



west timor



kenya



ukraine



middle east



*annual
report*

FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP
2023



senegal

Mariame, a member of the Boubakh women's group, at work in the field

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

1 PETER 4:10

reports from the board


CHAIR'S NOTES

Jesus said, "For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me" (Matthew 26:11). This thought remains true and relevant among us as we look back on the year of our Lord, 2023. This is not cause for despair – this is to recognize and be reminded that we live in a fallen world, and until our Lord and Saviour returns, our task is clear: to support, to provide relief, to provide guidance, to develop, to give, and do all of these with the Word of God as our guide and light.

Elsewhere in this report you will read about the many areas where we provided support in 2023. We could not do any of this without the faithful and enthusiastic response of our supporting community: that starts with the churches, the deacons, and many individuals and corporations that give generously, without hesitation. For that we thank you, and we thank the Lord and Spirit for working within you all. CRWRF is the "Canadian Reformed" relief and development agency, of and for the churches. We are a volunteer working Board and we strive to keep our costs very low, relative to what is received – which allows the funds to provide support "on the ground" to the greatest extent possible. We have transitioned from distributing in the range of \$0.6M-\$0.8M five years ago, to where we are today, seeing support in the \$1.0-\$1.2M range (excluding the \$1.0M that flowed through CRWRF at the time of the BC floods). This confirms that the community is seeing what CRWRF is able to do, and how we are committed to being faithful stewards of the funds received through your continued support.

The conflict in Ukraine grinds on, there is unrest and great need in many parts of Africa, our partners in West Timor report of severe food shortages, and the number of those displaced only grows. Our task is clear, and we ask that you continue to journey with us, praying that our efforts will be blessed!

Karl J. Veldkamp



*In 2023 you
gave us over
\$1.2 million
in support!*



kenya

Children at Tumaini arranging sacks of maize for shelling

SECRETARY'S REPORT

One of the foundational principles on which CRWRF was established is that all gifts which we possess are bestowed by God and entrusted to us on the condition that they be distributed for our neighbour's benefit. We take faithful stewardship very seriously: before the face of the Lord, on behalf of our donors, and to help our distant neighbours without hurting them. As a Board we've been studying *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor ... And Yourself* (Corbett and Fikkert, 2014), seeking to expand our knowledge and understanding, and humbly examine and evaluate our work with partners around the globe.

With thankfulness to the Lord, we could send ongoing support in 2023 to eight partners involved in community and child development work, and to nine partners in relief and rehabilitation aid. Of special note are two new partnerships, in Niger and Liberia.

2023 also marked the 45th anniversary of our partnership with Africa Inland Child and Community Agency for Development (AICCAD). We initially supported the Achego Children's Centre and over time added Tumaini and Mufu. Early in 2023, two of our Board members visited all three centres, where they could witness the dedication and love of the staff as they provide the children with spiritual, physical, and psychological care. The Board members conducted a project evaluation in collaboration with the AICCAD staff, asking open and sometimes difficult questions, doing a lot of listening and learning, and prayerfully developing key recommendations for program improvement. The trip to Kenya was our first major site visit since the end of Covid-19, and we are thankful that the Board can take up this crucial part of our work once again.

We pray that we may continue to distribute your gifts wisely and effectively for the benefit of our distant neighbours.

Marise Veldman

*Thank you
for entrusting
us with your
support.*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Domestically and abroad, our world continues to experience much turmoil in various spheres: culture, politics, war, and weather extremes that negatively affect crops, livestock, and housing. In the face of seemingly constant bad news, it can be tempting to be inward-looking and keep a focus on our personal affairs only. Yet in Psalm 8, when David contemplates how vast and majestic creation is, and in contrast how insignificant we are, he declares about mankind, "Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet..." This is such an amazing statement of our commission as the stewards of creation when we consider just how vast the works of our God's hands are! This call to stewardship is also an inspiration to continue faithfully to "do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Gal 6:10).

At CRWRF we continue to be blessed with wonderful support by many donors who take the concept of faithful stewardship seriously. As a result, in working with our various partners around the world, we are able to do life-changing work that brings hope and opportunity to individuals and communities, to the glory of our heavenly Father.

Mike De Boersap



financials

2023 EXPENSES

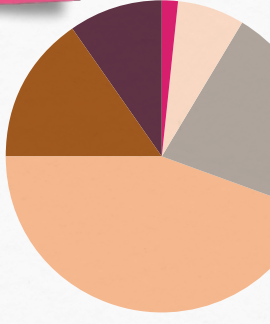


\$21,100	Project Monitoring
3,700	Faithworks (net)
22,400	Promotion
37,100	Administration
202,300	HIV/AIDS Response
237,000	Child Development
209,400	Community Development
303,900	Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation

\$1.04M

total

2023 REVENUES



\$22,400	Interest and Other
84,800	Sponsorship Donations
262,400	Donations from Churches & Schools
533,600	Donations from Individuals & Corporations
185,900	Designated donations from Churches & Schools
113,600	Designated donations from Individuals & Corporations

