

# Behind the **HAMMER**

**MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE / WINTER 2019**



## 2018 MDS Annual Report







# 2018

AT A GLANCE

5,445 volunteers  
from churches across Canada and the U.S.  
gave their time, skills and compassion  
to build  
75 new homes,  
complete  
278 repairs,  
finish  
301 clean ups,  
and build  
14 new bridges  
for households who experienced a disaster.  
This volunteer labor is a value\* of over  
\$9 million USD.

Statistics from Jan. 1, 2018 through Dec. 31, 2018.

\* Based on a volunteer rate of \$24.69/hour — [www.independentsector.org](http://www.independentsector.org)

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is a volunteer network of Anabaptist churches that responds in Christian love to those affected by disasters in Canada and the United States. While the main focus is on cleanup, repair and rebuilding homes, this service touches lives and nurtures hope, faith and wholeness.

Our programs, funded by contributions, aim to assist the most vulnerable community members, individuals and families who, without assistance, would not have the means to recover. MDS volunteers — women and men, youth and adults — provide the skills and labor needed to respond, rebuild and restore.



**Mennonite  
Disaster  
Service**

**Behind the Hammer** is published quarterly by Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) and is available for free upon request. This magazine shares the stories of MDS work in the U.S. and Canada and of the more than 5,000 annual volunteers who are the core of MDS. The stories are meant to encourage people to continue expressing the love of God through the work of MDS.

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**"We are brought together  
in shared humanity."**

— KEVIN KING

## DIRECTOR'S LETTER

# Strangers no more

Looking back on 2018, we see a year of disasters, large and small. The California wildfires, and hurricanes Michael and Florence, affected hundreds of thousands of people. So-called "smaller" disasters — such as the tornadoes that struck the Ottawa area of Ontario — also left people with pressing needs and lasting trauma.

There are many statistics associated with disasters: wind speed, acres burned, homes lost, numbers of people evacuated, and we share some of those statistics in this Annual Report. However, we look at 2018 through an MDS lens; one that is both statistical and emotional/spiritual. You will find numbers that illustrate unprecedented volunteer efforts, hours and compassion. You will find quotes that convey how much of a difference MDS made in the lives of people across the far reaches of the U.S. and Canada, including Puerto Rico and Saipan.

You will notice after each section of this report, there is an opportunity to respond with a short prayer. We encourage you to add to this prayer, share it with your church community, your family, your neighbors, for we will need your continued prayer and ongoing support in 2019.

The reality is, there will always be another disaster. Let us ask together, honestly: Can we do more? Based on the seeds of compassion you planted in 2018, I believe the answer is a resounding "yes!"

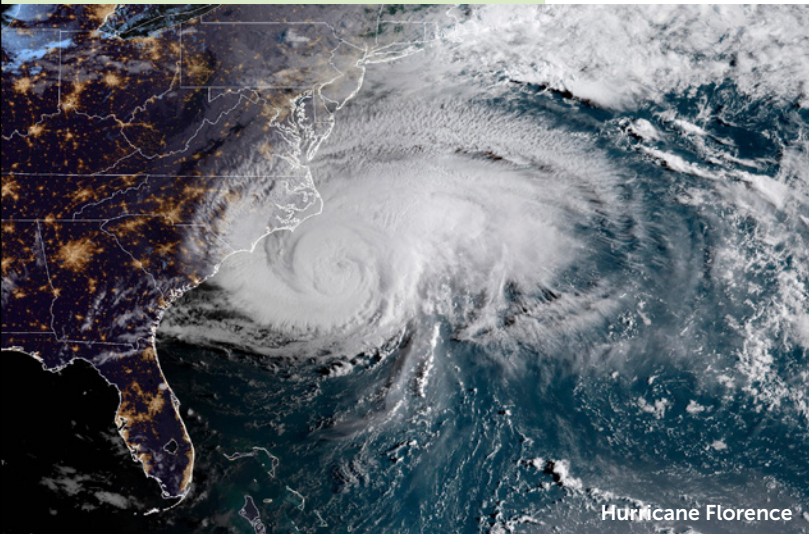
There were so many moments in 2018 when I was amazed by you, our MDS family. First, you served as volunteers or helped support volunteers as they cleaned up, repaired or rebuilt homes, and were present with disaster survivors. This may have involved traveling to Canada or from Canada to the U.S. You raised nearly \$250,000 in less than 24 hours during a telethon. You constructed a home in the parking lot of the MDS Lititz office then trucked it to Texas for a hurricane survivor. You helped strengthen our relationships with partners such as World Renew, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and many local long-term recovery organizations.

