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ISSUE 02



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The power of appreciation

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PRIDE AND PROGRESS

*Optimism and perseverance
ensure a bright future*



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THOUSANDS HELPED IN NEPAL



Out of conflict and chaos comes hope



Hal Donaldson

President and Co-Founder
CONVOY OF HOPE, Inc.

 @haldonaldson on Twitter

I visited El Salvador for the first time in 1982, when the country was divided by civil war. A fellow journalist and I were sent there to report on the conflict. We conducted a series of interviews and, at night, rode with the police in the capital city of San Salvador.

We also traveled into rebel territory in the back of a pig truck. Although we didn't locate gun-toting rebel soldiers, we had our fair share of memorable experiences.

Along the way, I came across a boy carving rocks with a bullet from a rifle.

"Where did you get the bullet?" I asked through an interpreter.

"I found it," the boy replied.

"Would you trade the bullet for this?" I asked, handing him a shiny coin.

He smiled and nodded, so we made the exchange.

More than 30 years later, I still have that bullet in my possession.

It serves as a reminder that, through no fault of their own, millions of children are the victims of war, hunger, calamity, disease and abuse. Each day they are accosted by hunger pangs as they beg in the streets or scavenge on garbage heaps.

It doesn't have to be this way.

Years ago, when Convoy of Hope began, we acknowledged that we didn't have the power to prevent war or natural disaster. But we did have the ability to fight hunger and disease.

We're thankful for friends, businesses, churches, civic organizations and local governments that have linked arms with us to rescue children from the claws of poverty and hunger. Because of your compassion and action, thousands and thousands of children are living safer and better lives.

God bless you for caring and giving through Convoy of Hope so children and their families have a brighter future.



Photo: A young lady clutches her family's bag of rice delivered by the Convoy of Hope Disaster Response Team.
Location: Lamosangu, Nepal | **Photographer:** Jess Heugel

HOPE

Quarterly

330 S. Patterson Ave. Springfield, MO 65802
Hope Quarterly is published by Convoy of Hope.
Published: Issue 02 - Summer 2015

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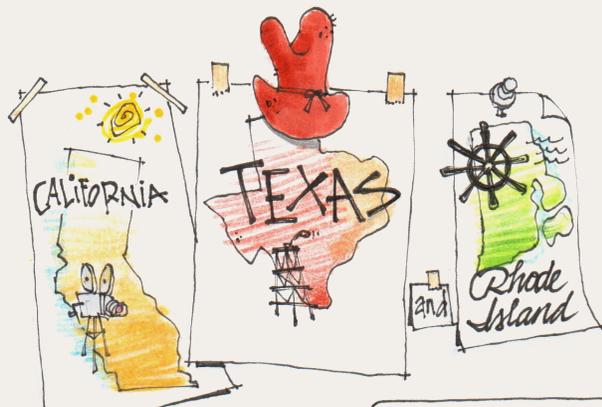
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330 S. Patterson Ave.
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Convoy of Hope's Creative Communications team receives international recognition

Our Creative Communications team was recently recognized by The MarCom Awards and Hermes Creative Awards. Both are international creative competitions for creative professionals involved in the concept, writing and design of print, visual, audio and web materials and programs.



Convoy of Hope has helped more than **10 MILLION PEOPLE** throughout the world...



...that's like all the people in California, Texas and Rhode Island combined. **WOHOO!!!**



Feeding children one at a time through feedONE

In 2014, Convoy of Hope's feedONE Initiative raised nearly \$800,000 to fight hunger around the world. That's triple the support the initiative had in its previous year!

"We were able to provide nutritious food to 6,500 hungry children," says Jeff Roman, vice president of marketing and feedONE. "This would not have been accomplished without the support of our friends who actively help us reach kids around the world. Their gifts provide the support to procure and deliver food to thousands of amazing children in 10 countries around the world."



Doree Donaldson has been part of Convoy of Hope since the beginning. As the wife of President and Co-Founder, Hal Donaldson, Doree has seen Convoy go from handing out groceries out of the back of a pickup truck to celebrating its 20th anniversary and serving more than 70 million people worldwide.

