Because of your support, we can respond quickly to disaster, drought and famine, providing life-saving food to families facing severe malnutrition — and your gifts to provide emergency food are matched 4:1.

Thank you for your partnership in 2019!
Thank you for changing lives in 2019!

Last year your generosity supported people in need around the world, and we want to share with you some of the ways your gifts made a difference in 2019.

Because of you, 113,699 people received life-saving assistance after being struck by emergencies like Cyclone Idai.

In places like Ethiopia, 2,200 farming families received agricultural training and support, helping them combat food insecurity and feed their families.

Through our We Care program, 12,589 quilts and blankets were sent overseas to places like Cameroon, where they were gratefully received by Nigerian refugees.

Here in Canada, your generosity helped 104 refugee families settle into new homes across the country.

In this issue of Partnership, we’re sharing two stories that offer a glimpse into the lives of the people you’ve helped. I hope you’ll take a moment to learn more about their experiences and how your support has made a difference in their lives.

None of this would be possible without the support, compassion and generosity of people like you.

Thank you for your partnership. I look forward to continuing our mission together in 2020.

Carla Blakley
Director of Community and Donor Relations

We’re always ready to tell you more about how your gift is making a difference!
Contact our office any time at 1-800-661-2597

Syrian family begins a new journey in Canada

Abdulnaser Alkhatib and his young family spent years apart from their loved ones because of the conflict in Syria.

But, last November, they were joyfully reunited with Abdulnaser’s mother and siblings in Regina — thanks to the Regina Lutheran Refugee Committee, as well as the kindness and compassion of the late Jeremy Campbell and his family.

The emotional reunion marked the end of their difficult journey as refugees escaping war in Syria, but it also marked the beginning of a new journey, this time as newcomers to Canada.

Navigating a new country with different customs, language, food and weather can be challenging, especially after the trauma of war.

But, thanks to your support and a strong community of family and friends, Abdulnaser, his wife Hiam, and their two young children are already adjusting to life in their new home.

Limar, Abdulnaser’s five-year-old daughter, started Kindergarten shortly after they settled into their new home, and her parents both began English classes at the start of the new year.

The family is even getting used to the cold Regina weather thanks to plenty of warm winter clothing donated by the community!

Thanks to your support, hundreds of families like Abdulnaser’s are settling into their new lives in Canada.
Three years ago, Shamsi Adem Hassen left everything behind when conflict in Ethiopia forced her and her family to flee their home.

With their house destroyed, their crops burned, and their livestock stolen, Shamsi’s family had no choice but to leave empty-handed. They walked for miles before joining other displaced people in a place called Kore-dawe. Since then, Shamsi, her husband, nine children and six grandchildren have been living in a shelter made of wood sticks and a tarp. Without adequate relief in the area, Shamsi was in desperate need for basic necessities like food, clean water, clothing and bedding.

“Despite feeling safer, life was difficult in the new place,” Shamsi said.

“We have faced shortages of food, water and other necessities. The food ration given by the government was irregular, not enough to feed the family. Most of the time we were forced to reduce meals.”

Thanks to your support, conditions for Shamsi and her family have improved.

You are providing Shamsi with the necessities she and her family need to survive.

A new plastic tarp is protecting her family from heavy rains. Blankets and sleeping mats are giving her children a place to rest. Water cleansing tablets and a jerry can are making it easier for her to get and store safe drinking water.

“I was so happy for being chosen among so many vulnerable people and to have received these items that made my family’s living condition better,” Shamsi said.

Shamsi and her family aren’t alone. They are just a few of the over 200,000 displaced people living in East Hararghe, just one region of Ethiopia affected by the conflict. Altogether, more than 1.1 million people in Ethiopia have been forced to leave their homes, and that number is growing every day.

Your support is giving displaced people, like Shamsi and her family, what they need to survive.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of those who need it most.
A legacy of hope

Last year George and Marilyn Haugen gave a gift in memory of their daughter, Melanie, who passed away suddenly in August 2017.

“Melanie had a very strong sense of justice for women and giving them a chance,” says Melanie’s mother, Marilyn.

“She was a supportive mentor to many young women as they got started in their careers.”

Melanie is remembered by her family as someone with a vivacious spirit, who possessed great strength, determination and a lifelong thirst for knowledge.

By making a legacy gift in her honour, Marilyn and George know Melanie would be proud to give women and girls the opportunity to expand their own knowledge and reach their full potential.

Your generosity has been making an impact your whole life. We want to help you keep changing lives long after you’re gone.

Have you considered leaving a gift for Canadian Lutheran World Relief in your will? Your planned gift could mean a new life for people who are rebuilding after war, disaster or drought.

Talk to us today to find out how you can leave a legacy of hope.
Get in touch with Carla Blakley at 1-800-661-2597 or carla@clwr.org