ANNUAL REPORT 2021
Since 1946, CWS has been a faith-based organization that deeply believes there is enough in this world for everyone. Born out of a desire to help the most vulnerable after World War II, we formed local partnerships to ensure people everywhere had healthy food, clean water, a safe place to call home and the ability to fulfill their purpose.

After 75 years, our mission and approach remain the same—through grassroots initiatives, we inspire the compassion of hundreds of thousands of individuals and organizations, and through sustainable development projects, emergency response activities, advocacy initiatives and refugee support services, we are transforming lives in underserved communities in over 65 countries across the globe.

PHOTOS: COURTESY PASTORAL SOCIAL BENJAMIN ACEVAL

Our CWS family has worked every day of the last 75 years to make sure our brothers and sisters can live safe, dignified, healthy lives. Turn the pages of this report to see some highlights from our history.

Dear CWS friends,

In January of 2010, I was buried under rubble for 55 hours. I was in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, when the massive Haiti earthquake struck. There was a group of us that waited under a collapsed hotel in the pitch black, hungry, fearful and losing hope. Finally, on the third night, help arrived.

I can’t describe the overwhelming relief of being rescued. I am here today because talented, compassionate people were there that day, and so many others supported their work and all the relief efforts. I understand what it means to rely on others when you need help the most.

That’s what CWS means for many of our neighbors: we are there for people when they need us most. This year, when heartbreak and fear have been constant companions for each of us, we’ve gotten through it by leaning on each other.

With your support as CWS volunteers, donors, partners and advocates, we navigated this year of unprecedented challenges. We put food and hygiene supplies in the hands of thousands of families to get through acute shortages. We spent countless hours on webcams for English classes, agricultural consultations, remote learning and strategy meetings. We traded public gatherings for one-on-one training sessions with families in their own backyards. We found ways to reach new groups who the pandemic hit especially hard.

Despite the setbacks, you helped us make progress every single day. Farmers still improved their harvests. Refugees still found a warm welcome as they arrived in our communities. Children still learned; parents still earned incomes. In the darkness, moments of hope, joy, dignity and love still shone.

We got through this year together. It’s the same spirit that brought CWS into existence 75 years ago, and I have felt it throughout my first months as CEO. The challenges we face can be daunting. Even as our new year has begun, disaster and violence have taken a toll. As I look ahead to the next 75 years, I know we will take every step forward the same way we always have: together.

Yours in mission,

Rick Santos
President & CEO
Church World Service

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May 4, 1946

Seventeen denominations found Church World Service “to do in partnership what none of us could hope to do as well alone.”
Finally, after five long years apart, Mwenebatu was reunited with his wife Mapenzi and son Mussa in the United States. He was one of nearly 1,500 refugees who CWS welcomed home this year. Because of a vast network of volunteers, supporters and partners, we are able to ensure that every refugee, like Mwenebatu, is warmly welcomed and given the support needed to thrive and become a strong, vibrant member of their community.

This year, CWS and our supporters have been vocal advocates with government officials to rebuild the vital refugee resettlement program, reunite refugee families and enact policies to restore the American legacy of welcome.

Two major hurricanes - Eta and Iota - hit Central America in November 2020, devastating communities across Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras. Thanks to the ongoing support of CWS donors, our relief effort was swift and locally-led. Within a week, CWS had mobilized rapid response grants to local partners that put supplies like food, water, tarps, blankets and hygiene items into people’s hands. As days turned to weeks and months, our focus shifted to long-term stability. CWS donors are continuing to help families and communities as they recover water systems, replant lost crops and repair or rebuild houses. Thanks to our faithful supporters, CWS can stand with our neighbors until they can stand alone.

CWS supporters helped families start new businesses this year by providing livestock. Sladjana Latinovic (pictured, in red) and her family rely on agriculture and livestock to make a living in rural, mountainous western Bosnia. This year, through a CWS program, they received 10 sheep to expand their cheesemaking business. This expansion means a more stable livelihood. “The life of our family is changing radically,” says Sladjana. “It is becoming easier, because we now have hope for the future.” Thanks to the generous support of CWS donors, Sladjana’s family is just one of thousands of families worldwide who took part in CWS livestock programs to improve both their income and nutrition.
It would have been easy for Mercy to drop out. But she knew that getting an education is the best way to reach her full potential.

Thanks to donors like you, Mercy and others like her had another option.

Ngengechwo School joined a CWS education program and the school leaders and parents worked together to create a better, cleaner and safer environment for students.

Today, the school has water tanks and taps on-site. Students have more, dignified bathrooms to use. And when the school day ends, girls can head to their new dormitory to study and rest. Mercy and others no longer have to sleep on classroom floors.

“Life has changed and become much more comfortable at our school,” says Mercy.

Because of your support, instead of worrying about how she will get to school, find water or use the bathroom, Mercy, who will soon take a final exam to receive Kenya’s Certificate for Primary Education, can focus her full attention on her studies.

Together, we’re building the foundation that girls like Mercy will use to chase their dreams.

Until recently, 15-year-old Mercy wasn’t sure if her time pursuing an education would continue or become a distant memory.

