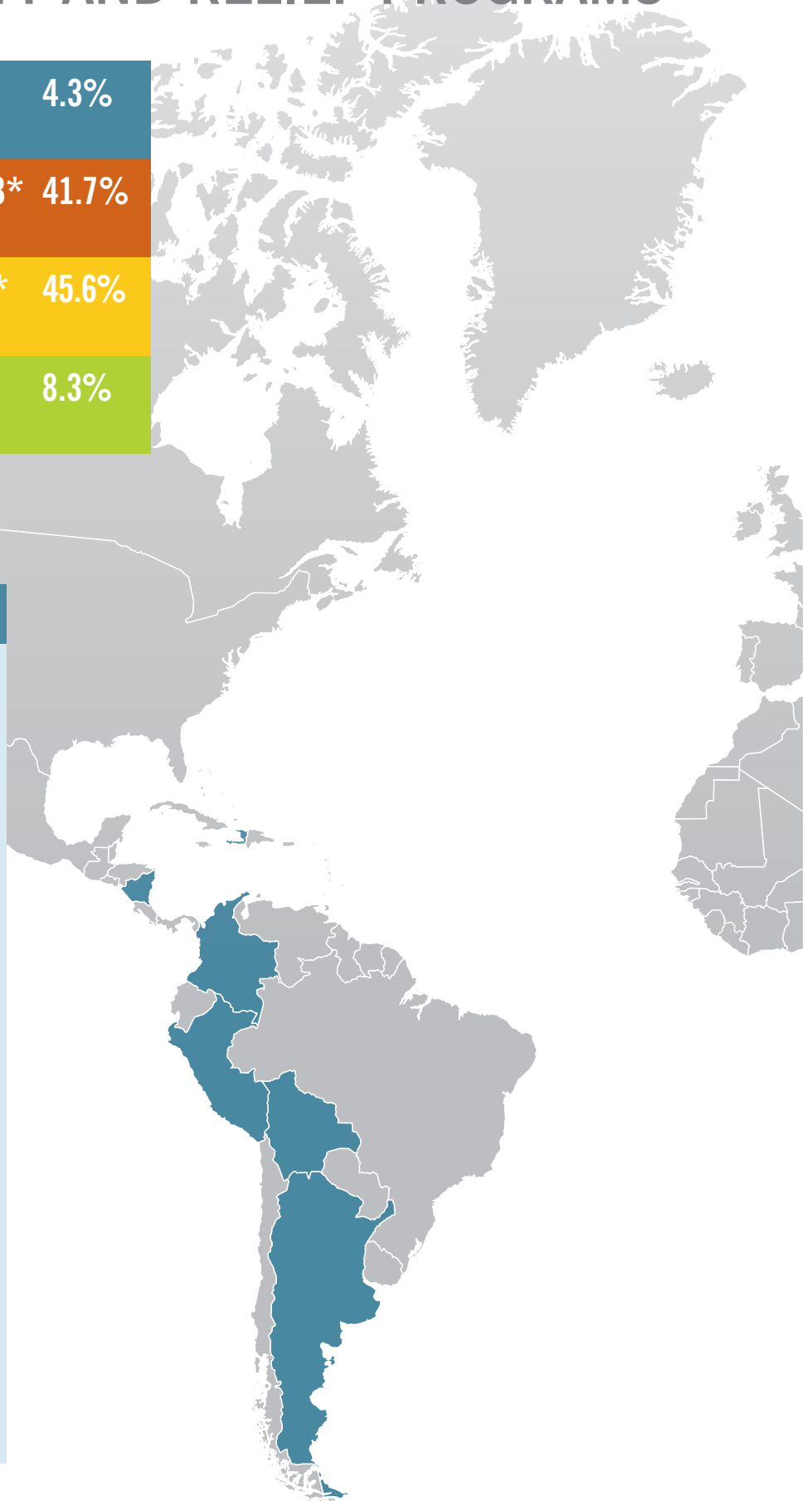
PHILIPPINES

CLWR supported over 400 fisher folk and farmers following Typhoon Haiyan through a livelihood recovery project implemented by our U.S.-based partner, Lutheran World Relief. The project focused on supporting long-term sustainable livelihood solutions through an emphasis on livelihood diversification, strengthening primary livelihoods and developing disaster response strategies. Our support to the Philippines totaled \$100,000 in 2015-16. ■

