



# 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

May 4, 1946

Seventeen denominations found Church World Service "to do in partnership what none of us could hope to do as well alone."

## Our Mission

For 75 years, cultivating local relationships to build resilience has been at the heart of CWS's mission. Despite a global pandemic and the uncertainty it brings, we carry forward. With support from donors and friends and help from hard-working volunteers, CWS continued to walk alongside our neighbors in 2021.

## Responding to Disasters

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.



Thanks to you, CWS helped **65,100** people on the road to recovery after disasters this year.

PHOTO: RAFAEL GARCIA GUZMAN

## Welcoming Refugees

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.

1957

CWS has been welcoming refugees to the United States since our inception. As we started our second decade, we had already resettled 100,000 refugees.

# Strengthening Communities

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.



You helped distribute **98,000** chickens, pigs and sheep to families worldwide this year.

Because of you, we welcomed refugees of **39 nationalities** this year.



SCAN HERE TO READ MORE



MAPENZI, MWENEBATU AND MUSSA ARE REUNITED

PHOTO: MONIKA LOZINSKA

## Education: More than a Classroom

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

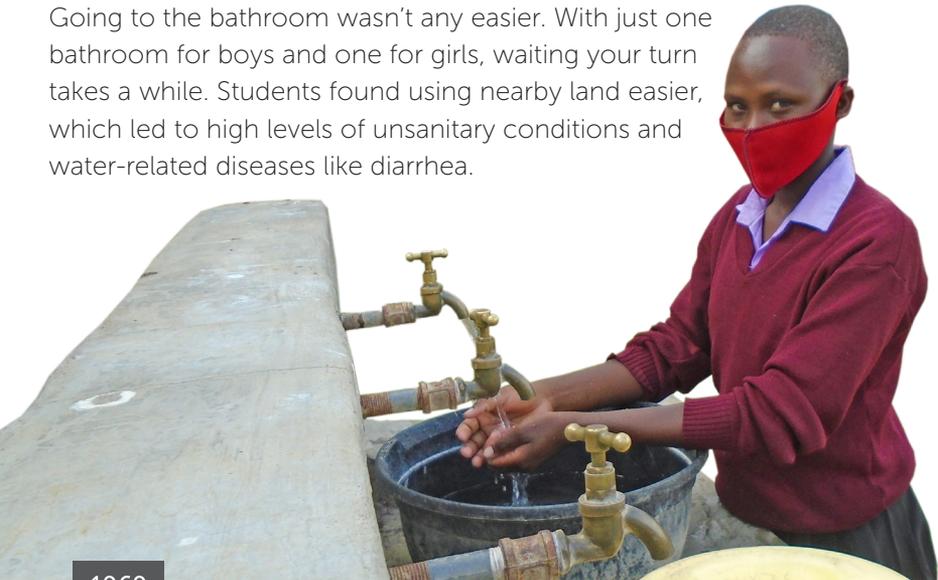
As a boarding student at Ngengechwo Primary School, located in a remote area of western Kenya, the odds were not in her favor. In Mercy's community, girls carry a lot of responsibility, and education isn't often a priority. Instead, they are expected to help care for their siblings. Once they become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



1969

Communities in North Dakota and Pennsylvania take to the streets in the first CROP Hunger Walks to raise funds and awareness about global hunger.

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.

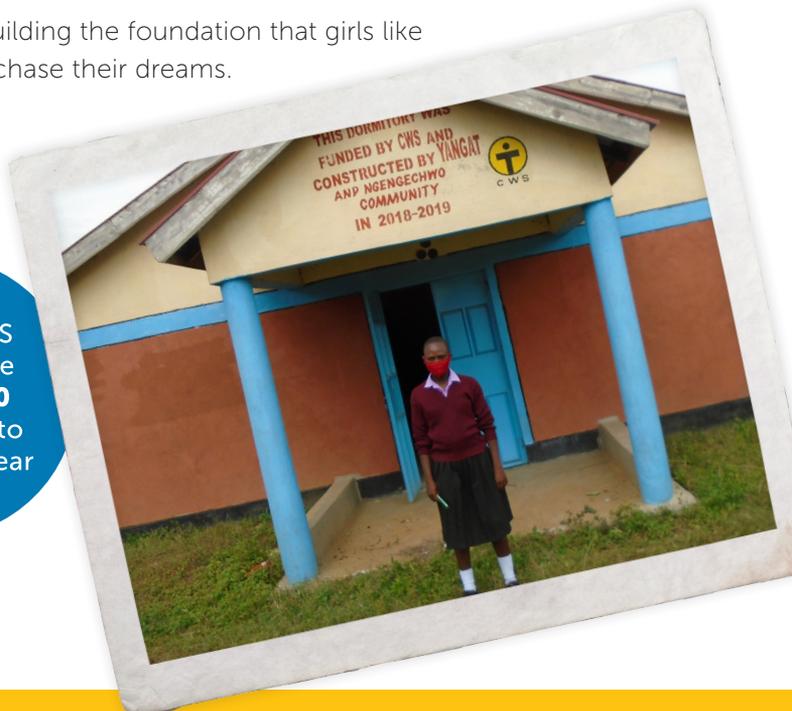
Today, the school has water tanks and taps on-site. Students have more, dignified bathrooms to use. And when the school day ends, girls can head to their new dormitory to study and rest. Mercy and others no longer have to sleep on classroom floors.