When the winds of one of the strongest typhoons ever to hit land blew through Saipan, I was amazed — but not altogether surprised — to watch our MDS-built houses stand firm. Yes, there will always be another disaster. But we will stand firm, and we can do more. ■

Kevin King  
Executive Director



# typhoons hurricanes



Hurricane Florence

Day after day, MDS ensures hurricane survivors do not get forgotten. During 2018, nearly 2,500 MDS volunteers helped more than 400 households affected by hurricanes and typhoons. In each location, response was tailored to meet the unique needs of the community.



"I was right here in the house. And I could feel the force of the trees beat against the house. And I told my wife, 'God is our protection.'"

MARVIN & IRENE HENDERSON

Cottondale, Florida

## HURRICANE FLORENCE

### WHAT HAPPENED

In September 2018, Hurricane Florence's destructive flooding and winds affected about **700,000 homes and businesses** across North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

### MDS RESPONSE

**Early Response Teams** responded in communities across the region — communities like **Lumberton, North Carolina**. MDS volunteer James Reiff, who traveled to the site on short notice, said, "It's about coming in and doing the work, but also taking the time to form a relationship with the homeowner. Sometimes people can cope better if they have somebody to talk too. That is very important. Even as important as working."

Shortly after Hurricane Florence struck, MDS supporters showed their care and generosity, **raising nearly \$250,000 USD** during an MDS-held telethon.



"MDS is here right after the storm, and then we're here for the long haul, for the rebuilds."

ERVIN MILLER  
MDS FLORIDA UNIT CHAIR

Marianna, Florida



Koblerville, Saipan

## SUPER TYPHOON YUTU TYPHOON SOUDELOR

### WHAT HAPPENED

In October 2018, Super Typhoon Yutu, one of the largest on record, directly hit Saipan, the largest of the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. commonwealth. Just three years earlier, the Pacific island was struck by Typhoon Soudebor.

### MDS RESPONSE

In 2018, MDS completed **four more new houses** and repaired four damaged by Typhoon Soudebor. When Yutu struck with winds over 180 mph, all 30 MDS-built houses stood strong, with three losing their roofs. "They are beacons of stability in neighborhoods that are completely destroyed," said Harold Miller, MDS project director. "At MDS, our response is about compassion. But it is also about strengthening the



Lumberton, North Carolina

home for the next disaster. Disaster mitigation is sewn into every MDS endeavor," said Kevin King, MDS executive director. Since Typhoon Yutu, MDS has repaired 7 more homes.

## HURRICANE MICHAEL

### WHAT HAPPENED

Hurricane Michael struck Florida's panhandle in October 2018. With **155 mph winds** at landfall, it is the strongest storm to hit the contiguous U.S. since Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

### MDS RESPONSE

In **Marianna, Florida**, Early Response Teams (ERTs) helped more than **190 households** clear debris from their yards so they felt safe enough to begin assessing damage and repairing their homes. Homeowner Dwight Cloud, who has volunteered for MDS twice in the past, found himself on the receiving

end as MDS ERTs cleared large, precariously-perched trees from his yard: "I never thought I'd be the one needing the help," he said, "but I can't do it myself this time."





"To see a smile and *esperanza* (hope) in a person that having lost their roof, today they can return to their home again. It fills me with much joy and unexplainable satisfaction."

EILEEN ROLÓN  
MDS PUERTO RICO COORDINATOR

Ponce, Puerto Rico



Citrus County, Florida

MDS **Recreational Vehicle program volunteers**, drove their RVs to Citrus County, Florida, to repair hurricane-damaged homes. The volunteers began painting ceilings and reconstructing front porches.

## HURRICANE IRMA

### WHAT HAPPENED

Hurricane Irma caused major damage in September 2017 as it made its way across the Caribbean, struck the Florida Keys and surged up the spine of the state.

