

IMPACT REPORT

2024



MORE THAN 4,000 PEOPLE RECEIVED EMERGENCY FOOD RATIONS THIS YEAR IN RURAL KENYA THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

IN CAMBODIA, CWS COMBATS CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENSURES CLEAN WATER BY BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO ADAPT TO WATER SCARCITY.



Our Vision

Our vision is a world where everyone has food, voice and a safe place to call home.

Dear Friends,

Think back to a challenge that you overcame in your life. How did you do it?

Maybe you did some research or learned new information that helped you craft a solution. Perhaps you tapped into some funding, tools or other resources that you needed. It could be that your family and friends rallied around you, holding you up and cheering you on. Underpinning it all, you almost certainly dug deep into your own strength to put one foot in front of the other.



Rick Santos
President and CEO, CWS

This year, you've put a very similar problem-solving toolbox in the hands of hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. You've shared key information and new practices with farmers who are struggling in the face of changing climates. You've put critical supplies in the hands of people who are seeking safety and helped them take the first steps into a new chapter of their lives. You've provided grants and networks for entrepreneurs to build businesses to support their families.

Through it all, as our neighbors faced their challenges with strength and grace, you've worked hard to prove to them that they never have to do it alone. As a supporter, volunteer, donor, advocate or other valued member of our CWS family, you know that the best way to move forward is to do it together. That's exactly what we've done this year: take step after step. Together.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We're so glad you're here!

Yours in mission,

Rick Santos
President and CEO
Church World Service

A handwritten signature of Rick Santos in black ink.

Building a Better Future

Church World Service is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.

Doña Santos Perseveres

HUNGER & LIVELIHOODS

In the small rural village of Cunta, Doña Santos is inspiring change. Through CWS' food security program in Honduras, Doña Santos progressed from selling others' vegetables to cultivating her own land while preparing to launch her own local enterprise. After participating in CWS-supported training sessions, she learned how to improve the quality of her crops, use organic fertilizers and manage her income. Through perseverance, resilience and the support of compassionate donors, **Doña Santos is creating a legacy for her family**, ensuring they are happy and healthy.



13,181 individuals reached through CWS agricultural programs, including farming families in Latin America with agricultural training, seeds, and livestock.



165,174 individuals were reached with life-saving services after a humanitarian emergency or natural disaster.



96,404 displaced individuals, including asylum seekers, refugees and others, were reached with CWS services.

Replacing Fear with Hope

DISASTER RESPONSE



Last March, severe flooding devastated families in Merced County, California, particularly affecting the predominantly Latino immigrant community—many who faced painful memories of past traumas. Local leaders, Alicia Rodriguez and Ella Luna Garza, recognized their fear and vulnerability and were determined to help. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, CWS Hygiene

Kits, School Kits, Cleanup Buckets and Blankets were provided to our neighbors in need. During a time filled with uncertainty and fear, **your compassion provided a renewed sense of hope.**

Ukrainian Family Finds Safety

DISPLACEMENT

When war erupted in Ukraine, Tetiana, a devoted single mother of two, faced overwhelming challenges. Determined to protect her family, she bravely sought refuge in the United States. But her decision meant being separated from her college-aged son, who was studying in Poland. Tetiana's love for her children transcends borders, and she sought help navigating the complex reunification process. Thanks to support from CWS Northern California, Tetiana's family was reunited on American soil. **Your contributions enable CWS to walk alongside refugees like Tetiana** as they rebuild their lives.





CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Planting New Trees & Seeds of Hope

In 2018, due to ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ebocwa and his wife Nadia left their home and fled to Tanzania to restart their lives in the Nyarugusu Refugee Camp. Life was immediately challenging and Ebocwa was soon forced to make a difficult decision in order to support his wife and four children. With limited ways to earn income, Ebocwa decided to go into the nearby forest and chop trees to sell for firewood.

Ebocwa continued this practice, but he hoped to find a better way to care for his family. He explained, "We were living in a tent and I began wondering how I could build a better house for us. Finally, in 2021 CWS came into our village and invited us to be part of the agriculture program. CWS came at the right time because my life was very hard."