As a boarding student at Ngengechwo Primary School, located in a remote area of western Kenya, the odds were not in her favor. In Mercy’s community, girls carry a lot of responsibility, and education isn’t often a priority. Instead, they are expected to help care for their siblings. Once they become teenagers, many girls are married off to older men and start their own families.

The school itself also used to present its own challenges. It is simply too far away to safely travel to and from on a daily basis. Without a dormitory, students must choose between making a long, dangerous trek or sleeping on the hard and dusty classroom floor.

No water on-site meant that students were forced to walk long distances to a community water point.

“Herdsmen put their livestock first before women or school children,” says Mercy. “All the animals were watered before we could gather our water and go back to school.”

Going to the bathroom wasn’t any easier. With just one bathroom for boys and one for girls, waiting your turn takes a while. Students found using nearby land easier, which led to high levels of unsanitary conditions and water-related diseases like diarrhea.
Thanks to the overwhelming compassion of our donors and volunteers, CWS programs made a difference in the lives of neighbors here in the United States and also reached people in 65 other countries. Below is a sample of some of the accomplishments this past year.

### Our Presence Around the World

In the United States, with the help of community-based support we:
- Resettled **1,500** refugees
- Supported **1,600** food banks, soup kitchens, shelters and pantries
- Provided relief and recovery from disasters to **1,540** families

Around the world, you helped distribute:

- **CWS Blankets**: 34,775
- **CWS Hygiene Kits**: 23,620
- **CWS School Kits**: 12,600
- **CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets**: 5,834

**Total**: 76,829

In **Egypt**, more than **7,000** unaccompanied children were provided counseling, legal assistance and safe housing.

In **Paraguay**, **2,200** people in six indigenous communities, with CWS’ help, introduced climate-smart agriculture.

Across **Latin America and the Caribbean**, we reached **893** children of incarcerated parents and their families with boxes of food and hygiene items to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

In **Serbia**, we provided **420+** Roma children with daily access to healthy meals, hygiene, clothing, school and homework assistance.

The CWS-operated Resettlement Support Center Africa reached a milestone: our team prepared our **300,000th** refugee for resettlement in the United States.

In **Vietnam**, families built or rehabilitated a total of **832** sanitary latrines through CWS programs this year. That means that **3,744** people now have safe, dignified places to relieve themselves.

In **Myanmar**, we supported clean water for nearly **800** people in seven villages by building **15** wells.

In **Kenya**, **Tanzania** and **Uganda**, we helped more than **10,000** farmers improve their food security by planting sweet potato vines or raising chickens, sheep or pigs.

The **Refugee Act of 1980** passes, establishing the United States Refugee Admissions Program. By this point, CWS had resettled **350,000** refugees.

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In **1983-1985**: In response to severe famine sweeping Ethiopia and the rest of the Horn of Africa, generous individuals and congregations mobilized a response of over $17 million.
Funding Our Work  

Church World Service is tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code; contributions are tax deductible. The CWS financial records are audited by independent auditors in accordance with guidelines established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The auditor’s report is available upon request. The CWS 990 is available through the Guidestar website and upon request.

CWS establishes a “farmer-to-farmer” program in the United States. Farmers in northern states shipped hay, seeds and other supplies to farmers in drought-ravaged southern states who were at risk of losing livestock or even their farms.
CWS is continually inspired by our supporters and their efforts to bring about 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.

**Take Action. Give Hope. Change Lives.**

**Ways to give**

**MAKE A MONETARY DONATION**
- Mail a check or donate online
- Transfer funds from your IRA
- Donate appreciated stock
- Put CWS in your Will

**BEST GIFT CATALOG**
- In honor of your loved ones, give an invaluable resource that meets someone’s immediate needs

**BECOME A RECURRING GIVER**
- ACH - Automatic draft from checking account
- Credit card for a monthly charge

Visit cwsglobal.org/giving for more information.

**Ways to take action**

**SHARE YOUR TIME**
- Organize a 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 the CWS social media sites to encourage compassion

Visit cwsglobal.org/action for more information.

“It’s an honor to be a member of the CWS/CROP team that supports local agencies and families in need who are often invisible to their communities.”
— INEZ BROWN, DONOR AND VOLUNTEER
RED BANK CROP HUNGER WALK, RED BANK, NJ

“We as a church want to make tangible differences for those in need. It’s hard to know what impact you can make around the world so through this, we know we are helping those who have been displaced or who are refugees or disaster victims.”
— REV. LUKE HYDER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, EVERETT, WA

In response to 9/11, CWS launches STAR: Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience training, a global method of addressing psychosocial trauma and healing.

CWS helps found the ACT Alliance, a global coalition of churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian response and advocacy in over 120 countries.
The East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and resulting Fukushima nuclear disaster, strike Japan. Nearly 60 years after a massive post-World War II relief effort, CWS returns to Japan. This time, our focus is global advocacy to prevent and respond to disasters.
2020: CWS launches its Platform for Racial Justice and recommits to racial justice, equity and inclusion practices.