### MDS RESPONSE

In **Fort Myers, Florida**, volunteers repaired 54 flood-damaged homes in 2018. Project directors described volunteers in this way: **"Seems God always send us the right people at the right time."** Among the volunteers were **Bluffton College Dietetics interns** who helped keep the crews well fed.

Many Hurricane Irma survivors in **Citrus County, Florida**, also suffered damages from Hurricane Hermine in 2016. MDS is working with Catholic Charities, which established a long-term recovery committee to identify homeowners and procure building supplies.

Upon hearing volunteers singing as they worked, homeowner Ms. Elizabeth said they were **"angels singing for her."**

## HURRICANE MARIA

### WHAT HAPPENED

In September 2017, Hurricane Maria struck **Puerto Rico** as a Category 4 storm, the **worst natural disaster on record** for the island. MDS Administrator Elizabeth Soto, originally from Puerto Rico, described the situation, **"It did not take much to destroy an already fragile economy, fragile job situation, fragile roof tops, fragile businesses and fragile school buildings.** It did not take long to destroy the livelihood of the already fragile lifestyle of those that lived on the island of Puerto Rico."

### MDS RESPONSE

In 2018, MDS volunteers worked with local volunteers to repair 17 houses, one Mennonite school and numerous churches. They also completed their **first hurricane and earthquake-resistant house.**

Homeowner Nilda Cedeño, shares that cars drive slowly to take a look at the new house, and shout **"Que la disfrutes"** (Enjoy your home) **"Te quedo linda"** (It really came out NICE).



"I had my house painted mustard yellow to represent the faith of a grain of the mustard seed."

ERNEST LICERIO

Victoria County, Texas

Dear God,

As thousands upon thousands bear the weight of winds and rain and the aftermath that follows, may we accompany them with listening hearts and hardworking hands.

Amen.

**"MDS volunteers became our instant heroes, stepping in when nobody else did."**

DANNY GARCIA, VICTORIA COUNTY COMMISSIONER



Rockport, Texas

## HURRICANE HARVEY

### WHAT HAPPENED

In August 2017, Hurricane Harvey made landfall on the **Texas Coastal Bend**, dumping more than **27 trillion gallons of rain**, making it the wettest Atlantic hurricane on record. It devastated communities including **Victoria County, La Grange and Rockport.**

### MDS RESPONSE

More than 1,300 MDS volunteers spent 12,600 days repairing and rebuilding homes in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

La Grange, Texas, homeowner Daniel Olenick had an apt description of MDS volunteers: **"I'm so proud of these people. They are just flat gittin' it. I mean, they sheet-rocked the whole house in one day."**

The kind of "drop-everything" generosity that MDS volunteers show is becoming more rare these days, reflected Kerry Eidse, who served as an MDS project director in Rockport, Texas. **"We need to learn to live generously, not just in terms of giving money,"** he said.

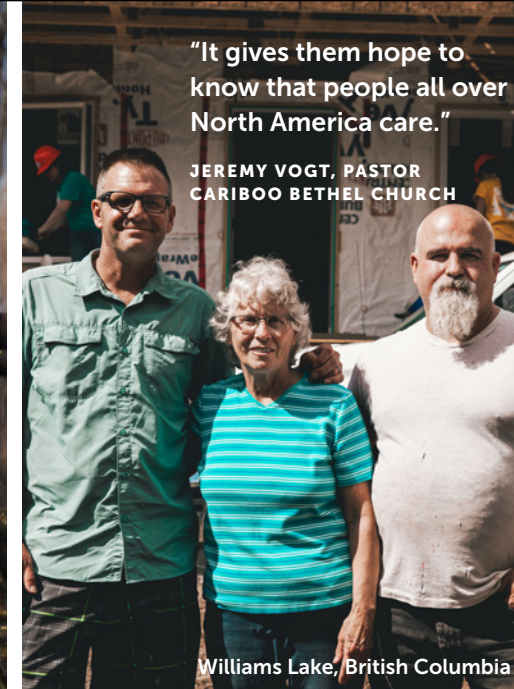
MDS was able to provide even more resources to survivors in Rockport through **Storm Aid** who brought 295 Amish volunteers from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Their 2,752 days of labor led to four homes being completed and dedicated, with eight more under construction, and five more ready to frame. **"We just had a great amount of volunteers with some very strong construction skills,"** said Mannie Flaud, coordinator for Storm Aid.