Soon Ebocwa and Nadia joined the program and began attending trainings on sustainable

vegetable farming, good nutritional practices and gender equality. While all of these trainings had a major impact on their life, there was one that stood out to Ebocwa. "Among the many things that have touched my heart is the training on environmental protection because I used to go into the forest and cut down trees, which destroyed the environment. Because of that, I decided to start planting trees all around," he shared.



Ebocwa was so moved by this new knowledge that when he remembered all the deforestation he had seen back in the Democratic Republic of Congo, he wished CWS could exist there too to spread this same knowledge and reduce harm to the environment.

Beyond learning to care for Mother Earth, Ebocwa improved his relationship with another mother: the mother of his children and beloved wife, Nadia. "Because of the gender equality training we received, I am doing this work with my wife and my children." He added that anytime he needs to make a decision, now he makes it together with his wife. The couple has been so successful that they are seen as role models by the other couples in the program.

Your support helped empower Ebocwa and his family. They have moved into a better home, surrounded by a flourishing garden that feeds them every day. Their harvest is so abundant that they can share with their neighbors and sell to other families. Ebocwa also shared that before the program, his children faced malnutrition and various illnesses due to a lack of diverse nutrition. Now they are healthy and strong, with everything he needs to care for his family available in his backyard.

From chopping down trees to planting them, Ebocwa has grown in many ways. With each seed he and Nadia plant together, they are growing hope and caring for the place we all call home. Thanks to your generosity, families like Ebocwa's can create a more sustainable future. ☺

Our Presence

Thanks to the overwhelming compassion of our donors and volunteers, CWS works to strengthen communities in countries around the world. Here is a sample of what we achieved together this past year.

 COUNTRIES WITH CWS PROGRAMS  COUNTRIES THAT CWS PROGRAMS REACH

13,775 individuals resettled in the U.S. by CWS through Reception & Placement, Welcome Corps, and other pathways



UNITED STATES

MEXICO

CWS local partner, St. Andrew Refugee Services, provided 3,696 individuals in Egypt with essential hygiene products, including **2,381 individuals displaced from Sudan**



43,888 individuals affected by humanitarian emergencies, including Ukrainian refugees living in Moldova, were reached through CWS food security programs and equipped with essential items, including food rations, non-food items and cash vouchers



94,968 individuals participated in climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction programs like CWS' Renewable Energy Technologies Program in Eastern Europe



23,071 individuals have access to safe water and sanitation through CWS programs, including those in Asia who received flood-resistant household latrines, wells or water filtration systems

25,925 unaccompanied children supported in the U.S. and globally through legal services, mental health, healthcare, education, protection and other support



BRAZIL

CHILE

BOLIVIA

ARGENTINA

PARAGUAY



49,299 children received child safeguarding services, including children in Latin America, helping them stay safe and protected



30,384 individuals resettled in the United States through the Resettlement Support Center Africa in Kenya



89,475 people are better equipped to put food on the table through food security and livelihoods programs, including CWS' Sustainable Vegetable Farming program in Tanzania



CWS support helped meet the **life-sustaining needs of 80,915 individuals** affected by disasters and humanitarian emergencies

BACKGROUND PHOTO: FOOD DISTRIBUTION SITE IN RURAL KENYA WHERE MORE THAN 4,000 PEOPLE RECEIVED EMERGENCY FOOD RATIONS THIS YEAR THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

A Community of Support

CWS is continually inspired by our supporters and their efforts to create a world where there is enough for all. Whether through monetary gifts or the gift of your time and energy, your support turns an idea into action, a dream into a reality and has a powerfully transformative impact on the lives of many.

GIVE HOPE



DONATE

- Mail a check or donate online
- Transfer funds from your IRA
- Donate stock
- Put CWS in your will



BEST GIFT CATALOG

Give a gift that provides warmth, clean water, food and more to those in need.



BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Choose your monthly gift amount, and enjoy hassle-free automated giving. Give by credit card or an ACH draft from your bank account.



