



# Inside



**Bangladesh  
Flood Relief**  
Page 2



**Seasonal  
Food Aid  
Around the  
World**  
Page 3



**Kentucky  
Flood  
Response**  
Page 4



**Responding  
to Crisis in  
Lebanon**  
Page 6

# Mercy-USA News

September 2022 • Volume 28 Issue 2

Traditionally, monsoon season in south Asia is happily anticipated as it signals the onset of cooler weather. Now, climate change has turned that excitement into dread for many in Bangladesh. The country is often referred to as ground zero for the effects of global warming.

Occasional localized flooding was typical in Bangladesh and people prepared for it but the storms that struck in north India near the border with Bangladesh at the end of June were beyond typical. Heavy rain caused rivers upstream in India to overflow... *Continued on pg 2*

## Mercy-USA for Aid and Development

is a nonprofit relief and development organization dedicated to alleviating human suffering and supporting individuals and their communities in their efforts to become more self-sufficient.

Incorporated in 1988, Mercy-USA's projects focus on improving health, nutrition and access to safe water, as well as promoting economic and educational growth around the world.

- Registered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Special Consultative Status with the United Nations
- Member of InterAction

### Headquarters

44450 Pinetree Drive, Suite 201  
Plymouth, Michigan 48170-3869  
Phone: 734-454-0011 800-556-3729  
FAX: 734-454-0303 info@mercysusa.org

### Other Mercy-USA Offices

Tirana, Albania	Tripoli, Lebanon
Tuzla, Bosnia	Mogadishu, Somalia
Bogor, Indonesia	Antakya, Turkey
Nairobi, Kenya	



[mercysusa.org](https://mercysusa.org)

# Delivering Emergency Relief to Families in Bangladesh

their banks, resulting in severe flooding downstream in Bangladesh's greater Sylhet district. Entire towns were submerged, an estimated 7.2 million people were affected by this disaster. Families were left without shelter, clean water or food.

Mercy-USA for Aid and Development rushed to the affected area with emergency supplies that included food, nutrition biscuits for babies, water purification tablets, hygiene products, first aid essentials, flashlights, candles, and more.



# Fresh Meat Brings Urgently Needed Nutrition

Each year, Mercy-USA distributes freshly slaughtered meat in observance of Eid al-Adha. This year, the meat we distributed was even more urgently needed and gratefully received. The war in Ukraine has had a devastating affect on food supplies in many of the countries and regions where Mercy-USA works. For example, Lebanon, Yemen, and East Africa (Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia) all rely heavily on imports from Ukraine. This year, we distributed fresh meat to vulnerable households in 11 countries, including the United States.



# Helping Our Friends in Flood Ravaged Kentucky

Record setting rain created devastating floods that ripped through eastern Kentucky in late July, 2022. Tens of thousands were evacuated from their homes, leaving thousands homeless for months or years to come. According to the National Weather Service, damage estimates are around \$400,000,000. The floods left behind mud and water that climbed as high as the ceilings in many homes. Houses are traditionally built on tall foundations in this part of rural Kentucky, but even a ten foot foundation was no match for flood waters that carried away homes and vehicles. The homes that remained on their foundations will have to be rebuilt down to the studs, including the kitchens where all appliances had to be trashed and replaced.

Shortly after the water receded and help could be offered, Mercy-USA was on the scene in Floyd county, KY to begin assisting affected families.

We recruited volunteers from the Muslim communities in Louisville and Lexington who formed teams that collected cleaning supplies, baby diapers and other asked for supplies from within their own communities. They also helped us fill a rented truck with small refrigerators/freezers, cooktops, microwaves and other useful small appliances to be distributed to families as they are able to re-enter their homes to clean up and rebuild. Our staff also distributed Visa gift cards to flood survivors. More than once, people asked, "Are you sure there isn't a neighbor who needs this more than us?" This said while stuck in

a shelter or as they were cleaning out three feet of mud from their devastated home. Many of the people we helped are elderly and will need a lot more assistance getting their lives back on track.

On a second trip to the flood affected region our team distributed \$500 Lowes gift cards to vulnerable families attempting to rebuild their homes. With the help of Christian Appalachian Project, a nondenominational charity with deep ties to these rural communities, we were able to reach extremely needy households. One recipient of the gift card, Luecrecia Hicks said, "This \$500 gift card will help repair my bathroom so I can shower again."



# Protecting the health of moms and children in Lebanon

The economy in Lebanon has been deteriorating for years but recent negative pressures such as the worldwide pandemic and the war in Ukraine that cut off wheat and oil imports to Lebanon have created a humanitarian crisis. The Lebanese Pound has lost 90% against the US Dollar. According to the World Bank, Lebanon recorded a 332% increase in food prices during the month of June. 75% of the country has fallen into poverty, so imagine the impact on Lebanon's poor, including Palestinian and Syrian refugees.