Recently we sat down with Doree to ask some questions about her new role and learn more about the initiative she's leading.

Where did you grow up?

DD: Carrington, a small town in North Dakota.

What brought you to Springfield, Missouri?

DD: I came to study music at Evangel University, which is where I met Hal. After I finished college, we moved to California for 10 years before returning to Springfield.

You just recently took on a new role with Convoy. Tell us about that.

DD: As Women's Development Initiatives Director, I help women partner with Convoy of Hope, and together help children and families in need around the world. That's how the Hands & Hearts Initiative was birthed.

Tell us a little more about Hands & Hearts.

DD: The "party with a purpose" idea was a perfect fit for women to come together and talk about what Convoy is doing and how to become involved. The method seemed very logical: Women enjoy sisterhood and support from one another. Through Hands & Hearts, we

build and strengthen lasting relationships rooted in our common desire to be generous and make a difference.

What do you want women to glean from these parties?

DD: I want them to know they're making a difference. Their part, no matter how big or small, can save lives.

You have four daughters of your own. What do you want to pass on to them?

DD: I've always tried to model generosity to my girls, but I want them to know the importance of meeting the immediate needs of others.

What personally inspired you to take on this initiative?

DD: Growing up, I was surrounded by strong women. When I was young, my mom used to say, "You're little, but dynamite comes in small packages. You can do anything you want to do."

Hands & Hearts offers women the freedom to become inundated with compassion, kindness and generosity.



Doree Donaldson

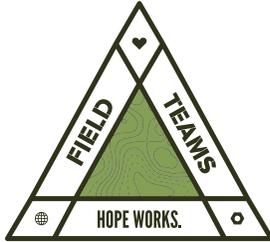
Women's Development Initiatives Director
CONVOY OF HOPE

convoyofhope.org/hhparty



Doree visits with a Women's Empowerment participant in Ethiopia.

Join the CONVOY



Journey and work abroad

Convoy of Hope Field Teams are groups of volunteers that serve alongside in-country staff and partners throughout our focus countries for one week durations so children, families and every community can flourish.

Field Trip Availability

the Philippines
Kenya
Tanzania
Albania

Apply

convoy.org/teams



Volunteer in Springfield

Hands of Hope volunteer night happens every Tuesday at our World Distribution Center in Springfield, Missouri. Volunteers pack food for our international feeding programs and bag groceries for our Community Events.

Where

World Distribution Center
330 S. Patterson Ave
Springfield, MO 65802

When

Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Summer Break: May 26 - July 7



Host a party with a purpose

Host a Hands & Hearts Party! Invite friends to enjoy inspiring conversation and share about the work Convoy of Hope is doing. Discover how you can make an impact in your community and throughout the world.

Details

It's simple! Register online and we'll send you a free party kit to help make it happen.

Register

convoy.org/hhparty



Coming to a city near you

Convoy of Hope may be bringing a Community Event to a city near you. Check out convoy.org/events.



Feed a kid for \$10 per month!

Everyone can do something. Sign up to feed a child nutritious meals at feedone.com.



One Day to Feed the World

The average person works 240 days a year. Give One Day's wage and get your church involved at odftw.org.

Event Calendar

- JUL** 25 Ferguson, Mo. ^{CE}
- AUG** 01 Minneapolis, Minn. ^{CE}
Wichita, Kan. ^{CE}
- 15 O'Fallon, Ill. ^{CE}
Springfield, Mass. ^{CE}
- 19 World Humanitarian Day
- 22 Chicago, Ill. ^{CE}
Kennewick, Wash. ^{CE}
- 29 Bremerton, Wash. ^{CE}
- SEP** 12 Couer d'Alene, Idaho ^{CE}
Washington, D.C. ^{CE}
- 19 Philadelphia, Pa. ^{CE}
- 26 Denver, Colo. ^{CE}
- OCT** 03 Sandpoint, Idaho ^{CE}
CityReach ^{CE}
- 16 World Food Day
- NOV** 18 Hope Connection
Springfield, Mo.
- 21 Las Vegas, Nev. ^{CE}
- 26 Thanksgiving
- DEC** 01 Giving Tuesday
- 05 Int'l Volunteer Day
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 Final day to give in 2015