\$1.20M

total



mali

Women's Health & Family Life;
Training session in progress



OUR COMMUNITY AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

BUSIA CHILD-CENTERED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (CCCD) PROGRAM

location: Kenya

goals: Increasing the well-being of the children in health, education, social, and emotional development through creation of a stable community around the children

notes: 25 farming families created personal agribusiness plans

3 youth farming agriculture groups were created to teach children about farming

132 people were trained in financial administration (saving and lending program)

SAVINGS AND CREDIT COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS (SACCO)

location: Kenya

notes: 135 men, women, youth who had all been part of smaller self-help groups joined SACCO in 2023, which allows them to borrow larger amounts of money to establish businesses

CHILDREN'S HOMES CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

location: Kenya

notes: Across Achego, Tumaini, and Mufu children's homes, 82 children were receiving living accommodations and 28 were successfully reintegrated into the community

new in 2024



niger

Resilient Communities;
Village Savings & Loans group



niger

Resilient Communities;
Participants showing their activities



busia

Eunice in her shop

IMPACT STORY:

Eunice

Eunice used the opportunity provided by the CCCD program to borrow money and open a shop in her village because of the new savings and borrowing system in her community. With training in business skills from her group, she recognized the need for a local shop due to the inconvenience of traveling to a distant shopping centre. She also addressed another community need by starting to offer mobile money transfer (M-PESA) services. Her efforts have made her community happier and more self-sufficient and helped meet her basic needs. Eunice credits her success to the CCCD project, which served as a foundation for her and other women in the community to learn how to support themselves and earn a living. Many women like Eunice are benefiting from these opportunities.

what are we doing here?

Supporting individuals and communities with the goal of increasing their capacity, resiliency, health, and flourishing.

WOMEN'S HEALTH, ABUSE PREVENTION, AND CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE (PHASE 6)

location: Mali

notes: 97 days of training sessions were held in 51 communities, of which 15 were new churches

MALNUTRITION WARD FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5, ELWA HOSPITAL

location: Liberia

goals: Program provides a pediatric emergency room, inpatient and outpatient feeding programs for malnourished children, a ward for the most unwell children, and an under-5 clinic for other unwell children

notes: CRWRF is currently supporting the wages of 4 nurses working with children with severe acute malnutrition

111 participants were trained through ETAT (Emergency Triage Assessment and Treatment) training
1,045 children with acute malnutrition were admitted into the inpatient feeding program

NEW HOPE FOUNDATION

location: West Timor

notes: 120 students received full/partial sponsorships for basic living needs and education

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES*

new in 2024

location: Niger

goals: In operation since 2004, this program aims to increase rural communities' resiliency through improved agriculture production, increased revenue, improved health, and promoting education

notes: Program operates in 17 communities

Village savings and loan associations included 2,366 participants

Using subsidies for group initiatives, 4 villages experimented successfully this year with using wasps as natural predators to fight the millet head minor moth, a pest that can damage farmers' millet crops

EDUCATION BURSARY FUND (EBF)

location: Kenya

notes: 26 children received financial assistance towards their secondary education

HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

location: Senegal

notes: New Shining Mamas activity was established in 5 villages, supporting 194 women during pregnancy and early motherhood

10 community vegetable gardens provided additional nutrition to 248 gardeners and families

145 individuals received support for trips to their doctors and/or help to buy medicine

IMPACT STORY:

Velma

In 2014, Velma had been living happily with both her parents, sister, aunt, and cousin, when both her mother and aunt were killed by cattle rustlers. After witnessing their deaths, her father became mentally ill and unable to care for the girls.

Velma came to Achego Children's Home along with her younger sister and cousin. Velma really enjoyed her time at Achego. Velma is bright and was at the top of her class in most subjects. She was also very involved in extracurricular activities such as sports and the debate team. At Achego, she displayed her strong faith in God and loved leading others in fellowship and devotions.

With her excellent grades and hard work, Velma was able to secure a spot in an extra county school, the second-highest tier of schools in Kenya. Velma knew that her father would not be able to pay the school tuition, so she applied for the EBF for tuition support. Her application was approved, and with EBF help, she can now attend a good secondary school. Her goal is to become a teacher so that she can help children in her community receive a good education. She is so grateful to CRWRF for providing her with the opportunity to continue her education and hopes to work hard and excel in her studies.

* see page nine for a resilient communities impact story!

