



Go FAR
faith. action. results.
The Campaign for Catholic Relief Services



Building Homes



Home is everything.

The base for stability, identity and love. In following our Gospel mission, Catholic Relief Services is ready to deliver safe and dignified housing to millions of people uprooted by crisis.

Because we should, and because we can. Our deep Catholic faith tells us to help our brothers and sisters in most need. We know how to build homes as the foundation of family life. And we have vast Church and professional networks as a result of more than 75 years' experience helping the world's most vulnerable people. The Go FAR Campaign for Catholic Relief Services is what will fuel our work to put faith into action.



The Need

When disaster strikes a home, lives are upturned. An earthquake can level a community in the blink of an eye. Violence can wash over a village so quickly that parents can do nothing but grab their children and run. Gone in an instant are years of hard work and savings, happy memories and dreams for the future.

The loss of a home fractures a family's identity and the roots of community. It gravely impacts safety, health, education, prosperity, emotional well-being and dignity.

Why Now?

The world is seeing an increase in people affected by crisis. Across the globe, communities face changing climates, natural disasters, population growth, economic inequality, political conflicts and pandemics.

There is no time to wait. It's urgent that we provide the growing number of displaced people with access to comprehensive shelter solutions that enable families and communities to recover and flourish.

Our goal is to have resources at the ready so we can respond to emergencies at a moment's notice—without having to wait to raise public funds or depend on media attention, which can be rare or fleeting. This includes supporting communities in disaster-prone areas, so they are more resilient to cyclical storms and have greater means for recovery.

As part of CRS' Vision 2030 strategy, we are ready to put our faith into action and expand shelter programming based on our core values—focused not just on building roofs or walls, but homes and communities.

The Opportunity

Seeking shelter is the first step uprooted families take in rebuilding their lives. Using local materials and markets where possible, shelters can evolve from providing immediate protection to being permanent, long-term structures that offer safety, privacy, a chance to restore livelihoods, and a place to heal and recover.

CRS and our partners recognize there is no one-size-fits-all solution to helping families affected by crisis. We support people in need through programming that is flexible and tailored to local context, designing our responses in close collaboration with communities.

Homes are Central to Life



My people will live in peaceful country, in secure dwellings and quiet resting places.

—Isaiah 32:18



Photo by Philip Laubner/CRS

OVER THE
NEXT 10 YEARS

CRS WILL PROVIDE
1.5 MILLION
PEOPLE

WITH **SAFE AND**
DIGNIFIED HOMES

Our homebuilding programs do more than build homes. We incorporate key signature activities like restoring livelihoods, improving health and emotional well-being, ensuring water and sanitation, supporting legal and financial services, and bolstering resilience against future disasters. We also address issues related to land tenure, urban planning, infrastructure, reconstruction and transportation.

Even after a disaster has passed, CRS and our partners help families repair their damaged homes and restart their interrupted livelihoods. We do not forget people in need.

Over the next 10 years, we will go beyond providing shelter and immediate relief to strengthening community infrastructure and building an environment where people can thrive. We will focus initial efforts in Africa, particularly Uganda and Sierra Leone, and Asia, including Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines.

To ensure lasting results, CRS will help influence the global humanitarian community to adopt our holistic, integrated approach, and strengthen the capacity of local organizations and governments to lead emergency responses. This global influence across our peer agencies will transform how the world meets this vital need and basic right.

Why CRS?

Just as the home is central to a family, homes are central to the CRS approach to emergency response. Through our commitment as Catholics to uphold human dignity, we cover all aspects of life: social, economic, political, cultural and spiritual.

Our faith-based mission has been the core of our work since our founding during World War II. Today, as part of the global Catholic Church, we can go to people in need, wherever they are. We mobilize partners and leverage support to strengthen communities so they can develop self-sustaining, locally relevant, community-driven responses to evolving needs.

CRS is a thought leader in the emergency shelter sector. Our programming is market-based, tailored to the local context, safe and durable, and integrated with other activities promoting human development. Through our presence on the ground, we have the tools, holistic approach, knowledge and influence to achieve transformational change in how communities prepare, recover and rebuild.

The Legacy

A home is more than a building. It is the center of family life. We will put our faith into action so more families have a safe place to call home after an emergency—so they can heal, connect, rebuild and go forward with their lives. It's what we should do and what we can do, together.



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Go FAR: The Campaign for Catholic Relief Services is seeking \$275 million over five years in support of the CRS Vision 2030 Strategy.

Cover photo by Philip Laubner/CRS