"I think our home burned in less than 10 minutes."

STEPHAN WASIK



"It gives them hope to know that people all over North America care."

JEREMY VOGT, PASTOR  
CARIBOO BETHEL CHURCH

Williams Lake, British Columbia

## WILLIAMS LAKE, BRITISH COLUMBIA

### WHAT HAPPENED

In July 2017, wildfires tore through the Cariboo region of north central British Columbia. The fires burned over **3 million acres of forest** in the province, destroying dozens of homes and forcing **40,000 people to evacuate**.

### MDS RESPONSE

More than 220 MDS volunteers built **four new homes** for wildfire survivors.

"When I tell people here about MDS and what it is doing, their eyes get big. They can hardly believe it. It touches their hearts," said Jeremy Vogt, pastor at Cariboo Bethel Church, an MDS partner for this project.

## LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

### WHAT HAPPENED

The Valley Fire in September 2015 was the third most destructive wildfire in California's history, burning **2,000 homes and businesses**. Wildfires in 2018 led many residents to evacuate again, but no homes were touched.

### MDS RESPONSE

Some **249 MDS volunteers** built five homes for wildfire survivors, all of whom lost nearly everything. Dave Wiebe, MDS project director in Lake County, said: "**Even though MDS works through volunteer labor, I think our houses are above average.**"

As 2018 became the **deadliest wildfire season on record in California**, MDS kept in close contact with federal, state and local recovery networks, monitoring immediate and long-term needs.



In an effort to combat spruce beetles and prevent future fires, volunteers from Kansas felled some 20 trees and removed 35 major stumps from the property of Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp in Colorado in Spring 2018.



Canadian Mennonite University and Colombia Bible College students served for eight weeks at MDS projects as part of the Sheep & Goats Bursary Program.

Williams Lake, British Columbia

## VICI, OKLAHOMA

### WHAT HAPPENED

In April 2018, in western Oklahoma, the Rhea Fire burned **more than 260,000 acres**, claimed two lives, and destroyed dozens of homes.

### MDS RESPONSE

MDS volunteers built a home for Ian Stewart, who lost nearly everything to the fire. He described going through great trauma: "**As we left, driving really fast, I saw an ambulance leaving the fire, and the ambulance itself was on fire. Deer were running; they were on fire.**"



"I really want to be able to make an impact here."

RAVEN BRAUN

Vici, Oklahoma



Rocky Mountain Menn. Camp, Colorado

# wildfires

As MDS volunteers rebuilt homes destroyed by wildfires in previous years, new fires ignited in 2018, burning 8.5 million acres in the U.S. and 3.3 million acres in Canada. Residents often had just minutes to flee, taking only what they could quickly gather.

Dear God,

As flames take treasured possessions and leave trauma behind, may we bring the cooling touch of kindness, reconstruction and hope.

Amen.



## LAKE ISABELLA, CALIFORNIA



## A life-changing response

“The fire came down the hill at 60 miles per hour,” recalled Darrel Galetano, remembering the day in 2016 that he lost nearly everything. “We had probably three minutes to get out.” He and his wife, Linnea, grabbed their dog and some personal papers, and drove down their driveway as the fire crossed over the ridge near Lake Isabella, California. “You could see it,” said Darrel.

**“I was numb. I’m not a materialistic person, and I’ve always lived simply. But I was just numb, watching.”**

Before The Erskine Fire in Squirrel Mountain Valley was brought under control, it had killed two people and burned the Galetano’s home along with 280 others.

Over the months spent living with friends and relatives,



“One of our goals was to reach out to first-time volunteers. It has been fantastic and a new experience.”

ROGER RILEY,  
MDS CALIFORNIA UNIT CHAIR

what Darrel missed most was not any possessions he lost, but the unsurpassed view of the Lake Isabella reservoir from his former home. The lake is at the southern end of the Sierra Nevada range, with rugged terrain stretching as far as the eye can see.

For Linnea, her home wasn’t the only loss with which she was coping: “I was emotionally at my wit’s end because I had recently lost both of my parents,” she said.

