EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RELIEF IN THE U.S.

In the wake of a disaster in the U.S., World Vision is often one of the first organizations to respond immediately. Our domestic disaster response program draws on World Vision’s decades of experience by partnering with local organizations to provide immediate relief through essential supplies and/or cash transfer programming to children and families affected. World Vision’s holistic disaster response is often long-term to include the Relief, Recovery, and Rebuild phases.

With seven fully staffed warehouses around the U.S., we stand ready to respond to domestic disaster so that children, families, and communities affected can move toward fullness of life with dignity, justice, peace, and hope.

How We Work

In times of disasters, World Vision works with its vast network of partners to identify the needs of those impacted, assess the damage, and resource local churches with emergency supplies. Part of the assessment process is responding to hard hit areas where other organizations are not currently responding. While deployed, World Vision brings along a Pastor Ambassador who understands firsthand World Vision’s disaster response efforts having gone through it themselves. The Pastor Ambassador provides prayer, guidance, and mentorship to equip leaders with tools to provide effective and lasting community care. World Vision often stays into longer-term rebuilding phases with churches and their communities – when other organizations have left, World Vision is still here.

ABOUT U.S. PROGRAMS

Since 1981, World Vision U.S. Programs has worked to create environments in which all children are healthy, educated, cared for, protected, thriving and participating in their communities.

Our mission has led us to work in some of our nation’s most vulnerable populations where poverty is high and opportunities are limited including urban, rural, migrant/immigrant, and Native American communities.

World Vision U.S. Programs focuses on a holistic approach that transforms communities in poverty towards fullness of life by distributing donated product (GIK), emergency and disaster relief (HEA), and educational efforts (KidREACH and Worldreader).
2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

Thanks to our generous donors and partners, together we have been able to make a lasting impact. This year alone: 8.4 million children and adults were served through emergency and disaster relief in the U.S.

COVID-19 Response

COVID-19 was our focus as the United States continued to experience record high infections and death rates. We worked with church partners in regions outside of our seven Storehouses to distribute Family Emergency Kits and Fresh Food Boxes. World Vision transitioned these new relationships, and expanded our footprint into other areas of our work beyond our pandemic response. In addition to our COVID-19 response, World Vision has responded to other nation disasters/emergencies as well as the border crisis.

Texas Border Work

Since 2018, World Vision’s response to the border crisis has been in partnership with Urban Strategies & Banco Alimentos to serve the most vulnerable families on the border. Since that time, we’ve sent supplies amounting to 1,758 pallets – that’s $5.6M in value of gifts-in-kind (GIK) and over 70 full truckloads (includes Fresh Food Boxes). In calendar year 2021, World Vision sent more than 209 pallets of supplies valued at $523,062 in GIK.

Melody Cisneros Milstead, the executive director of development and engagement for Urban Strategies, explains that her organization works with Alamo Community Church in McAllen, Texas, to provide a children’s shelter. The church also has warehouse space that they’ve donated to house supplies, and many of those supplies come through World Vision.

Just across the border from McAllen in Reynosa, Mexico, a tent city has sprung up in a town square. It’s currently home to nearly 2,500 people fleeing violence, lack of work, or corruption in their home countries in the Northern Triangle—Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. They’re both worried for themselves and their children’s futures. “It is a humanitarian crisis,” says Melody.

Overall COVID-19 Response

» 8.3 Million total beneficiaries

Family Emergency Kits

» 100,000 Total beneficiaries
» 24,130 Total kits
» 54 Church partners

Fresh Food Boxes

» 8.04 Million beneficiaries
» 1.9 Million boxes distributed

Fresh Food Boxes (continued)

» 134 Church partners

Border Response

» 173,781 Total beneficiaries
» 86 Truckloads sent
» 7 Church partners
» 220 Worldreader tablets

Other Disaster Responses

» 32,204 Total beneficiary
» 2,000 Tropical Storm Claudette beneficiaries
» 8,470 Texas Winter Storms beneficiaries
» 12,734 Hurricane Irma beneficiaries (ongoing response)
» 9,000 Hurricane Ida beneficiaries

“World Vision is a supply chain for us,” Melody says. “In these situations, we are in need of hygiene products, diapers, just survival items, and World Vision is a leader in disaster and emergency help. They have the donor base and the friends that partner with them and give them products to meet the very people that we serve.”—Melody Cisneros Milstead, Executive Director of Development and Engagement for Urban Strategies

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.

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