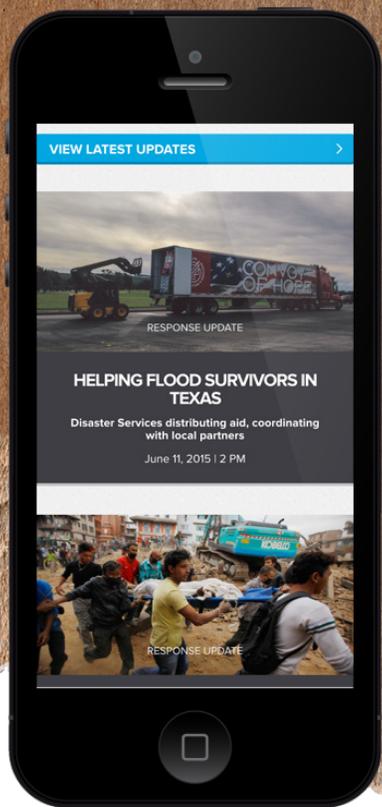


^{CE} CONVOY OF HOPE® Community Event

The HOPE Supply

Hope is the heart of the story

We believe that hope is the common denominator of our stories. The Hope Supply is your opportunity to journey with us, by the power of stories, to faraway places — and perhaps even your community.



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 Stay informed
everywhere you go.

We're Going Green

Our September edition will be available in
DIGITAL FORMAT ONLY
Find out why at convoy.org/hopequarterly



Estate Planning Questions

Making bequests and expecting inheritances is like looking at two sides of the same coin.

Consider the striking similarities in the following “stop and think” questions:

- 1. What are the bequest/ inheritance assets and how will they affect future tax, financial, estate, business, charitable giving and family wealth transfer planning?**
- 2. Do the assets produce income and is it all needed, or can it be given to family members, the church or other charities?**
- 3. Will this bequest/inheritance require updating your estate plans? Are your advisors able to implement these complex plans?**

Estate plans last when representatives work together. Bequests may be made now, without you having to give up the income the asset currently earns.

Dan Rice
Philanthropy Architect
CONVOY OF HOPE, Inc.

📞 (417) 823-8998
✉ drice@convoyofhope.org

Get information about gifts of stock, our donor advised fund or other planned giving opportunities:

convoy.org/planned

Three simple ways to show appreciation

by: Molly Erickson

Oftentimes, we get caught up in our day-to-day routines and forget to take time to appreciate those around us. It’s amazing how simple it is to show appreciation and it may be just what someone needs.

- 1.** Write a thank you note, send an email or give someone a call to let them know you appreciate them. This could be a friend, family member or co-worker that has gone the extra mile.
- 2.** Bake cookies for service members in your community — police officers and firefighters risk their lives every day for us without thinking twice.
- 3.** Recognize exceptional customer service. If you go out to eat and have a great experience, tell the manager. It will likely be a welcome relief from the normal complaints they receive.



Get the rest of this series and other great content at **The Hope Supply:**

convoy.org/blog



PRIDE AND PROGRESS *in* EL SALVADOR

Looming large in the distance, dormant volcanoes form rugged lines against the pale blue sky. The softest white wisps of clouds float lazily overhead. The late afternoon sun casts long shadows over those laboring on the streets. Several merchants, engaged in animated conversation, throw their heads back in unison as they laugh heartily.

by: Michelle Stormzand

A Hillside of Trees

The next morning, as we, the Convoy of Hope team and our Salvadoran guide, head southward toward the Pacific coast, the smells and sights of bustling San Salvador — the heavy exhaust, the screeching brakes, the bellowing horns and the whir of the traffic — fade in the rear-view mirror.