The Galetanos connected with MDS through the Kern County Long Term Recovery Group. The response that

transpired was not only life-changing for the Galetanos.

The MDS California unit chair Roger Riley and MDS Region 4 chair Roger Sharp, teamed up with support from the binational office to coordinate work on the home, which was one-of-a-kind, being built into the side of a foothill at elevation 3,000 feet and requiring the crew to work at a 45-degree slope that was slippery with gravel.

Known affectionally as “the Rogers,” the two leaders said the project was a learning opportunity for them as well as for the volunteers.

Sharp reflected how wildfire response differs from other disasters. “A fire takes it all in 15 minutes,” he said. “A flood creates more work in saving as much as you can. Either way, you pray and head down the road of response.”

Riley added: “One of our goals was to reach out to first-time volunteers. It has been fantastic and a new experience.” ■



# tornadoes

## wind storms

With nearly 1,000 confirmed tornadoes across the United States and Canada in 2018, local MDS crews and willing volunteers were called to action to clean up fallen trees and repair wind-damaged homes for more than 70 households.



Ottawa, Ontario

### OTTAWA, ONTARIO

#### WHAT HAPPENED

In September 2018, three tornadoes touched down near Ottawa, Ontario.

#### MDS RESPONSE

The MDS Ontario Unit helped call in volunteers with chainsaw certification. Seventy-three volunteers served 108 days **clearing fallen and damaged trees around homes**, cleaning up debris, and repairing farm fences.



Ottawa, Illinois



Eureka, Kansas

"I like to say that Mother Nature can be cruel, but in this whole process, we found out how good human nature can be."

BOB ESCHBACH, OTTAWA (ILLINOIS) MAYOR



Hattiesburg, Mississippi

"I'm so happy that my mom has a place she can call home again."

EUGENE STEWART

Dear God,

After cruel winds and tornadoes wreck our homes and strike our communities, may we show the best side of human nature as we bring cleanup, calmness and compassion.

Amen.

### PINE RIDGE, SOUTH DAKOTA

#### WHAT HAPPENED

A bizarre train of severe weather in 2015 and 2016 brought **straight-line winds**, tornadoes, flooding, a blizzard, and hail the size of tennis balls to the **Pine Ridge Indian Reservation**. In a community already struggling economically, hundreds of homes were leveled.

#### MDS RESPONSE

In an ongoing long-term response, MDS crews built eight homes in 2018.

For the past two summers, teenage volunteers joined in as part of MDS's **Summer Youth Program (SYP)**. Project Director Lynn Miller said: "I love working with youth. They're a lot of fun. I hope they learn some building skills but most of all I hope they see the rest of the world is not as beautiful as what they're used to."

**Hesston College Disaster Management students** joined volunteer crews at Pine Ridge as part of their hands-on training in disaster recovery.

### OTTAWA, ILLINOIS

#### WHAT HAPPENED

On Feb. 28, 2017, a tornado packing winds up to 165 miles per hour and baseball-sized hail damaged some 600 homes in Ottawa and Naplate, Illinois.

#### MDS RESPONSE

The MDS Illinois Unit, working through a local long-term recovery committee, repaired a home that had major damage. "You have to have compassion. It's part of our religious heritage, we go out and help others," said MDS volunteer Doug Goertzen.



Pine Ridge, South Dakota

### EUREKA, KANSAS

#### WHAT HAPPENED

In June 2018, a tornado injured eight people and damaged dozens of homes in the small town of Eureka which also experienced a tornado in 2016.

#### MDS RESPONSE

Volunteers replaced the roofs of several homes badly damaged by the tornado.

### HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

#### WHAT HAPPENED

Hattiesburg was struck by a tornado in January 2017 during one of the **largest winter outbreaks of tornadoes** on record in the U.S.

#### MDS RESPONSE

Storm Aid volunteers rebuilt **20 homes** including that of 89-year-old Pauline Stewart, who, after being displaced for a year, received the keys to her new home in January 2018.





MDS celebrated the construction of its 50th driveway bridge for homeowners in West Virginia.