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE & DEVELOPMENT, FOOD SECURITY AND RELIEF PROGRAMS

Americas 6 countries	\$290,786* budgeted	4.3%
Africa 12 countries	\$ 2,793,318* budgeted	41.7%
Middle East 3 countries	\$3,056,745* budgeted	45.6%
Asia 2 countries	\$555,285* budgeted	8.3%

Americas	
Argentina	\$7,500
Supporting Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Unida (United Evangelical Lutheran Church) in investigations and advocacy against illegitimate debt	
Bolivia	\$35,000
Livelihood support; food security; water, sanitation and hygiene	
Colombia	\$15,000
Development support for Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Colombia (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Colombia)	
Haiti	\$160,000
Hurricane relief: food assistance; shelter; water, sanitation and hygiene	
Nicaragua	\$33,000
Primary education; health care	
Peru	\$40,286
Human rights education for children and youth; training educators in inclusive education for students with disabilities	



HIGHLIGHTS

Africa

Ethiopia **\$1,948,833**
Agriculture and livelihood support;
food security; water, sanitation and
hygiene; refugee support;
environmental protection

Uganda **\$826,985**
Shelter; water, sanitation and
hygiene; vocational training for
youth; non-food items

Southern Africa **\$17,500**
(*Angola, Botswana, Lesotho,
Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia,
South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia,
Zimbabwe*) Advocacy, awareness
building and pastoral counselling for
people affected by HIV and AIDS
(through the Lutheran Communion in
Southern Africa)

Middle East

Iraq **\$922,397**
Response to Iraq emergency (ISIS
violence): non-food items; shelter;
winterization; water, sanitation and
hygiene

Jordan **\$1,766,397**
Response to Syrian refugee crisis:
food assistance; winterization;
water, sanitation and hygiene;
shelter, non-food items; improving
learning environments; supporting
school operations

Palestine **\$367,951**
Support for Augusta Victoria Hospital
and the Elder Care and Palliative
Medicine Institute; Lutheran World
Federation Vocational Training Program

Asia

Nepal **\$455,285**
Earthquake relief: food assistance,
shelters, psychosocial support

Philippines **\$100,000**
Typhoon disaster relief: livelihood
programs, disaster preparedness

* Totals do not include domestic emergencies, We Care
shipments, small church projects, program reviews
and evaluations and other miscellaneous support.

WE CARE

The We Care program sent four humanitarian shipments this fiscal year and celebrated reaching the milestone of 100,000 orders placed for We Care bags.

LIBERIA—APRIL 2015

Over 14,700 kilograms of kits, quilts, toys and sundresses were shipped to Liberia to support our partner, Lutheran Development Service in Liberia. More than 18,500 people were supported by this shipment, which was distributed to healthcare facilities, communities affected by Ebola, HIV/AIDS prevention programs and various community empowerment programs. ■



Women in Margibi County, Liberia, display their We Care kits.

MAURITANIA—MAY 2015

The 2015 British Columbia Baling Days brought volunteers from Lower Mainland Lutheran churches to Abbotsford to prepare more than 5,925 kilograms of kits and quilts for shipment to Mauritania. This shipment has made a difference for over 9,500 people, including Malian refugees hosted in Mbera Camp, participants in Lutheran World Federation Mauritania's development program, people affected by flooding in Mbout and refugees living in Nouakchott who have been receiving very little humanitarian support. ■

ANGOLA—JULY 2015

To support refugees in Angola, this shipment contained over 14,000 kilograms of quilts and blankets, We Care kits and sundresses. Over 5,930 children, women and men were supported by these items, including children living in orphanages and elderly living in nursing homes. ■

WE CARE

Over 47,000 kilograms shipped in total, worth over \$430,000, supported over 33,900 people in Liberia, Mauritania, Angola and Jordan.

 **7,232** Baby bundles shipped

 **8,696** We Care kits shipped

 **16,777** Quilts and blankets shipped

Over 3,000 boxes of donations given by 232 congregations across Canada.