Ninety minutes later the paved serpentine highway we've been on gives way to a bumpy dirt road. The salt-sea air wafts on the wind like a mild perfume. In a nearby creek women stand knee-deep in water scrubbing laundry with bars of soap that leave a milky trail snaking downstream. Tied to trees on the riverbank, cows lazily slurp the cooling water.

Wood and metal shacks dot the surrounding rural landscape. Disintegrating wire fences line many properties, offering no protest to animals' attempts to escape. Here in Jicalapa, poverty is widespread but seems to have no bearing on the countenance of the people. Welcoming smiles, waves and friendly chatter are found nearly everywhere one looks.

On the steep slope of a mountain, 10 minutes from the fertile black sands and rocky beaches, papaya trees stretch toward the sun. The

noonday heat beats its steady, scorching melee on the trees, which grow in the backyard of Iglesia Nueva Jerusalén — a church where Daysi prepares dinner for 35 children several days each week.

She says the combined agriculture and children's feeding project began here three years ago. In order to provide a product to be sold at market, and in turn, feed children in the poor rural community, Daysi and her neighbors cleared land behind the church, dug a holding



WORDS Michelle Stormzand

PHOTOGRAPHY Katie Whitworth

ILLUSTRATIONS Jacob Scowden

pond for water, and planted 125 papaya trees supplied by Convoy of Hope.

According to Daysi, the income from selling the fruit has been instrumental in feeding more children in the community, but she needs a larger farm to grow more papayas: She has big aspirations. "I will buy a bus to bring more children here for dinner," Daysi proclaims. Her small frame straightens as the pride within her swells. "I want none of these precious children to go hungry."

(continued on page 15)





TOP LEFT: Maura raises her great-grandson, Santiago, as her own. TOP RIGHT: A children's feeding participant shows off his puppy. MIDDLE: Stacked bowls and full bellies at La finquita de Jesucristo. BOTTOM LEFT: Kids at a feeding location are captivated by Katie's camera. BOTTOM RIGHT: A girl at a school in Jicalapa rests in the shade.

What she lacks in stature, she makes up for in selfless determination. No doubt her goal to feed all the children in her neighborhood will be achieved: When Daysi wants something done, she does it.

Children’s feeding locations like the one at Iglesia Nueva Jerusalén are becoming more common as Convoy of Hope is able to supply more food to more children, yet hunger is still a pressing issue in nearly every community and among every walk of life in this country.

Feeding Children, Training Mothers

A lone chicken pecks at the ground, scrounging for an afternoon morsel in Ciudad Arce — a municipality located about 30 miles from Jicalapa, though the surroundings are strikingly similar.

Down a dirt alley, children stand in the open doorways of corrugated tin shanties and greet passers-by with excited smiles and an occasional “Hola!” The poverty they are surrounded by doesn’t discourage them — it has no power over their optimism.

In a tiny dwelling with wire mattress springs propped up as a gate, a 2-year-old boy slowly opens his eyes from his mid-morning nap. The sun bears down on the metal roof of the house and brings the temperature of his bedroom to nearly 95 degrees. Little Santiago groggily sits up in the bed and calls out for his abuelita: his great-grandmother Maura, who took him in when his parents couldn’t take care of him.

(continued on page 16)



Why papayas matter

“Papaya trees are very hardy and grow well in our environment,” says Winny Menendez, national director of Convoy of Hope El Salvador. “Papaya also provides nutritional benefits for the children, including killing parasites.”

Nickname:

“The fruit of the angels”
(coined by Christopher Columbus)

