

Relief, development and peace in the name of Christ

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, shares God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by **responding to basic human needs** and **working for peace and justice**. MCC envisions communities worldwide in right relationship with God, one another and creation.

MCC relies on our partnership with Anabaptist churches in the U.S., Canada and around the world. Much of MCC's work is possible because of your generosity. Thank you for your ongoing support of MCC's ministries!

MCC/Eastern District and Franconia Mennonite Conference connections

- Throughout this past year, members of the Eastern District and Franconia Mennonite conferences generously supported the work of MCC through local MCC Thrift Shops, such as Care & Share Thrift Shoppes in Souderton, Pa., which reached a milestone last fiscal year by contributing over \$1 million to the work of MCC.
- Members of your conferences support MCC's young adult programs, including the International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) and the Summer Service program, which provides opportunities for young adults of color to build leadership skills by serving in their home communities. Last year, IVEP participants served at Dock Mennonite Academy (Lansdale, Pa.), Quakertown Christian School (Quakertown, Pa.) and Living Branches (Lansdale, Pa.) and a Summer Service participant served at Philadelphia Praise Center.
- MCC East Coast board member Aldo Siahaan, pastor of Philadelphia Praise Center, participated in an MCC Borderlands Learning Tour to Arizona and Mexico in early October 2018.
- Many members of your conference congregations donated material resources to MCC and volunteered their time at the Material Resource Center of Harleysville in Souderton, Pa. Others supported MCC by helping to can meat.
- We thank Ron White for his service on the MCC East Coast board representing Eastern District Conference and welcome James Gunden into his new position as EDC representative on the board.
- We are grateful for the service of the FMC and EDC members, including Derek & Amy Godshall serving in Burkina Faso and Nathaniel Elder serving with our SALT program in Nepal, who contribute to MCC's work in the name of Christ, both in the U.S. and overseas.

MCC at work here and around the world

Relief: When Russia annexed Crimea in southern Ukraine in early 2014, unrest spread, forcing waves of people to flee from the fighting. Many fled to the city of Zaporizhzhia, about 125 miles from the conflict zone. Once there, many rely on MCC partners for assistance. MCC relief kits offer hygiene supplies, while MCC canned meat provides valuable protein and nutrition. MCC comforters offer warmth and hope to those who have been displaced due to this conflict.

Development: In the Kabay community in Haiti, there were only two latrines for 1,200 people. Without latrines, people are forced to use the surrounding fields, where fecal matter contaminates both crops and shared water sources. With already fragile health, this contamination brings sickness, disability or death. MCC planned, designed and implemented the latrine project in partnership with the local community, constructing 181 latrines. Now, they have seen zero cases of cholera since the latrines were dug.

Peace: Every year, MCC provides young adults from the U.S. and Canada with yearlong intercultural service experiences through the Serving And Learning Together (SALT) program. Edith Rodríguez from Aibonito, Puerto Rico served with SALT for the 2017-18 term as a nurse at Faith Alive Foundation (FAF) in Jos, Nigeria. Edith said, "I know that, through serving with SALT, I will never be the same."

Thank you for all of the ways in which you join MCC to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. Learn more about MCC's efforts around the world at MCC's website, EastCoast.mcc.org.

Grace and peace to you,

Bruce Campbell-Janz, MCC East Coast executive director

James Gunden, MCC East Coast board member (Eastern District Conference)

Aldo Siahaan, MCC East Coast board member (Franconia Mennonite Conference)



Around the world, MCC comforters provide warmth and hope. In Zhytomyr, Ukraine, MCC items, including comforters, canned meat and hygiene kits, are helping people in need such as Valentina Inskirvelyi and those who came to this area after fleeing conflict in eastern Ukraine. (MCC Photo/Colin Vandenberg)