

The United Church of Christ has been supporting disaster ministries through various ministries throughout its history.



In our current structure Wider Church Ministries is in partnership with the Division of Overseas Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Common Global Ministries—the worldwide mission program of both denominations. There are five area offices—East Asia and the Pacific Office, Middle East & Europe Office, Southern Asia Office, Africa Office and Latin America and the Caribbean Office.

Some Wider Church Ministry programs are unique to the United Church of Christ; others are shared with the Disciples of Christ. The UCC Disaster Ministries is part of the Global Sharing of Resources team which is a unique program of the UCC and also works with the five area offices of Common Global Ministries.



UCC Disaster Ministries is a program of the United Church of Christ that responds to natural and human caused disasters all over world and is well positioned to respond in most events. Through our volunteers, congregations, Conferences and partnerships UCC Disaster Ministries seeks to serve the most vulnerable populations that require spiritual, physical, financial and psychological support. In times of domestic disaster, UCC Disaster Ministries office provides a platform and facilitation for much of this work while collaborating with and through UCC Conferences and a network of Conference Disaster Coordinators.

Internationally UCC **Disaster Ministries** maintains direct relationships and partnerships with organizations and faith communities able to appropriately and affectively respond to emergency and long-term needs.



ACT Alliance a coalition of more than 140 churches and affiliated organizations working together in over 140 countries to create positive and sustainable change in the lives of poor and marginalized people regardless of their religion, politics, gender, sexual orientation, race or nationality in keeping with the highest international codes and standards. Members are associated with the World council of Churches or the Lutheran World Federation.



[Church World Service](#) is a cooperative humanitarian ministry of 36 Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations, providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries. CWS is part of the ecumenical family of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the U.S.A



**National
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster**

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) coordinates planning efforts by many voluntary organizations responding to disaster. Member organizations provide more effective service by getting together before disasters strike.

Once disasters occur, NVOAD or an affiliated state VOAD encourages members and other voluntary agencies to convene on-site. This cooperative effort has proven to be the most effective way for a wide variety of volunteers and organizations to work together in a crisis

Financial Support is provided in the following ways:

UCC Disaster Ministries is able to respond to disaster all over world through generous gifts of its churches and members

First your OWCM gifts make the Disaster program possible.

Support of disasters throughout the United States and the world are possible by generous gifts to undesignated gifts in Emergency USA Funds, and International Emergency Relief Funds and designated gifts to specific appeals that have been initiated.

Emergency USA Fund Each year in the United States hundreds of disasters occur. Some disasters are large enough to make the news but often dozens of smaller disasters escape media attention. The Emergency USA Fund allows UCC Disaster Ministries to respond to both large and small natural and human caused disasters in all 50 U.S. States and territories

The information above is copied from the
https://unitedchurchofchrist.nationbuilder.com/emergency_usa_fund

International Emergency Relief Fund - Disasters affect millions of people worldwide every year. UCC Disaster Ministries is well positioned to respond in most parts of the world through our longstanding partnerships and connections. Donations to the International Disaster Relief Fund enable UCC Disaster Ministries to support emergency relief efforts, long-term rehabilitation, advocacy and sustainability efforts.

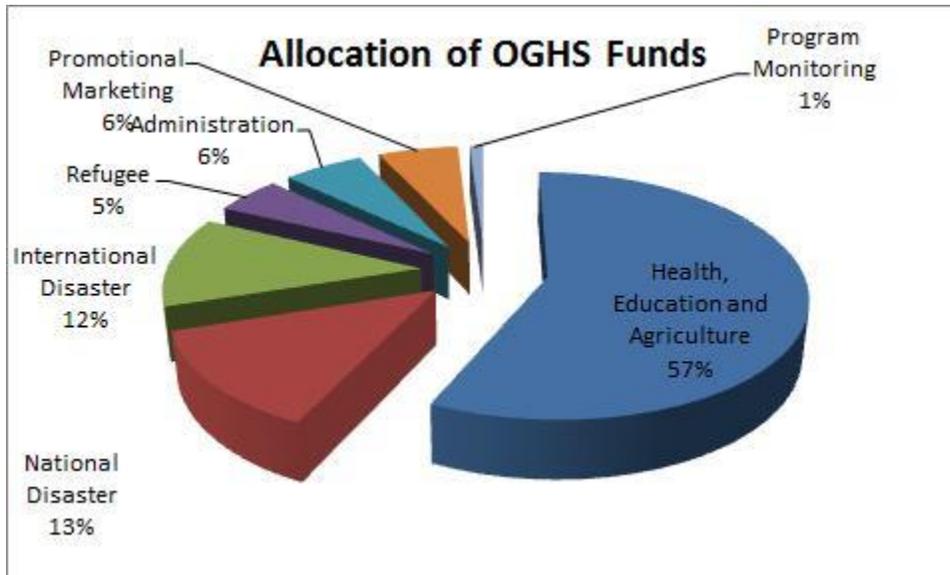
copied from the donation page of the
https://unitedchurchofchrist.nationbuilder.com/international_emergency_relief_fund