Average yield per tree:
80-130 lbs

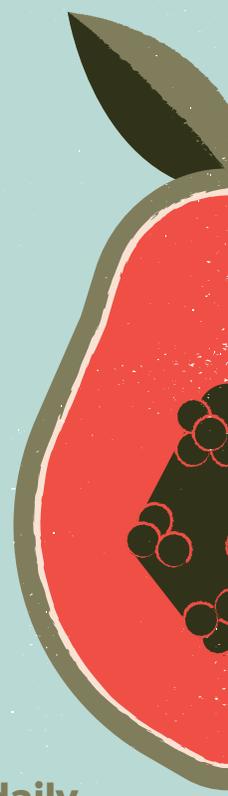
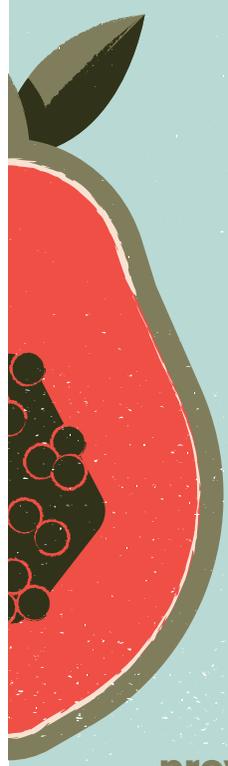
Harvested:
Every 10 months

Plant size:
16-33 feet tall

Common uses:
Commonly eaten raw or cooked in local cuisine

Seeds are used for medicine in some cultures

Nutrition:
One serving provides 100% of the daily recommended Vitamin C





Elvin

Elvin has an infectious smile. He's a shy little guy with perfect dimples, who blushes every time he makes eye contact. As if his smile weren't enough to melt the hardest heart, his boisterous laugh is sheer perfection.

Favorite sport:

Soccer

Favorite book:

"All of them"

Favorite food:

Rice and eggs

Enrolled in:

Children's Feeding

Though she already had her hands full as the head of household for 11 other family members, Maura lovingly made room for him in the two-room house. She totes him around, carrying him on her hip as her own, like a woman 40 years her junior. "He's my boy," she says with a wide smile.

Her daughter, Santiago's grandmother, is the sole provider for the family. She works long hours at a factory in the city — sometimes up to 14 hours a day — and brings home \$120 a month. Needless to say, there is rarely enough food for the entire family.

Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Maura brings Santiago to eat at La finquita de Jesucristo, an outdoor dining room which resembles a typical pavilion at a city park.

The 133 children who are regularly fed here sing songs while they patiently wait for lunch, which simmers in a large pot over an open fire. It's a soup made of vegetables, beans and chipilin, a leafy legume native to Central America. The chipilin supplies protein, calcium and iron to the eager children.

Finally the dinner bell rings and politely, quietly, excitedly, the kids line up for their meal. It's a simple bowl of soup, but to many, it's the only meal they will eat today. They eat slowly, savoring every bite, careful not to spill a drop. Like a baby bird, little Santiago opens his mouth wide for Maura to feed him another spoonful.

Fifteen young women attend a Mothers' Club here every Thursday for a full day of training. "Mothers' Clubs are our way to reach the target age of children from birth to age two," says Andrea Frey-Metzger, Latin America

field operations director. “By focusing on mothers, we’re able to empower and train pregnant and lactating moms so they can give their babies better nutrition.”

Along with nutrition, self-esteem, business, literacy and hygiene classes, the women are learning how to operate a poultry farm. Poultry farms are becoming the business of choice for many women in our Mothers’ Clubs, because chicken is a staple in Salvadoran cuisine, so the birds are always in demand.

Not Just Food; Futures

The 15 participants in the Mothers’ Club combined their seed capital — the business

start-up supplies Convoy of Hope distributes after the participants graduate from the program — to cooperatively operate their farm.

Each woman works tirelessly every day to ensure the birds thrive. Typically, more than 99% of the birds the women purchase as chicks survive to adulthood, even in the heat of El Salvador.

The women are scrupulous — meticulous about details, because every chicken that makes it to market to be sold adds to the success of the business. And when the business is profitable, the

women can afford to provide for their own children.

“We use a holistic approach to teaching women in our Mothers’ Clubs,” says Frey-Metzger. “If a mother can provide for and feed her own children, the chances of that child not only surviving, but thriving and continuing in their education, are huge.”

These mothers desperately want to see their children thrive. Because they’re so thorough, the group has achieved financial success, even as early as this third round of chickens they’ve raised. The ladies have saved over \$1000 cooperatively that will go toward building a second coop.

“We don’t just deliver food to the communities we serve,” says

(continued on page 18)



Chicks in the Women’s Empowerment coop are well cared for. | Several of the participants tell about their experience and earnings.