Annette Read | CROP Hunger Walk

"I volunteer with CWS because **I believe in the power of community coming together** to fight hunger. It's not just about raising funds; it's about raising hope and walking alongside our neighbors, near and far, to create a world where everyone has enough to eat. Being part of this movement reminds me that **our collective steps truly make a difference** in the lives of those facing food insecurity."

ANNETTE READ (MIDDLE), DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT,
MEALS ON WHEELS IN DURHAM, NC.



Sana Yousuf | Community Sponsorship

"I believe it's important to give back to those who are finding their way in a new country. In some ways, we are all immigrants. We can all think back to a time or place when we didn't know anyone, didn't know how to get started, didn't know how to navigate a community or the workplace. And I hope through the hard work that CWS does, we are able to help as many people as possible feel welcome here and set them up for success. I most recently donated school uniforms to two CWS clients from Syria because making sure our youngest clients have the opportunity to learn and immerse themselves within their new community is crucial! I hope they enjoy every minute at their new schools."

SANA YOUSUF, REFUGEE COMMUNITY SPONSOR

TAKE ACTION



SHARE YOUR TIME

- Organize a CWS Kit or Bucket assembly
- Organize a fundraiser to provide CWS Blankets
- Help welcome a newly arrived refugee



SHARE YOUR VOICE

- Advocate for just legislation and policies
- Create your own virtual fundraiser



SHARE YOUR PLATFORM

- Promote your CROP Hunger Walk or other CWS events
- Share content from CWS social media to encourage compassion and action



HIKE FOR HOPE

The Power of Home

The “power of home” is a lesson Annette learned early in life when her family would open their doors to those in need. Growing up in a welcoming, loving environment that embraced the belief that a home is more than just a physical space, helped ignite Annette’s passion for advocating for refugees and displaced people.

As a long-time supporter of Church World Service, Annette has raised funds through the Ration Challenge and, most recently, CWS’ inaugural Hike for Hope. “I can’t think of anything better to do than to raise funds and awareness about the millions of displaced people in our world and the work that CWS is doing both domestically and abroad,” Annette shares.

Beyond fundraising, Annette has made CWS’ mission personal and tangible through the relationships she has built with families that resettle in her diverse community in Lancaster County, PA. Through her passion, hard work, empathy and unwavering commitment to helping others, Annette is making a profound impact— helping CWS create a world where everyone has access to food, voice and a safe place to call home. 🏠



CASEY GILLESPIE (LEFT), CO-OWNER & TEAM PRESIDENT, WIZARDS BASKETBALL

Casey Gillespie

“You should have seen the smiles on the faces of the kids when they received the CWS School Kits. Those smiles were only possible because of you and your dedication to helping our neighbors.”



37,000 community members participated in 465 CROP Hunger Walks across the U.S. raising money to support local food banks and global hunger relief.



835 local food banks, soup kitchens and social service agencies received funding from local CROP Hunger Walks.



Over 9,000 volunteers across the U.S. worked with CWS to welcome refugees into new homes, pack CWS Welcome Backpacks for unaccompanied children, and fill clean-up buckets to respond to disasters.

Tamara Skillern

“We at Rosenberg Library are deeply grateful to Church World Service for their generous donation of CWS Kits and CWS Blankets. Thanks to your support, we were able to host two distribution events that made a meaningful difference in the lives of many. Your generosity was truly a gift, and we are especially thankful for the donors who make this vital work possible.”



TAMARA SKILLERN (RIGHT), ROSENBERG LIBRARY, GALVESTON, TX

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Canada
The Swedenborgian Church
Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in America
United Church of Christ
The United Methodist Church

Covenant Membership

In late 2024 CWS transitioned its membership model to one of Covenant Membership, a new way for historical members of CWS to engage with each other and the organization in meaningful, impactful and realistic ways.

IN THE GRAN CHACO REGION OF PARAGUAY, CWS SUPPORTS INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION, ADVOCACY BASED EMPOWERMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORK THAT PROMOTES ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND RELIABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES.



Church World Service (CWS) is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.



[CWSGlobal.org](https://www.cwsglobal.org)

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