 **5,158** We Care kit bags ordered

 **2,845** We Care kit backpacks ordered

 **2,782** We Care quilt tags ordered

JORDAN—SEPTEMBER 2016

Over the last three years, CLWR's We Care program has supported Syrian refugees seeking safety in Jordan. This fifth shipment sent more than 12,500 kilograms of humanitarian aid, including the remaining sweaters from our sweater drive in 2014, quilts and blankets, We Care kits and toys. These items were distributed to refugees settling in the Za'atari refugee camp and supporting communities outside of the Za'atari camp. ■



The final sweaters gathered as part of our sweater drive to support Syrian refugees were baled at our Winnipeg warehouse before being loaded into the shipping container destined for Jordan.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT



Photo: ELCIC/T.Gallop Blank

Staff from CLWR, ELCIC and LCC greet the family at the airport.

CLWR helps congregations and groups sponsor refugees through its role as a Sponsorship Agreement Holder with the Canadian government.

This year, 308 refugees arrived in Canada with the help of 50 sponsor groups, and 475 refugees had their sponsorship applications submitted with the help of 90 sponsor groups.

Staff members from CLWR joined with staff from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) to sponsor a Syrian refugee family of four to Canada. The family's sponsorship is a joint partnership between the three national offices and LCC's Central District office.

"My colleagues and I felt it was time to "walk-the-walk" and become sponsors ourselves," says Robert Granke, CLWR's executive director. "I have visited Jordan and met Syrian mothers and fathers who are desperate to resettle in a safe place where they can work, educate their children and become part of a community. We knew we could support a family in this way."

This is the first time national office staff from CLWR, the ELCIC and LCC have joined together to sponsor a refugee family.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

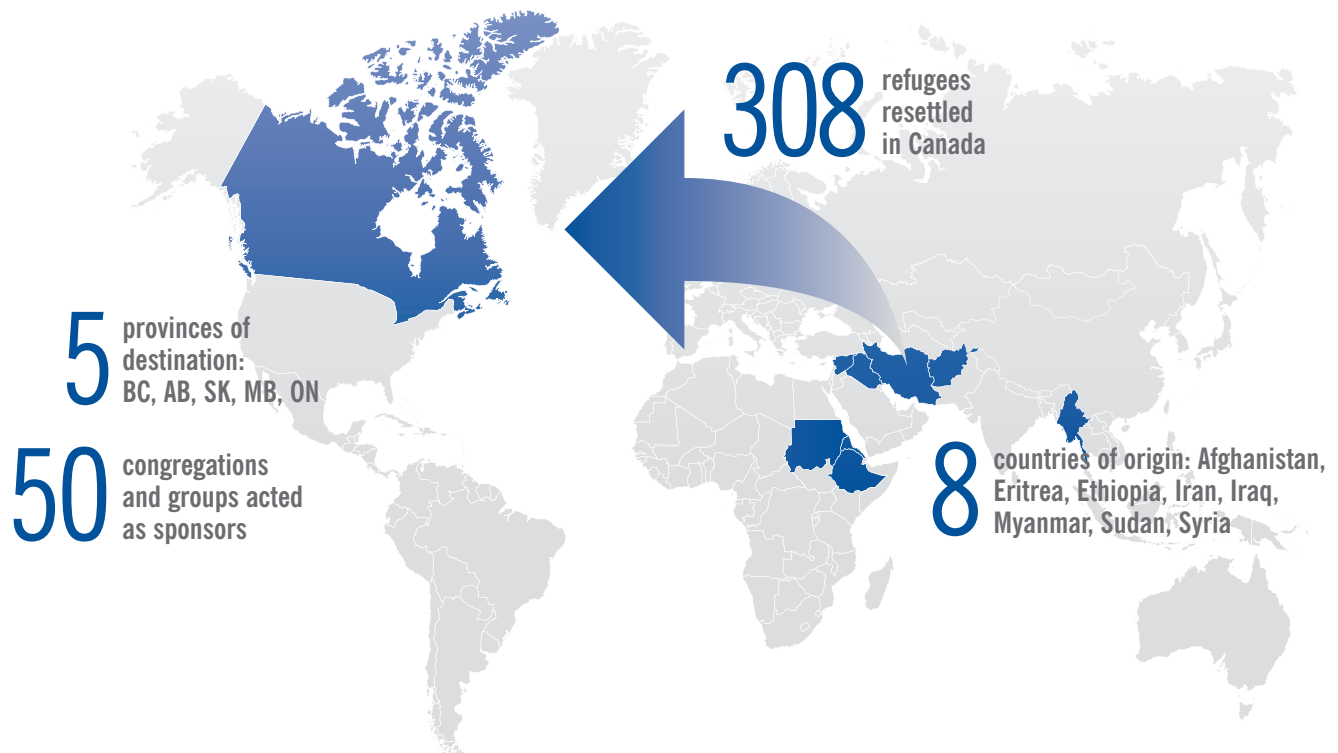
“Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