# floods

Flooding quietly seeps into basements ruining treasured belongings or brings a torrent of rapidly-moving water washing out bridges. It damages just a few homes or submerges entire communities. No matter the scale, MDS brings an outpouring of care and practical response.



"We're so happy right now. It's amazing. A year ago today we didn't know what we were going to do."

CHRISTINE SMITH

Constance Bay, Ontario

## CONSTANCE BAY, ONTARIO

### WHAT HAPPENED

Heavy rains in May 2017 affected more than 300 homes in Constance Bay as some houses were literally **lifted off their foundations** by the Ottawa River's unstoppable floodwaters.

### MDS RESPONSE

In 2018, 118 MDS volunteers from across Ontario served **354 days** completing 2 new rebuilds for flood survivors.

Dear God,  
As floods ruin homes and strand people away from their communities, may we build the bridges of love that help them get back to living.  
Amen.

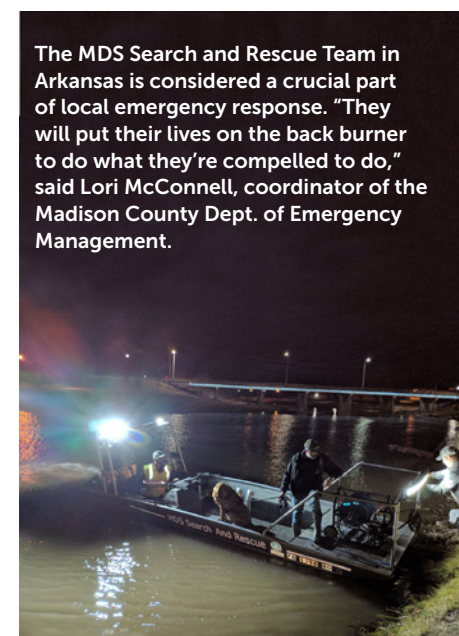
## CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA

### WHAT HAPPENED

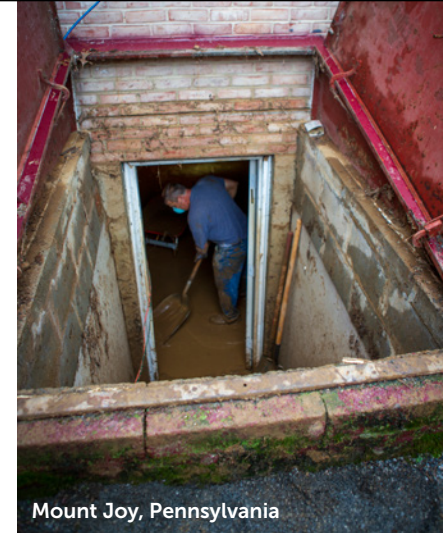
In September 2018, a week after the relentless rains of Hurricane Florence saturated the Carolinas, **swollen rivers swallowed communities** in and around Conway. Just two years earlier, the area had experienced devastating floods from Hurricane Matthew.

### MDS RESPONSE

More than **70 volunteers** initially focused on cleanup then transitioned to repair work once houses dried sufficiently. **"There is a great need here. Come if you can. It's a blessing. Come down,"** encouraged Mel Roes, MDS project coordinator.



The MDS Search and Rescue Team in Arkansas is considered a crucial part of local emergency response. "They will put their lives on the back burner to do what they're compelled to do," said Lori McConnell, coordinator of the Madison County Dept. of Emergency Management.



Mount Joy, Pennsylvania

## PLYMOUTH, INDIANA

### WHAT HAPPENED

Record-breaking floods occurred in northern Indiana in February 2018.

### MDS RESPONSE

Local volunteers, coordinated by MDS Region 2, cleaned up 20 properties and **repaired 3 homes**.

## MOUNT JOY, PENNSYLVANIA

### WHAT HAPPENED

In August 2018, the community of Mount Joy received more than 10 inches of rain in about three hours.

### MDS RESPONSE

MDS worked with local organizations to help flood survivors clean up. **"This community, the way they've come together, has been nothing short of a miracle,"** said Brian Ebersole, an MDS church contact person (CCP) who helped coordinate the response. A CCP works a lot like a neighbor, linking people in a congregation to people in need after a disaster. Across the U.S. and Canada, MDS has 1,523 CCPs.

