

HOPE worldwide and Benevolence Committee Report



Throughout 2013 we continued to see greater unity between ICOC churches and HOPE *worldwide* growing and strengthening in incredible ways. The members of the HOPE *worldwide* and Benevolence Committee have played an important role in forging greater unity by meeting together on a quarterly basis and active email exchanges of information. As a result, there has been a measurable increase in ICOC support and involvement with HOPE *worldwide's* efforts all over the world.

The Committee is always very thankful to God, the churches and all the saints for the spiritual transformation that has taken place in our ministry to the poor. We are inspired by the tireless efforts put forth by each disciple on behalf of those in need. HOPE *worldwide* has been regularly featured in regional conferences and leadership gatherings. It is our continued prayer that together we can achieve even greater things in serving the poor in the coming year. We are organized in three Subcommittees, and can report the following:

Church Relations and Communication:

Breakthroughs in ICOC Communication: The connection between HOPE *worldwide* and the ICOC continues to be our most important asset as an organization. This year has produced several new advances in the strengthening of this relationship. We are particularly excited about our closer partnership with Disciples Today. Through the guidance of Disciples Today and Roger Lamb, we have developed a strategy to reach out to every U.S. church leader in an effort to strengthen the link between HOPE *worldwide* and the ICOC churches.

- ICOC HotNews produced a new video “Your HOPE *worldwide*” which highlights how disciples are making a difference in the lives of the poor and needy around the world. The video has been sent to all U.S. church leaders and also available at www.hopeww.org/IDG.
- With the Disciples Today ICOC Relationship Plan, each member of HOPE *worldwide's* Executive Leadership Team (ELT) personally contacted several congregations multiple times over the summer sharing with church leaders HOPE *worldwide's* renewed commitment to realigning with the ICOC, as well as asking each leader for their thoughts and overall impressions about HOPE *worldwide* and for their commitment to the International Day of Giving. CEO and President Randy Jordan led the way with personal appointments with leaders of 40 of our largest churches.

Alignment Task Force (ATF): The Alignment Task Force was started in late 2012. Chaired by Walter Evans, it was a team of senior elders, evangelists and HOPE *worldwide* staff that facilitated the connection between the churches and HOPE *worldwide*.

- The Task Force identified a two-fold approach for the group – to resolve issues and work toward unity with the local programs of HOPE *worldwide* and churches.

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Throughout 2013, members of the Task Force visited areas of concern. These meetings have led to discussion of proposals and protocols.

- One area of reform is to include church leaders on HOPE *worldwide* Boards at all levels to assure a spiritual focus for our worldwide organization as we serve the poor.
- For example, four programs around the world displayed a need for improved governance. The ATF, with the support of our HOPE *worldwide* and Benevolence Committee, HOPE *worldwide* and local ministry staff, skillfully brought most of these situations under control and, in some cases, to resolution.

Church Giving: HOPE *worldwide* finished 2013 in the black - due in large part to the faithful funding commitments of our churches and their leaders.

- At the request of the Service Team Chairmen, HOPE *worldwide* presented to the ICOC Delegates in September in New York and also sent regional church giving reports to the Regional Chairmen to solicit their assistance with following up on church giving within their respective regions. Mike Taliaferro, Wyndham Shaw and Steve Kinnard (Service Team Chairs) have been instrumental in encouraging this localized approach.
- The assistance of the Regional Family Chairman along with the ICOC Relationship Plan connections developed by Randy and the Executive Leadership Team demonstrate the obvious benefits of collaboration. This impact was immediately reflected most recently in the churches' inspirational responses to the International Day of Giving (IDG) and the Philippines typhoon disaster.
 - The 2013 International Day of Giving took place during November 2013.
 - With more than \$1.3 million pledged, IDG church donations exceeded \$1.4 million and beat budgeted projections by \$270,000, including participation by 29 churches who had not given the previous year.
 - Also during November, donations to Typhoon Haiyan relief in the Philippines are now approaching \$600,000. This base of funding allows us to also apply for large disaster response grants to further help those in need.

Community Service Subcommittee: Tremendous advances were made in HOPE *worldwide's* Community Service Division (CSD) team with a growing number of Chapters in local congregations full of enthusiastic volunteers.

Chapter Volunteerism Programs

- **83** Chapters in the United States
- **7** Chapters in Canada
- **7** Chapters in the Caribbean and **3** Affiliates (Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic)
- **Protecting Our Neighbors** - MLK Day of Service, 9/11 Day of Service

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- In the past **5 years**, this joint partnership with the American Red Cross has engaged more than **30,000 volunteers to reach more than 500,000 homes in 60 cities**.
- For **MLK Day 2013**, HOPE *worldwide* awarded **22 grants** to its own chapters and other community partners. The chapters engaged **6,000 volunteers** and reached more than **70,000** homes with the support of **150** community partners.
- For **Sept. 11, 2013**, chapters have supported projects in more than **61 sites** in **50 cities** in at least **20 states**.
- **Saturday Academy**
 - HOPE *worldwide* developed this model to serve underprivileged youth through after-school, Saturday and summer youth programs in **18 U.S. cities** and **25 locations**. Many of these youth would fall through the cracks without our programs. This model connects disciples from local congregations with **2,050 youth weekly** who need positive role models in their lives.