Romans 12:13 (NIV)

“It is one thing for us to hear news stories about efforts in general to welcome refugees to Canada,” says LCC President Robert Bugbee. “I am so grateful to the staff of CLWR for inviting my co-workers and me to get involved with a specific family of refugees now preparing to make Winnipeg their home. CLWR leaders are not merely talking about the importance of work with refugees; they are helping us actually do it right here on the ground.”

“Last summer our church adopted a policy on welcoming the stranger. It is so wonderful to put that policy into action,” says ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson. “As a church we have also committed ourselves to sponsoring 500 refugees in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran reformation. I’m delighted that myself and my colleagues at the National Office will get to participate in this commitment in a hands-on way!” ■

For more information on how your congregation can welcome the stranger, please visit www.clwr.org/refugeeresettlement.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

CLWR seeks to help Canadian Lutherans and members of the general public understand and become involved with international development and refugee sponsorship.



Photo: CLWR/H. Patterson

An experienced farmer, Peter Deng came to Adjumani, Uganda to be safe from war in South Sudan. Tree-planting training is adding to his skills and will help him produce more food.

CLWR shared stories and resources about our work through the development and distribution of printed and online resources and materials.

Featured resources and materials

- *Make Room at the Table*, a group activity for World Refugee Day, provided opportunities to “make a place” at the table and connect with refugees through reading and reflecting on their stories.
- One print *Partnership* newsletter shared how *Gifts from the Heart* support made a difference in people’s lives.
- Our annual *CLWR Sunday* resource, focused on the theme of “Humble Love,” provided congregations with a way to highlight their partnership in CLWR’s work.
- Weekly prayers, written by Lutheran pastors from across Canada, were made available online.
- The *Harvest of Letters* campaign, created in partnership with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, encouraged Canadian Lutherans to advocate for an increase in aid dollars for small-scale farmers in developing countries.
- A new video featured reflections from participants who visited CLWR projects on the 2015 Canadian Foodgrains Food Study Tour; another compiled memories from those who came to Canada on the Beaverbrae.

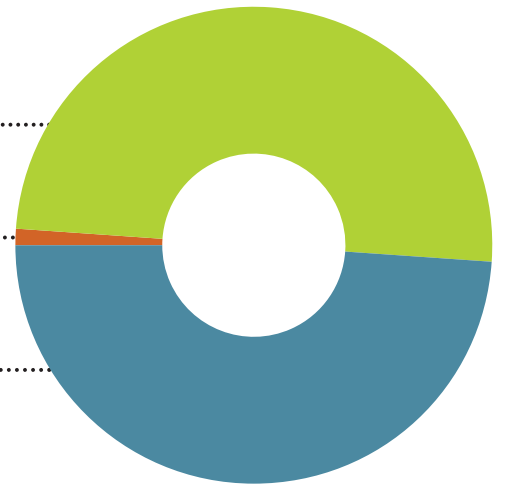
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

WHERE OUR SUPPORT CAME FROM

Donations from congregations,
individuals and agencies (49%)

Other (1%)

Government and
other grants (50%)



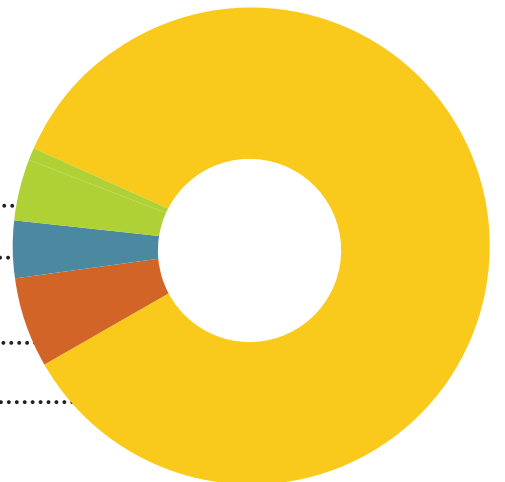
WHAT WE DID WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Education (5%)