Mercy-USA, with grant funding from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), is providing a package of services to support the health and nutritional needs of children and their mothers through six primary health clinics in some of the most poverty stricken parts of Lebanon.

Our community health workers screen and treat children for malnutrition. We also train mothers on best practices for the care and feeding of their children under five. Children from birth to age five who are malnourished are at most risk of stunted growth, slowed cognitive development and worse. Just as importantly, pregnant and lactating women need this screening and support to protect their health as well as the lives of their babies. Mothers are encouraged to breastfeed their infants and given the support they need to successfully nurture their children in an extremely difficult context.



## Jannat's Story

One-year-old Jannat was found to be malnourished by Mercy-USA healthcare staff during a visit to the Akka-Akar camp in Lebanon. The poverty in this camp is severe, it lacks sanitation, clean water and is barely livable. In addition to making sure Jannat would receive therapeutic feeding treatment, Mercy-USA community health workers gave her mother advice on proper feeding of the baby in the face of her difficult circumstances. Mothers in the camp were counseled on family planning, breast feeding and strategies for providing healthy diets for growing children despite the challenges they face.



# Where We Work • [mercyusa.org](http://mercyusa.org)



## Albania

English and computer skills training for orphans  
Read to Succeed program for school-age children and teens



## Pakistan

With funding to implementing partner, The Citizens Foundation (TCF) built and supports a secondary school in Sindh Province  
Seasonal food aid  
Emergency Relief



## Bangladesh

Seasonal food aid  
Emergency Relief



## Somalia

Approximately 800 new or rehabilitated wells for access to clean drinking water throughout Somalia including emergency drought relief  
Nutritional support and health services for mothers and children  
Hygiene and sanitation training and promotion  
Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention



## Bosnia and Herzegovina

Vocational and career training for orphans, at-risk teens and young adults  
Assistance to special needs students  
Read to Succeed program for school-age children



## Ethiopia

Seasonal food aid  
Emergency Relief



## Syria

Covering the daily food needs for approximately 250,000 vulnerable persons in northern Syria  
Winterization projects for vulnerable children and their families  
Semi-permanent homes for Syrian families  
Nutritional support and health services  
Hygiene and sanitation training and promotion  
Livelihood support



## The Gaza Strip

With grant funding to UNRWA, support for a special school for blind and visually-impaired elementary school-aged children.  
Health and vision screenings



## Indonesia

Aiding farmers and local communities with sustainable farming methods. Also assisting farmers in forming cooperatives.  
Seasonal food aid



## United States

Seasonal food aid  
Support for refugees  
Support for Detroit area disadvantaged students  
Emergency Relief



## Kenya

Seasonal food aid  
Emergency Relief



## Yemen

Seasonal food aid  
Emergency Relief  
Safe water



## Lebanon

Mobile Medical Clinic for Syrian Refugees and their hosts in Wadi Khalid  
Healthcare for Palestinian Refugees  
Nutritional support for mothers and children  
Cash assistance for vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian Refugees  
Seasonal food aid



## Mercy-USA Board of Directors\*

### Chairperson

Ms. Iman Elkadi

### Vice-Chairperson

Dr. Ali El-Menshawi

### Treasurer

Ms. Rasha Ghobashy

### Members

Mr. Hassan Amin

Ms. Samar Mady

Mr. Moses Hammett

Mr. Othman Altalib

*\*All members of the Board of Directors serve as volunteers.*

### Senior Officers

Mr. Umar al-Qadi,

President & CEO

Mr. Anas Alhaidar, CFO

**Our donors and volunteer fundraisers make our work around the world possible! Get involved to make a difference!**  
[mercyusa.org](http://mercyusa.org)

**Donate Online: [mercyusa.org](http://mercyusa.org) • Call to donate: 734-454-0011 • Toll-free: 800-556-3729**

Clip and Mail this Donation Form to Mercy-USA • 44450 Pinetree Dr. Ste. 201, Plymouth, Michigan 48170-3869 • US Federal Tax # 38-2846307  
In Canada: PO Box 99055, RPO Heritage Green • Stoney Creek, ON L8J 2P7 • Charity Business #89458-5553-RR0001

## Contribution / Pledge Form

One Time Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Donation  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check

Credit Card (Fill out Credit Card Section)

Monthly Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*I give my permission to Mercy-USA/Mercy-USA (Canada) to withdraw from my Credit Card the amount I have indicated above. I also understand that I may change or end a monthly donation agreement at any time with a written notice.*

### Credit Card Information

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## More ways to contribute!

Many companies match their employees' donations; ask your employer if they have a "Matching Gift Program". Automatic Giving Program: A gift of your choice can be automatically deducted monthly from your bank account. Please call us toll-free at **800-556-3729** for details on how you can make an easy and sustaining gift.

