

BLESSINGS
INTERNATIONAL

MEDICINES
FOR **MISSIONS**



THE NEWSLETTER OF BLESSINGS INTERNATIONAL

DECEMBER 2022

EMERGENCY DISASTER RELIEF

PROVIDING CARE DURING TREMENDOUS UPHEAVAL



EMERGENCY DISASTER RELIEF
JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 1, 2022

Organizations that have received EDR assistance from Blessings International: **69**

Relief given: **\$151,965**

Estimated number of people impacted by EDR funds: **255,301**

From war in Ukraine to storms in our own country, 2022 was a year marked by crises, disasters, and a great need for compassion from other nations. Into the midst of nations' upheaval, Blessings International was able to send medications, supplies, and hope, thanks to the Emergency Disaster Relief fund, a donor-supported reserve that helps teams responding to disasters.



A team member from CMAU posing with medicines provided by Blessings International that will help locals in Ukraine. Photo courtesy: ABWE/CMAU

UKRAINE/RUSSIA WAR RESPONSE—February 2022 to present
Estimated number of people impacted by EDR funds: **246,487**
Amount given from donations: **\$146,718**

As the war in Ukraine continues, Blessings International is committed to providing relief by way of partners who are faithfully aiding Ukraine and her resilient but hurting people.

Pastor Sergei Eryomin from ABWE's Christian Medical Association of Ukraine (CMAU) said, "We thank God, that...we could give medicines to people who live under continuous fire. Many, many people live there who were unable to evacuate—elderly, heart problems, hypertension, diabetes, etc."

In October, he said, "The people [in these regions] have not had medicines for six months.... I often tell them that the donors will never see you, but that they provide these gifts because there is One who sees and knows you and deeply, greatly loves you, so much that he left Heaven for your sake. His name is Jesus Christ. They receive these gifts and words with many tears. "

"One lady came to us and said she'd felt very bad and prayed the whole day for God to help her with medicines. And we had the exact medicines she needed! This lady wept and thanked the Lord for such good people who sent the medicines to her." -SERGEI ERYOMIN

CUBA FUEL TANK EXPLOSIONS—August 2022
 Estimated number of people impacted by EDR funds: 504
 Amount given from donations: \$300

In the port city of Matanzas, Cuba, lightning struck an oil tank this summer, causing it to explode and set fire to other tanks. The explosions killed firefighters and injured over 120 people during the five-day fire. Thousands of Cubans were evacuated. They were asked to stay inside or wear masks to prevent the inhalation of toxic fumes.

Several medical teams came together to provide medicine and supplies to those affected. Blessings International was pleased to offer emergency disaster items so the people could receive treatment for burns, asthma, and inhalation of dangerous fumes.



The team headed by First Woodway Baptist Church at the hospital in Matanzas, posing with medicines and supplies to help patients who were burned by the explosions. Photo courtesy: First Woodway Baptist Church

HURRICANE IAN RESPONSE—September/October 2022
 Estimated number of people impacted by EDR funds: 697
 Amount given from donations: \$415



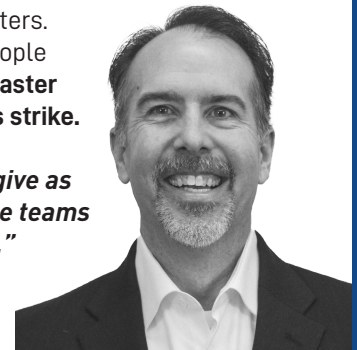
One of the three U-Haul® trucks providing supplies and medicines to Floridians by St. Simon's on the Sound Episcopal Church following Hurricane Ian. Photo courtesy: St. Simon's Global Refuge Ministries

On September 23, Hurricane Ian devastated Florida with \$50.2 billion in damage. It displaced thousands of people from their homes and caused them to be without water, electricity, and necessities. Patients' access to medications and health care services decreased as many pharmacies and clinics were forced to close.

St. Simon's on the Sound Episcopal Church brought medications and supplies from Blessings International to the many families needing to get back on their feet. Rev. Clelia Pinza-Garrity, deacon missionary from St. Simon's Global Refuge Ministries, indicated that three twenty-six-foot U-Haul® trucks filled with supplies and medications were distributed to locals for ten straight hours. This initial effort is the beginning of a long recovery process, and Blessing International wants to continue to support the people of Florida through outreach teams.

We are so very grateful to our donors and customers who courageously stepped up to supply aid for disasters. Because of every person who gave, went, or sent medicine, we all have been able to meet the needs of people affected by disaster all over the world this year. **Please consider helping us replenish our Emergency Disaster Relief fund so we can continue to help countries in need and stay prepared to assist as soon as disasters strike.**

"We never know when a disaster is going to strike. We'd rather be prepared so that we are able to give as soon as the need arises. If we don't have emergency disaster relief funds available, we can't help the teams who step up in times of disaster. To have a healthy EDR fund is to be able to help immediately."
—BARRY EWY, BLESSINGS INTERNATIONAL CEO






THANK YOU!

A special thank you to everyone who gave toward November's fundraiser for the USA fund. Your generosity provided \$8,500 which will help a potential 14,000 people in America this coming year.

HOW TO GIVE

Your gift of **\$100** will provide relief to 170 people affected by disasters.

-  **GIVE BY MAIL**
Use enclosed donation card and envelope
-  **GIVE ONLINE**
Visit bit.ly/giveEDR or click on "Donate" at blessing.org and choose the Emergency Disaster Relief fund
-  **GIVE BY SECURE MOBILE APP**
Text "EDR" to 91999

Every Gift Makes a Difference!



Guidestar has awarded Blessings their highest rating of Platinum to reflect our level of accountability and transparency. We rank in the top 2% of all rated charities.



Blessings has been accredited by Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability since 1990.

Learn more at www.blessing.org