Administration (3%)

Resource Generation
and Stewardship (7%)

Global Support (85%)



THANK YOU



In Adjumani, Uganda, CLWR established boreholes in communities hosting refugees; provided stoves, seeds, garden tools and shelters for people with specific needs; and supported training for hygiene promoters.

Canadian Lutheran World Relief gratefully acknowledges the support we receive from:

- Government of Canada (Global Affairs Canada)
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- Lutheran Church–Canada
- Lutheran congregations and individuals across Canada
- Our volunteers
- Canadian Foodgrains Bank
- Manitoba Council for International Cooperation
- Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation
- The Lutheran World Federation
- ACT Alliance

PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION

Across Canada, individuals and groups within congregations actively participate in and support CLWR's mission and vision.



Photo: CLWR/E.Paulley

Hygiene Kits provide basic toiletries such as soap, a toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloth and hand towel, comb and more. Kits are checked and packed at CLWR's warehouse in Winnipeg.

Here are a few ways they are putting faith into action:

- Contributing We Care kits and quilts
- Donating money through the *Gifts from the Heart* catalogue or an appeal, or “giving forward” with a planned gift
- Organizing a fundraiser or a CLWR Sunday
- Inviting a CLWR speaker to come to their church
- Sponsoring refugees to come to Canada
- Staying informed about the work of CLWR by subscribing to our monthly e-newsletter, *News Briefs*, and following CLWR on social media
- Volunteering

The We Care Program is blessed to have so many wonderful and dedicated volunteers! During this year, they dedicated over 1,552 hours to check kits, fold quilts, wrap bales and load shipping containers. A total of over 200 people volunteered at our BC Baling Days and at our Winnipeg warehouse. We're grateful for a long-time volunteer at the Winnipeg office who helps process donation receipts during busy times throughout the year. More than 10 volunteers at our Eastern and Western Regional Offices help review and edit refugee sponsorship applications, complete administrative tasks and speak about CLWR at events.

Across the country, supporters volunteer by preparing We Care kits, making quilts, preparing and holding fundraisers and CLWR Sundays, writing prayers and much more. We are grateful to all those who generously gave gifts of time and resources during 2015-16. ■

To learn more about how you can share your gifts to support the work of CLWR, please call 1.800.661.2597, visit www.clwr.org or send an email to clwr@clwr.mb.ca.

OUR MISSION, VISION & VALUES



Students from Christ Lutheran Church in Matagalpa, Nicaragua display their We Care kits.

MISSION

Inspired by God's love for humanity, CLWR challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffering and poverty.

As a specialized agency of the Lutheran community in Canada, CLWR offers Canadians opportunities to serve the needs of others.

VISION

CLWR strives for a world where people live in peace with hope, justice, dignity and equality, empowered to achieve their universal rights to quality of life and to have their basic needs met.

VALUES

Compassion and Justice

Our Christian faith calls us to show compassion and seek justice.

CLWR responds in love to people who are suffering unjust or challenging political, social, economic and environmental circumstances.

Dignity and Respect

All human beings are created in God's image and have value and should be treated through word and action with dignity and respect.

CLWR supports vulnerable individuals and communities in striving for human rights and a sustainable future.

Stewardship of Creation

All that we have is a gift from God entrusted to our care and nurture.

CLWR strives to steward God's gifts in the service of all people, using the resources of the planet sustainably in order to support an abundant life for all.

Partnership and Accountability

Christ calls us all to work together to serve others in their need.

Partnership is fundamental to CLWR, with the principles of understanding, fairness and trust embodied within all activities it undertakes with its stakeholders. In partnerships, CLWR reflects intentional and respectful collaboration, mutuality, accountability and transparency. ■

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CLWR carries out international development programming, emergency relief and refugee resettlement on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church-Canada.



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CLWR is a member of ACT Alliance and Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

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