**IMPACT
STORY:**

Maimouna

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES, NIGER

Maimouna, married with 5 children, is an active member of a Village Savings and Loans (VSL) association. She and her children walk for miles to reach their field and because of the distance, she has struggled to transport compost there. When her VSL group cashed out their savings, her priority was to realize a dream she'd had for years: to buy a cart to bring the compost to the field and to transport the family. Maimouna is now the proud owner of a cart and is thankful for the support of this initiative which has enabled her to overcome the various challenges she faces.



niger

Resilient Communities;
Maimouna with one of her children
and her new cart



OUR RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROJECTS

FAMINE, ELWA HOSPITAL

location: Liberia

notes: Our support made it possible to help 830 sick children through the provision of medical supplies

WAR RELIEF

location: Hungary & Ukraine

notes: Medical supplies, heating and food subsidies were distributed to 60 families affected by the war in Ukraine

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

location: West Timor

notes: After an earthquake that caused widespread flooding, food and hygiene packages were delivered to those in need

MILK AND DIAPERS PROGRAM

location: Lebanon

notes: Due to the ongoing crisis in Lebanon, this ongoing project focuses on the provision of milk, diapers and feminine hygiene products, and other necessities to 1,900 households

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT RELIEF

location: Central Africa

notes: Due to an ongoing civil war, 1,400 refugees received food aid



ukraine

Food subsidy recipients



west timor

Earthquake Relief;
Food aid distribution following
earthquake

what are we doing here ?

Providing assistance, especially in the form of food, clothing, shelter, or money, to those in special need or difficulty following calamities such as earthquakes, wars, or protracted crises

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

new in 2023

location: Middle East

notes: Partnered with three organizations, working in three different regions, involved in immediate support to those affected by the earthquake in early 2023

Roughly 2,500 individuals received support in the form of food, hygiene products, bedding, tents, and kerosene for heating

250 other households received financial support

Winter assistance with emergency food items and hygiene kits were given to another 4,000 households

PERSECUTION RELIEF

location: Thailand

notes: In 2023, CRWRF started partnering with Refuge CanRC and the Panah Mission in BC to provide financial assistance to displaced and harassed Pakistani Christians in Thailand, funded mainly by the Panah Mission in BC

Received basic support for security, foodstuffs, lodging, hygiene, medical needs, etc

Through the local Evangelical Covenant Church in Thailand,



middle east
Earthquake Relief for a mother and her children

funds were distributed to approximately 40 families identified as most vulnerable and needy in their community

CYCLONE REHABILITATION

location: West Timor

notes: Following the damage of Cyclone Seroja in 2022, the last stages of rehabilitation were completed. This included finalizing the girls' dormitories, bathrooms, and a multi-purpose building, and rebuilding/renovating three nearby churches and many homes.

FLOODING RELIEF

location: Central Africa

notes: Following severe flooding in 2022, CRWRF supported several rounds of food packages



west timor
Reconstructed girls' dormitory after cyclone



central africa
Food relief following flooding



central africa
Food relief following flooding



OUR HIV/AIDS RESPONSE PROJECTS

FOSTER CARE, KHOTHATSONG ASSOCIATION

location: South Africa

notes: 8 children receive care in 2 foster homes

HOME-BASED CARE, ZISIZE CARE CENTRE

location: South Africa

notes: About 5,000 individuals received home-visits and care annually

For each food parcel given out to clients, between 5 and 20 other people in the household benefit, many of them children

what are we doing here ?

Aiding people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as others affected by the disease, including caretakers or orphaned children



south africa
Khothatsong Patient & Home-based care worker

HOME-BASED CARE PROGRAM, KHOTHATSONG ASSOCIATION

location: South Africa

notes: On average, about 184 patients receive home-based care and food parcels each month

The nursing team completes between 350 and 540 monthly visits



south africa
Zisize Home-based care workers

what are we doing here ?

Subcommittee that sends service and learning teams across the globe to various partners to help with needs such as construction and repair, while also focusing on establishing and deepening cross-cultural relationships with brothers and sisters in the Lord



OUR FAITHWORKS PROJECTS

MEXICO & KENTUCKY, USA

With thankfulness, the Faithworks committee could organize three short-term service and learning trips this past year.

One team travelled to Harlan, Kentucky, where they served at Christ's Hands, participating in construction and repair jobs, as well working in the organization's warehouse, filling boxes of food for families in need.

Two other teams had the opportunity to learn, worship, serve, and work alongside brothers and sisters in Mexico, where they helped Children of Hope with construction projects at Pan de Vida and Esperanza Para Ti.

The committee also held a fundraiser dinner in the Niagara area for Children of Hope, which included presentations by three individuals involved with running the orphanages. They have also been investigating other service and learning trip opportunities.



mexico
January 2023



kentucky
March 2023



ukraine
Food relief recipient



kenya
Children at Tumaini participating
in group activities during Sunday
school camp



mexico
January 2023



senegal
Healthy Families and
Communities participants



kenya
Children at Achego enjoying
soda from the church



niger
Resilient Communities
participants



busia



CHANGING LIVES & OFFERING REAL *hope.*

We are an International Relief and Development Agency, working on behalf of our Reformed Community. Learn more at:

[CRWRF.ca](https://www.crwrf.ca)

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