Winnie Menendez, national director of El Salvador. “We provide them with the tools they need to earn a living, and educate and take care of their children.”

Through our Agriculture, Women’s Empowerment and Children’s Feeding Initiatives, we seek to holistically transform the most impoverished areas of the world, one community at a time. Transformation doesn’t occur overnight, but teaching farmers, assisting families and empowering women, while keeping their kids’ bellies full, is a beautiful beginning.

Michelle Stormzand

Creative Communications Manager
CONVOY OF HOPE, Inc.

Marisa, a Women’s Empowerment participant, has her hands full with four growing boys. ►



Exploring EL SALVADOR

IN-COUNTRY DIRECTOR
Winy Menendez

ACTIVE SINCE
2007

NUMBER OF STAFF
16

PROGRAM CENTERS
85



LOCATION
Central America

POPULATION
6.1 million

LANGUAGE
Spanish

★ **San Salvador**

STATS*:

38% of people live in rural areas

Number of rural poor: **1.1 million**

Income share held by lowest 20%
of population: **4.7%**

COMMON CHALLENGES:

- Recurrent Droughts
- Low-growing Economy
- Vulnerability to Poverty
- Lack of Educational Opportunity

ACTIVE INITIATIVES & PROGRAMS (as of 6/9/15)



Women's Empowerment
261 Participants



Agriculture
281 Participants



Children's Feeding
12,209 Enrollees



*Obtained from: http://www.ruralpovertyportal.org/country/statistics/tags/el_salvador

"Las religiones en tiempos del Papa Francisco" (PDF) (in Spanish). Latinobarómetro. April 2014. pp. 6, 13. Archived from the original (PDF) on 4 April 2015. Retrieved 4 April 2015.

200,000 *by* 2020



STARTS WITH *One*

Disclosure Statement At Convoy of Hope, accountability and transparency are an integral part of everything we do. From every purpose restricted donation, Convoy of Hope's Independent Board of Directors may allocate between 12% and 20% of that donation to cover its administrative and fundraising costs. If restricted donations exceed the need of the crisis, the capacity to respond to a crisis and/or when local conditions prevent effective assistance, Convoy of Hope's Independent Board of Directors may allocate these funds to other worthy projects that help Convoy of Hope fulfill its global mission of helping children and families in need. A copy of Convoy of Hope's annual audited financial statement is available at www.convoyofhope.org/financials North Carolina: A copy of the license to solicit charitable contributions as a charitable organization or sponsor and financial information may be obtained from the Department of Human Resources, Solicitation Licensing Branch, by calling (919) 733-4510. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. Pennsylvania: A copy of the official registration and financial information of Convoy of Hope may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1(800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Virginia: A financial statement is available from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Consumer Affairs, upon request. Washington: You may obtain additional financial disclosure information on file with the Secretary of State's Office. You can contact them at Charities Division, Secretary of State's Office, P.O. Box 40234, Olympia, WA 98504-0234. West Virginia: West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement. All gifts are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

"We're putting a stake in the ground in our fight against poverty and malnutrition."

Hal Donaldson, President and Co-Founder

We have an aggressive goal to feed and care for 200,000 children by 2020. Your gift will make the difference for a child, a family and even a community in one of the many countries where we work. Thanks for partnering with us to ensure their futures.

