PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance 2020 At A Glance

ACT/ NCA

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

ACT/Yakkum Emergency Unit

ACT/ Sean Hawkey

QUICK FIGURES

- **$6.5 million** granted in **47** states and **56** countries
- **476 grants totaling $3.5 million** for COVID-19 response in **125** presbyteries and **56** countries
- **210 National Response Team members** were virtually deployed to **52** presbyteries
- **179 Presbyterian Women** trained in Disaster Preparedness
- Amassed more than **1 million streams** of *Flint: The Poisoning of an American City* on Amazon Prime
- Developed **4 new congregational resources** to educate and guide congregations in their local refugee and asylum ministries
- **Hosted more than 700 people** in **55** Emotional & Spiritual care webinars and meetings with **30** mid councils and **23** partners

In 2020, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) not only continued our commitment to immediate and long term response to natural and human-caused disasters and humanitarian response to refugees and asylum seekers, but also developed and supported a global response to COVID-19.

When it became clear that the world was facing an unprecedented outbreak, and that traditional fundraising and outreach would be difficult, we turned to the great cloud of witnesses whose work and generosity have grown PDA from its beginnings until the present day. When disaster strikes, many generous donors look at the big picture and send gifts to support both the immediate catastrophe and disasters still to come. Gifts to respond to needs not yet imagined gave PDA a modest nest egg of $2.7 million that we pulled from reserves for a substantive COVID-19 response, here in the U.S. and globally. We knew the gifts would be small, to serve the broadest number of partners and communities. Decisions about how and to whom to award these grants became clear when we immersed our decision-making in conversations with presbyteries, longtime international partners and colleagues who, along with us, have committed to be a Matthew 25 church.

PDA worked with colleagues across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to create and implement more specific criteria and guidance to ensure support for communities pushed to the margins, with both COVID grants and PDA's existing grant programs.

Our Emotional and Spiritual Care ministry pivoted to provide resiliency trainings, respite retreats and other virtual spiritual support for faith leaders and communities. Webinar recordings are available online.

In 2020, PDA developed several resources, including an Advent Series, a Bible Study for One Great Hour of Sharing, and a Grassroots Screening Kit for *Flint: The Poisoning of an American City*. PDA's Refugee and Asylum Ministry developed four new resources to educate and guide congregations in their local refugee and asylum ministries.

Volunteers around the country could no longer travel to areas affected by disaster, so they supported their neighbors through our "Commuter Volunteer" program or assembled Gift of the Heart Kits.

With everyone stuck at home, streaming services provided much of our entertainment. Our documentary *Flint: The Poisoning of an American City* amassed more than 1 million streams on Amazon Prime. PDA's Story Ministry also worked alongside several offices in PC(USA) to develop *Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance.*

MATTHEW 25

THANK YOU

for making our work possible!

The content in this report provides a preliminary glance at the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To see the full scope of your gifts at work in 2020, read the annual report *Mission Mosaic*: at pcusa.org/MissionMosaic20

PDA is a ministry of One Great Hour of Sharing