**“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.

Thanks to you, CWS helped more than **11,300** children go to school this year globally.



May 31, 1970

A massive earthquake strikes Peru. Within weeks, the CWS Peru team swells from six people to nearly a hundred to undertake a large-scale response.

# Our Presence Around the World

Thanks to the overwhelming compassion of our donors and volunteers, CWS has reached people in the United States and also reached people in **65** other countries. Below is a snapshot of our impact:



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
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,829</b>



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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.



PHOTO: COURTESY PASTORAL SOCIAL OF THE DIOCESE OF TAYACAN, MISIONEROS DEL SUR



PHOTO: DAVID MUTUA

1980

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

CWS programs made a difference in the lives of neighbors here in the temple of some of the accomplishments this past year.



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



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



PHOTO: SAW FABIAN



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

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.



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.

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.



- U.S. GOVERNMENT SUPPORT**  
\$39,422,761 / 55.3%
- PUBLIC & COMMUNITY APPEALS**  
\$16,854,186 / 23.7%
- INVESTMENT & OTHER INCOME**  
\$6,883,612 / 9.6%
- MEMBER COMMUNIONS & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**  
\$6,679,293 / 9.4%
- DONATED MATERIALS**  
\$1,405,244 / 2.0%



Church World Service is tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code; contributions are tax deductible. Established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The auditor's report is available upon request.

## 1988

CWS establishes a "farmer-to-farmer" program in the United States. Farmers in northern states who were at risk of losing livestock or even their farms.



- **SERVICES FOR DISPLACED PEOPLE**  
\$39,546,090 / 58.9%
- **GLOBAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT**  
\$8,472,469 / 12.6%
- **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**  
\$6,096,612 / 9.1%
- **ADVOCACY**  
\$3,757,908 / 5.6%
- **FUNDRAISING**  
\$5,296,974 / 7.9%
- **MANAGEMENT & GENERAL**  
\$3,981,680 / 5.9%

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$4,093,363
NET ASSETS AT JULY 1, 2020	\$20,739,883
NET ASSETS AT JUNE 30, 2021	\$24,833,246

eductible. The CWS financial records are audited by independent auditors in accordance with guidelines on request. The CWS 990 is available through the Guidestar website and upon request.

# Take Action. Give Hope. Change Lives.

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.

## 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](https://cwsglobal.org/giving) for more information.



"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

2000

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



"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

## 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](https://cwsglobal.org/action) for more information.



"I love volunteering to lead the CROP Hunger Walk in my community. As I see it, faith isn't just about believing in God, but also about serving God by loving our neighbor. The CROP Hunger Walk gives me that opportunity."

— FR. DUSTIN LYON  
ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH,  
DEKALB, IL



2010

CWS helps found the ACT Alliance, a global coalition of churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian response and advocacy in over 120 countries.

# Board of Directors



Rev. Patricia De Jong  
*Chair*



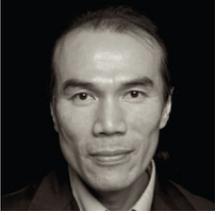
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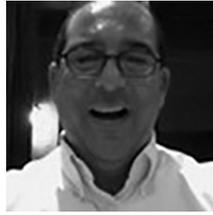
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Richard L. Santos



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Georgia Thompson



Rev. Dr. David  
Vásquez-Levy

March 11, 2011

The East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and resulting Fukushima nuclear disaster, strike Japan. This time, our focus is global advocacy to prevent and respond to disasters.

# Member Communion

African Methodist Episcopal Church  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
Alliance of Baptists  
American Baptist Churches USA  
Armenian Church of America (including Diocese of California)  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
Church of the Brethren  
Community of Christ  
The Coptic Orthodox Church in North America  
Ecumenical Catholic Communion  
The Episcopal Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Friends United Meeting  
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America  
Hungarian Reformed Church in America  
International Council of Community Churches  
Korean Presbyterian Church in America  
Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church  
Mar Thoma Church  
Moravian Church in America  
National Baptist Convention of America  
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.  
National Missionary Baptist Convention of America  
Orthodox Church in America  
Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox  
Church in the USA  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious  
Society of Friends  
Polish National Catholic Church of America  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.  
Reformed Church in America  
Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA  
and Canada  
The Swedenborgian Church  
Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in America  
United Church of Christ  
The United Methodist Church





**2020:** CWS launches its Platform for Racial Justice and recommits to racial justice, equity and inclusion practices.

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Church World Service  
800-297-1516  
[cwsglobal.org](http://cwsglobal.org)

475 Riverside Dr.  
Suite 700  
New York, NY 10115

28606 Phillips St.  
P.O. Box 968  
Elkhart, IN 46515