ENSURE THEIR FUTURES

HOPE015

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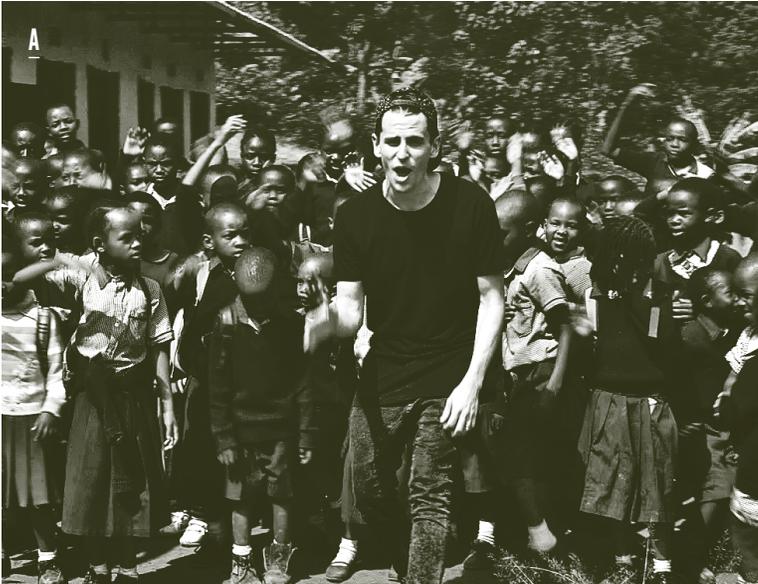
Thank you for your love and generosity. All gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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CONVOY OF HOPE
P.O. Box 219368
Kansas City, MO 64121-9368

convoyofhope.org/donate





A YouTube Sensation Releases Original Music Video

Mike Tompkins created *Daylight*, an original music video, with Convoy of Hope to raise awareness for our work among children and women in Tanzania.

The video was released in April and has received more than 200,000 views on *YouTube*.

With nearly 1.5 million subscribers on *Youtube*, Tompkins shared the video with his fans and garnered the attention of several news outlets, including a post on VH1's daily news recap.

B Qdoba Fights World Hunger

Fourteen Qdoba restaurants, owned and managed by Burrito Concepts, LLC in Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma raised \$20,000 for feedONE. This will provide 40,000 meals for the Children's Feeding Initiative.

C San Francisco 49ers Visit Haiti

Recently, the San Francisco 49ers visited Haiti with Convoy of Hope.

The players and their wives served meals, played with kids and worked on betterment projects to assist our work there.



Partnering to lift up communities

Tens of thousands of guests of honor attend our Community Events each year. Whether they leave with a new pair of shoes or a much-needed medical checkup, it's only possible because of our incredible partners. Thank you!



Helping flood survivors in Texas

Drew and Brittany Brees donate \$50,000

Convoy of Hope's Disaster Services team brought relief supplies to the hard-hit community of Wimberley, Texas, where floodwaters pushed homes off foundations and left hundreds homeless. The team distributed much-needed relief supplies for flood survivors to help put their lives back together.

"When disasters occur, we respond immediately to bring help and hope to survivors," says Stacy Lamb, disaster services support director. "We always want to help communities get back on their feet."

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees and his wife Brittany donated \$50,000 to assist families as they recover.

"Convoy of Hope is an organization committed to helping people who are suffering," says Brees. "As we've done in the past, we're honored to help them reach families who need help."

The Brees' gift also enabled Convoy of Hope to send multiple disaster response vehicles into the affected areas, including a mobile command center, heavy equipment truck, refrigerated trailer loaded with relief supplies, two debris removal trailers, a debris removal van, a volunteer coordination trailer, equipment trailer and two field utility vehicles.



Volunteers haul debris left in the wake of the floods.



Disaster Services

We're on the front lines to bring hope in every storm.

International Disasters:

130

Domestic Disasters:

135

Volunteer Hours:

555,800+

Churches and partner organizations:

1,550

**Numbers are cumulative*

Assisting tornado survivors in Illinois

Convoy of Hope's Disaster Services team responded to a devastating tornado that struck the small northern Illinois towns of Fairdale and Rochelle. The tornado, with 150 mph winds, tore some homes in Fairdale off their foundations.

In Rochelle, the team coordinated 156 volunteers who assisted storm survivors with debris removal and conducted a small-scale mobile distribution of boxes and plastic bins. In Fairdale, 83 volunteers assisted families with clean up of their property and cleared 160 acres of farmland of tornado debris.

Spreading hope in Europe

Convoy of Hope Europe recently served more than 1,600 guests of honor at an Adopt-a-Community Event near Kendice, Slovakia. Convoy of Hope's sister organization coordinated 130 volunteers for the event that gave a new start to impoverished families.