Singles Corps 2013 over 100 Singles participating

- Three sites - Dallas, Haiti, Trinidad
- One married, two dating couples, participants from all over the world

Youth Programs: Community Service Fellows (AmeriCorps)

- **96** Interns served over **37,000** hours, impacted over **1200** Youth and received **\$125,700** Education Awards

HOPE Youth Corps – Spiritual Leadership Development

- HOPE Youth Corps provided special encouragement in 2013 as participation has gone from 110 participants in 2011 to 332 participants who served the poor around the world.
- 2013 saw the beginning of Deborah Corps, an all-girls program.
- Support for HOPE Youth Corps was acknowledged by the ICOC Delegates at a recent meeting in New York via the unanimous approval of a Youth Corps resolution.

Disaster Services Programs: We are experiencing a nationally recognized reputation in disaster relief through our partnerships with the American Red Cross and Catholic Charities – USA who have awarded large grants to us because they value our incredible volunteers.

- **Hurricane Sandy**
 - **1,750** disciples volunteered
 - Managed **40,000** unaffiliated volunteers through Phone Banks in New York and New Jersey
 - Served **200,000** meals in Staten Island
 - Refurbish **350** homes in New Jersey
- **Red Cross Partnership**
 - **5** year MOU, Top Volunteer Partner
 - Awarded a **\$703,556** Hurricane Sandy Grant for continuing relief programs

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- **Catholic Charities – USA Partnership**
 - Awarded **\$239,500** Disaster Case Management Contract
 - Cadre of **130** Disaster Case Managers served **2,000** families impacted by Hurricane Sandy
 - Provided **\$429,000** in Case Management Services
- **Oklahoma Tornado – Two EF5 Tornadoes hit Oklahoma in Two weeks**
 - **210** disciples from **32** Churches served including the HOPE Singles Corps. Over **4,000** hours of service.
 - Partnered with Serve Moore, Operation Blessing and Oklahoma Christian University
 - Local Churches of Christ very supportive of the volunteers
 - **\$4,500** grant from UPS Foundation and **\$14,500** from the US Churches
- **Colorado Floods**
 - HOPE *worldwide* worked in Colorado with disciples from our Denver and Fort Collins chapters to muck out homes and provide volunteers for bulk distribution sites.
 - **45** volunteers have served through the month of September.

Disaster Response Subcommittee Report: With each new disaster, it seems as if our ability to go into “Protocol” thinking and application gets smoother and quicker. Because of the ICOC’s years of support, HOPE *worldwide* is able to be on the ground serving the church and the community when these disasters strike. Because of our great volunteers from the ICOC, corporate funders have been attracted to our disaster response work.

The ICOC Disaster Response Protocol was successfully implemented in the following situations:

- India flashflood
- China earthquake
- Ambon, Indonesia flashflood
- Manila flood
- Jakarta flood, and Colorado flood
- Typhoon Haiyan, the Philippines
 - The recent typhoon in the Philippines highlighted the importance of HOPE *worldwide's* role as the disaster response agency of the International Churches of Christ.
 - The Disaster Relief Subcommittee of ICOC's HOPE *worldwide* and Benevolence Committee swung quickly into action to authorize a needed fundraising campaign among ICOC churches.
 - More than 60 families of disciples who lost their homes during Typhoon Haiyan received a powerful beacon of hope through relief and recovery

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services that are being closely coordinated between HOPE *worldwide* and the churches in the Philippines.

- Due to this response, additional disaster relief grants are being applied for to further expand our efforts.

For 2014: The development of the ICOC Disaster Response Protocol has fulfilled the objectives set in December 2010 when the Disaster Response Subcommittee was first formed. The new objectives are being proposed as follows:

1. Expand the membership in the subcommittee to include representatives from Central and South America.
2. Continued evaluation of Disaster Response Protocol
3. Assess the viability of implementing the “ICOC Disaster First Response Fund” as set forth in the Protocol revision of September 2012. This would include addressing questions of funding, transparency, accountability, and evaluation.
4. As HOPEww is experiencing increased roles in disaster preparedness throughout the world, explore the possibilities of disciples in the ICOC being “on the front lines” in helping their communities to be “disaster prepared.”
5. Communicating the need for every congregation in the ICOC to have a Disaster Preparedness Plan.
 - Questions for survey to churches
 - Have your members been trained in disaster preparedness?
 - Do you have a team of volunteers that are trained and ready to assist in disaster response?

Members:

- John Causey (chair) – Los Angeles, CA
- Mark Templer (co-chair) – New Delhi, India
- Doug Arthur – Boston, MA
- John Brush – Miami, FL
- Robert Carrillo – San Diego, CA
- Herve Fleurant – San Antonio, TX
- Darren Gauthier – Chicago, IL
- Bill Hooper – Dallas, TX
- Gregg Marutzky – Omaha, NE
- Ray Nadon – Anchorage, AK
- JP Tynes – Orlando, FL
- Sheridan Wright – New York, NY
- Antonio Boyd (HOPEww) – Columbia, SC
- Charles Ham (HOPEww) – Jakarta, Indonesia
- Mandy Jordan (HOPEww) – Philadelphia, PA
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