

WEEK 19 • MAY 13, 2023

ADRA Rolls Up Its Sleeves

Matthew 25:42-43—“For I was hungry, and you didn’t feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn’t give me a drink. I was a stranger, and you didn’t invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn’t give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.”

When the COVID-19 crisis swept the world, ADRA stepped up to serve and save lives. The needs around the world were never greater, but getting help to where it was most needed was more difficult than ever. Travel was restricted and supplies were hard to find and move.

ADRA quickly launched a COVID-19 task force with church members around the world to address the fallout of the pandemic and the urgent needs it created.

In 16 countries in Africa, for example, ADRA partnered with Women’s Ministries and Youth Ministries in local Adventist churches to teach people how to plant sustainable gardens to feed their families and communities in the most difficult of times. Tools, packets of seeds, and training made it possible for participants to create a constant supply of healthy food for the entire village.

Some of those who took part in the gardening project reported that their gardens provided not only enough food for their families, but enough to share with their neighbors and sell for income.

On a global scale, during the first year of the pandemic, ADRA served close to 20 million people in 96 countries. These people now are working with their communities on the next steps to recovery.

When India and other countries in Southeast Asia were hit by a massive surge of COVID-19, ADRA provided several medical facilities with the critical supplies and resources necessary to save lives. One of the greatest needs was oxygen. ADRA provided oxygen supplies to many hospitals and an oxygen generator plant to the largest Adventist hospital in India so the hospital could have a sustainable source of oxygen for this crisis and beyond.

ADRA’s goal is to serve humanity so that all may live as God intended in ways that are sustainable and transformational.

Not everyone may be able to join ADRA working in a far-away country, but every time you distribute your Promise offering as suggested by the Combined Offering Plan, 20% of it will be sent to the World Missionary Fund (or World Budget), which supports ADRA and its ministry to those in need. By distributing your Promise offering in an equitable way, as proposed by the Combined Offering Plan, you are helping ADRA continue its lifesaving work around the world.

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