The organization also recently hosted a team of volunteers from the U.S. in the village of Les, Romania, where the group conducted service activities for locals. Their work included repairing homes and building a multi-function building that will serve to provide space for tutoring, kids activities, and a general gathering place to effectively address the needs of the villagers.

Community Events season kicks off

More than 1,500 guests of honor experienced a day of inspiration and hope in Worcester, Massachusetts as Convoy of Hope's Community Events season began.

"This is an incredible way to begin our season of connecting with communities and people in need," says Michael Redmon, vice president of community events. "The other incredible part of this story is that we had more than 750 volunteers lend a hand to help the less fortunate. We couldn't do this without our volunteers."

Twenty Community Events are scheduled through the end of the year in cities across the U.S.

Assisting rural communities in Louisiana

Recently, Convoy of Hope's Rural Compassion team worked with local pastors in Dehli, Louisiana, where nearly a third of the population lives below the poverty line.

A Convoy of Hope Field Team joined the Rural Compassion team in May to work on a number of community betterment projects. The two teams worked to make renovations on a youth center, build roofs and porches on homes for the impoverished, and host a community barbeque to strengthen connections and build relationships.





New hope in Nepal

by: Adam McMullin



Follow our progress in Nepal
convoy.org/nepal

 Earthquake survivors in Nepal haul away bags of food provided by Convoy of Hope.

As the ground began to violently shake during April's deadly 7.8-magnitude earthquake in Nepal, 13-year-old Manish jumped up from his chair, on the second floor of a church and began to run. With walls beginning to crumble, Manish made his way to the street and survived unscathed. His mother was not as fortunate as she was buried in rubble, suffering significant injuries.

"I was scared my mother was going to leave us and we were going to be orphans," says Manish.

Badly injured, Manish's mother lay in a hospital while he took on the role as provider and protector for his family. He cut grass for cattle to make money, while worrying what his family would eat. That's until he heard about Convoy of Hope's food distribution near the remote

village of Lamosangu. Manish hiked down the mountain to get the food kit consisting of rice, lentils, salt and oil.

"When I got the food I could finally have a good meal with my family," he says.

Manish's family is one of more than 3,600 displaced families who were provided supplies by Convoy of Hope. The Disaster Services team moved rapidly into response mode in the hours after the earthquake struck. Since then, they've distributed more than 3,882 tarps and distributed 423,250 meals.

"The need for relief in Nepal has been tremendous and we couldn't have done what we've done without the help of our many supporters," says Kary Kingsland, senior vice president of U.S. Program and Disaster Services.

A celebration of renewal



Dave Donaldson

Co-Founder

CONVOY OF HOPE.inc.

 @daviddonaldson on Twitter

When I first met Wachira Karani, he impressed me with his humility and his dream of helping children throughout Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia. As we began talking, his smile gave way to a determined expression. Wachira explained, “I was an orphan living on the streets and left to die when someone rescued me. Now I have to save these children before they die of hunger or disease.”

I stood with Wachira on a barren piece of land that his church had purchased, and he pointed in multiple directions, showing me where he planned to locate a school that would hold 1,500 children. Then without warning, he bent to his knees and pointed straight to the ground and said,

“Mr. Dave, I could do all of this if I just had a well right here to supply us with water.”

I knelt beside him and made eye contact. “Pastor, Convoy of Hope will raise the funds to build this well.”

And with the help of many friends, we did raise the money to build the well for Wachira and his community. A few months later Wachira and I stood together at the site of the new well. He recalled the lines of people who would come to the well with plastic containers to fill with fresh water.

“It was a great celebration,” he said. “I thank God that my dream for this community is coming true!”

We're Going Green

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It's Time to Celebrate

You can host a Hands & Hearts party in your home, church or other venue. Invite guests to enjoy inspiring conversation and share insight to all the work Convoy of Hope is doing. Discover ways you can make an impact in your community and throughout the world — right where you are.

Register today at: convoyofhope.org/hhparty

Hands & Hearts