One Great Hour of Sharing is one of the four Special Mission Offerings in the UCC, supports partners in more than 70 countries with ministries that fund development projects, feed the victims of famine, provide services for displaced people, and respond to natural disasters.

Below is a chart showing how the One Great Hour of Sharing

Last year One Great Hour of Sharing supported Disaster Ministries -12 % support International Disaster and 13% support National Disasters. The pie graph showing how OGRS funds are spent
Additional information about OGHS is found on page <http://www.ucc.org/oghs>



International – Hurricane Haiyan in the Philippines

Total Income: 1,376,309.76 – spent so far \$650,000.39 with a total of \$726,309.37 left to assist with further rebuilding and support of recovery. Below is a picture of funds used to help rebuild boats.



Help with rebuilding home in the Philippines



Through undesignated funds we are able to provide immediate assistance when something occurs.



The states of Acre and Amazonas in the northern region of Brazil have experienced torrentially heavy rains since February 2015, resulting in severe flooding of the Acre and Purus rivers and their tributaries – the Acre River reached a historic level of 18.4 meters in early March. Those most affected in the Amazonas state have been indigenous people with 240 Apurinas families losing crops and access clean water. Another 210 families along the banks of the Acre River have experienced widespread loss of food, cattle and household items. These communities remain isolated without means of communication following the flood.

UCC Disaster Ministries has been present for response efforts in the most affected areas through its partnership with the ACT Alliance, a partner organization made up of more than 140 churches and affiliated organizations. The overall goal is to provide food security to 450 families (roughly 2,250 people) for two months through the distribution of food kits.



Ebola is considered one of the most aggressive viruses with no cure or vaccine

Through "funding through UCC Disaster Ministries, from One Great Hour of Sharing, UCC Disaster Ministries was able to make a difference as we were able to support sanitation efforts, education and personal protective equipment needed by healthcare professionals,"

USA Emergency Funds

Super Storm Sandy: Total Income: \$882,887.96 – with total expenditures so far of \$547,218.76 with \$335,669.20 about left to assist with recovery.



Hurricane Sandy, (unofficially known as "Superstorm Sandy") in October 2012, affected 24 states in the U.S. It was the deadliest and most destructive hurricane of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season and the second-costliest in U.S. history. The Long-Term rebuilding and recovery process continues. Atlantic County Revive is the Long-Term Recovery Group assembled in Atlantic County to provide coordinated management of the long-term recovery process in helping these communities move forward.

Oklahoma Tornado

Another area the UCC Disaster Ministries was able to provide assistance is through

Spiritual Care

Since 2014 UCC Disaster Ministries has been providing support to the Oklahoma Conference of Churches (OCC) Disaster Emotional and Spiritual Care program. Following the March 25th 2015 tornadoes the OCC was prepared to respond to the needs of the community through a network of trained Disaster Emotional and Spiritual Care providers. In the early days of the response volunteers provided spiritual care support to families at the Moore Red Cross Disaster Service Center and opened a temporary office at the Moore Community Recovery Center. OCC continues to train individuals and stand ready to

respond to severe weather and disasters in the region. UCC Disaster Ministries has committed to providing financial support for the program through 2015.

Through Disaster Ministries there are opportunities to volunteer groups to help with rebuilding. Currently areas in need are:

[Pensacola Flood Recovery - Summer 2015](#)

Volunteers groups of 15 or less are needed to rebuild and repair flood-damaged homes in Pensacola. Work may include but is not limited to light framing, drywall, insulation, flooring and occasional roofing. Registration is now open.

[Superstorm Sandy Recovery through Summer of 2015](#)

Hurricane Sandy was the deadliest and most destructive hurricane of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season and the second-costliest in U.S. history. The Long-Term rebuilding and recovery process continues. Groups of 18 or less needed for home rebuilding and repair.