

2022 Annual Report Partners Relief & Development





"When we finally got the deep water well in my village everything became easier. Now, we have access to clean water, can cook on time, and take a bath whenever we want."

> - Rabia (30) Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



As we look back at 2022, we are grateful for all that was accomplished with your support. In many ways it was a year that stretched us. We navigated some significant changes as well as faced new challenges responding to the outbreak of conflict in Ukraine, an area where we had not previously worked. Throughout these unforeseen events, the unified vision our team shares did not waver: free, full lives for children affected by conflict and oppression. We are resolute in our belief that to love is to act, and that no child should suffer because the adults are fighting.

Through your generosity and Partners' strong organizational foundation, we helped more than half a million people in conflict zones across Southeast and Central Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. This number includes lives saved, families fed, children back in school, sick and injured healed, and so much more. You were instrumental in caring for them and we know they join us in being thankful for you.

This annual report is an expression of our commitment to transparency and accountability, as well as a message of thanks for your part in reaching this record number of people. As you look through it, I hope you can get a feel for the impact your contribution has made to many. Our goal is to see lives strengthened and changed for the better and it is because of you that we were able to impact more people in 2022 than ever before.

Thank you for going there with us.

Rhat

Brad Hazlett, President Partners Relief & Development

Free, full lives for children affected by conflict and oppression.

This is our vision.

Ensuring children and communities affected by conflict and oppression are safe, healthy, and have access to education.

This is our mission.

We act by providing emergency relief during acute crisis events and by working with communities of displaced families to design sustainable development initiatives that transform community wellbeing, improve health and education, and provide a nurturing environment for children.

These are our methods.





Emergency Relief

This is our lane: **responding rapidly in times of crisis** to meet families and children facing the worst moments of their lives. Because often there's a gap between the beginning of an acute crisis and the arrival of relief from larger aid organizations, like we saw in the early days of the war in Ukraine.

Beyond this, there are always displaced communities who, due to complexities around politics and access, continue to miss out. We go to great lengths to show up for them also.

When Turkish-backed militia began shelling a series of villages in NE Syria, officials in the region called Partners for help with what they described as an emergency situation: an influx of internally displaced people to a camp that was already at full capacity. Our response? Within a couple of days, a delivery of heaters and fuel. mattresses and blankets ensured the majority of these newly displaced families had a warm place to lay their heads.









People provided with shelter



Alia and Tatiana, Ukraine



Watch and see the impact of our response

Ukraine Update The Conclusion

Within Six Days

Within six days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, our team was travelling to the border of Ukraine where we crossed and headed north to the very edge of the conflict, This began a months-long emergency effort, filling the needs of thousands that were fleeing their homes and hiding for their lives. Distributing food and medications, and facilitating evacuations; we were spurred on by networks of local volunteers who had chosen not to flee, and instead, remained to do what they could to help their people.

Five Months Later

As the fighting wore on and battle lines stagnated, larger organizations arrived, bringing significant resources. That signaled to us that our work was nearing completion. We filled the gap between the start of the conflict and the arrival of largescale assistance. Thank you for all you did, as a see-a-need, fill-a-need community. We worked together to help thousands of displaced and conflict-affected families who might have otherwise been unnoticed in the first few turbulent months of war.

Basic necessities mean hope for over 11,000 people living in Sere Kaniye Camp.



Relief In Action

As Turkish bombing operations continued to create a buffer zone along the whole northern border of Syria, more and more families in the region were forced to flee.

Many of the newly displaced, such as Ahmad and his family, found their way to Sere Kaniye Camp.

As a result, the need for basic necessities like food, bedding and heating is as important as ever and is why Partners continues to provide emergency relief to this camp for over 11,000 people in 2022 and beyond.



Sustainable Development

When the dust of conflict settles, sustainable development initiatives that improve the wellbeing of children is our end goal. It's in our DNA to ensure every project we're a part of is driven by the needs of the community and gives them ownership. This **collaborative approach** involves site visits, meetings with community leaders, and doing all we can to support the local economy in the process.

Development in the context of active fighting is challenging, and we continued to experience this, especially in Myanmar. As families were forced to flee from their villages, emergency relief took precedence in a number of locations. Nevertheless, our local staff and partners did an exceptional job of keeping many development initiatives moving forward.

12 communities are running businesses in Karen State, Myanmar in partnership with our sustainable schools project.

Each business is run and overseen by a Parent **Teachers Association**, with input and involvement from the community. The profit from each business supports their local school and teachers, so kids can stay in school all year long. Partners' Karen staff member provides support to the communities through development grants to kickstart their business. running trainings, and carrying out periodic monitoring and evaluations.

Communities collaborate. Kids access education. *Win-win.*





<mark>▲ 1</mark> 3,166 Stay

People receiving training to improve their well being



Students in school because of Partners projects



145,999 People accessing healthcare

Zinghtung Lu and her granddaughter

food to hundreds of families like hers. "I have joyful tears in my eyes. My grandchildren will eat well for a long time with your support."