## CLENDENIN, WEST VIRGINIA

### WHAT HAPPENED

Flash flooding struck Clendenin in 2016, resulting in 23 deaths and devastating damage.

### MDS RESPONSE

During 2018, MDS volunteers repaired or rebuilt 6 homes in the Clendenin area. Three of these have been **Partnership Home Projects (PHP)**, which bring a sponsor church or group together with a local community, MDS, and homeowners.

At the dedication of one of the homes, Larry Stoner, MDS regional operations coordinator, reflected: **"It has been great to see the team effort that can happen to try and bring people back home."**



Clendenin, West Virginia

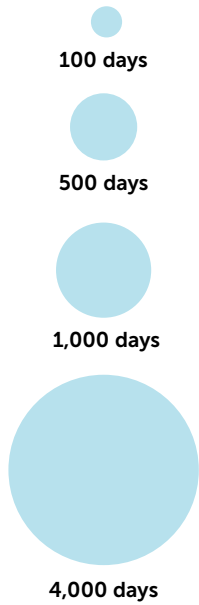




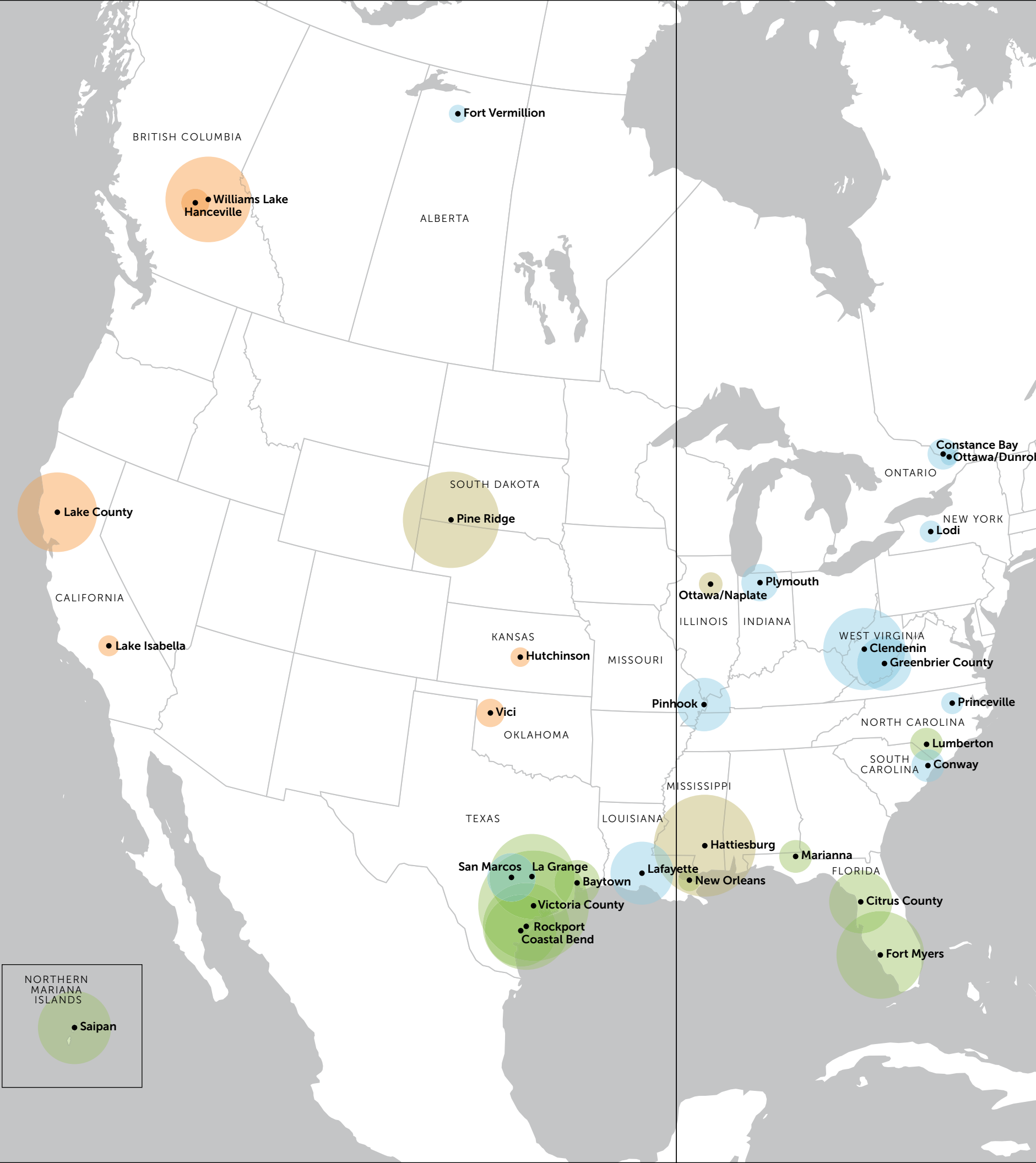
TYPE OF DISASTER

- wildfire
- flood
- hurricane
- tornado

NUMBER OF DAYS SERVED BY VOLUNTEERS



Statistics from Jan. 1, 2018 through Dec. 31, 2018



In 2018  
MDS volunteers served more than  
**46,000 days**  
helping nearly  
**700 households**  
recover from disasters



Respond  
Rebuild  
Restore



2018 FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

	CANADA (CAD dollars)		UNITED STATES (US dollars)	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Beginning Net Assets	\$2,631,000	\$2,327,000	\$19,153,000	\$10,776,000
REVENUE	1,157,000	1,833,000	9,970,000	14,316,000
Contributions and Grants	1,080,000	1,768,000	9,997,000	13,724,000
Other Revenue	77,000	65,000	(27,000)	592,000
EXPENDITURES	1,395,000	1,529,000	8,318,000	5,939,000
Program/Project	1,027,000	1,236,000	6,899,000	4,609,000
Supporting Activities	355,000	266,000	1,147,000	1,085,000
Fundraising	13,000	27,000	272,000	245,000
Ending Net Assets	\$2,393,000	\$2,631,000	\$20,805,000	\$19,153,000
Program/Project %	73.6%	80.8%	82.9%	77.6%