2. In Chin State

On the India-Myanmar border, 45 year-old Lone shared, "Everything changed since the military bombed and opened fire on our area. We had to flee to the jungle and struggled to find shelter and enough food for our family's daily needs." Just last year, 885 families displaced from their homes in Chin State received food and hygiene supplies because you decided to respond. "The food

Five People

From the Forgotten War in Myanmar

These are the stories of 5 people caught in the crossfire of a conflict that the world seems to have ignored. But you haven't.

At the 51st conference of the UN Human Rights Council in September last year, the Special Rapporteur on Myanmar, Tom Andrews, posed the question: "When Ukraine was invaded, it took the United Nations just a matter of days to take extraordinary action. So the question is, why can't this happen with respect to the atrocities that are being placed upon the people of Myanmar? Why not Mvanmar?" It's a question our team has asked over and over again since our work on the Thai-Myanmar border began almost 30 years ago. And it's a question that you have been asking with us. But more importantly than

asking why, you've gone further and asked "so what can I do right now?" These stories are the result of you doing more than just talking about the situation in Myanmar, but putting love into action.

1. In Kachin State

73 year-old Zinghtung Lu told us, "I used to think that I would not have to flee before I died, but now I am here in this Internally Displaced Persons camp with my family." Vicious fighting between the Myanmar Army and Kachin Independence Army has left over 94,000 people displaced from their homes. So you've been delivering *items given to us will enable us to live without hunger for 4-5 weeks at least. This gives us a mental peace for almost a month.*" To a parent, that peace means everything.

3. In Karen State

Naw Paw Dai Nya told us of the hardships of their journey fleeing a Myanmar Army attack. "Even though someone provided us with a tarp, we still couldn't sleep well for 3 to 4 nights on the way. We had problems with cooking because it was raining a lot and we could not find dry wood for cooking." Your love reached 148,251 people in situations like hers with rice, medicine, shelter, clothes and educational supplies. Like so many of the people our team meet, Naw Paw Dai Nya shared her sense of gratitude for each of you in this community. "I would like to thank God and those who helped us with tarps, food and medicine." We're grateful too.

4. In Rakhine State

Mohammed, 40, tells us of the

increasing hardship Rohingya in his village face. "We must inform the authorities near the port before we go out for fishing and pay to get permission. But after the coup, they charged more money." With fuel costs also increasing, some days it costs more to fish than they can earn. And with no clinic or hospital in their village, children often suffer from preventable illnesses. But the toilets and wells you've helped install, alongside hygiene trainings in the community, is helping address this. "I believe that this could reduce the rate of hygiene-related disease in the village."

5. In Shan State

Our team met with Shan and Karenni Internally Displaced Persons who told us it was the first time that they have faced a battle in their life. First they heard an explosion from bombs and gunshots in the evening. Scared, they fled to 22 different places, taking nothing with them. Your love reached them in a monastery where they found refuge. There, because of you, they received food, hygiene items, mosquito nets, pots and pans, and nutrition packages. *"Enough to support our basic needs for the month,"* they shared with us. But their main hope? *"If it's possible, we want to be back home."*

They are the why that keeps us asking, "what can we do to help right now?" World leaders may be debating what the appropriate response is to what's happening in Myanmar, but this community is right there, right now, meeting these families and doing all we can to make sure their children don't continue to suffer just because the adults are fighting.



Development In Action

After suffering the destruction, trauma and displacement of genocide at the hands of ISIS in 2014, many families in the Duhoola community began moving back to the Shingal (Sinjar) region. Dawood Haji Naser's family is one of them. *"I was six years old when ISIS attacked my hometown...ISIS was intent on killing Yazidis",* he shared with our team.

Now he is attending the school that Partners has helped repair and renovate. The extensions built have enabled over 160 students to join classes, helping restore one of the basic elements that helps and rehabilitates the next generation: education.

"This new section of the school that Partners built helped us a lot, otherwise, we would have had to study in a different school... I thank Partners for building this." - Dawood Haji Naser

Sinjar, Kurdish region of Iraq

Financials

Your trust means everything to us, so we want you to see how every dollar you entrusted to us was spent to help make our vision a reality for more children caught in the crossfire of conflict.

\$498,000

\$499,000

Total Income

Total Expenditure

\$.07 Cost to raise \$1

Partners Relief & Development Canada is a member of the Kentro Christian Network.

Board Members - Ernie Toews, Greg Toews, Ken Godard, Hailey Carnegie, Roland Plett, Jacqueline Kassian

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2022 brought growth and change to our team.

The united mindset our team shares remains solid; through expertise and creativity, we do all we can to ensure kids don't suffer because the adults are fighting.





What They Say

"Four important key tenants of Partners' work stand out for me; focus on providing care for some of the most underserved, vulnerable people groups in the world, commitment to long-term relationships within the communities where they serve, prioritization of supporting and equipping leaders of impacted communities to identify needs and become service providers for their community, and detailed accounting of what funds were needed, and how those funds were spent for each project."

- JJ, at RCA Global Mission

Back cover: Children stand in front of a tent in Woshokhani Camp in Hasakah, NE Syria. Front cover: Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



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