Support %	26.5%	19.2%	17.1%	22.4%

Fiscal year 2018 runs from Dec 1, 2017 through November 30, 2018.

2018 CANADA EXPENDITURES

Program and supporting activities (CAD dollars)

Volunteer Support	\$190,000	14%	
Project: Vehicles and Equipment	\$113,000	8%	
Project: Set Up and Occupancy	\$68,000	5%	
Client Material Funds	\$374,000	27%	
Program: Staffing, Training, Dev.	\$282,000	20%	
Supporting Activities	\$355,000	25%	
Fundraising	\$13,000	1%	
	\$1,395,000		

2018 UNITED STATES EXPENDITURES

Program and supporting activities (US dollars)

Volunteer Support	\$1,053,000	13%	
Project: Vehicles and Equipment	\$1,533,000	18%	
Project: Set Up and Occupancy	\$611,000	7%	
Client Material Funds	\$2,346,000	28%	
Program: Staffing, Training, Dev.	\$1,356,000	16%	
Supporting Activities	\$1,147,000	14%	
Fundraising	\$272,000	3%	
	\$8,318,000		



Clendenin, West Virginia



Ponce, Puerto Rico



MDS STAFF 2018

Alicia Hurst	Volunteer Administrative Assistant
Bob Brubaker	Volunteer Assistant Puerto Rico
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Brad Fair	Development Manager
Brett Troyer	Fleet and Logistics Manager
Brian Pipkin	Executive Assistant
Christle Gehman	Public Relations/Social Media Coord.
Danielle Peters	Accounting Bookkeeper
Darin Bontrager	Regional Operations Coordinator (U.S. Region 2)
Deanna Frey	Coordinator for Weekly Volunteers
Doug Nolt	Warehouse and Equipment Manager
Evelyn Peters-Rojas	Volunteer Development Coordinator
Gabby Bomberger	Program Administrative Assistant
Ginny Sauder	Database Support / Admin. Assistant
Heidi Charles	Staff Accountant
Jeff Koller	Regional Operations Coordinator (U.S. Regions 3 + 4)
Jerry Grosh	Director of Field Operations
Josh Carson	Volunteer Coordinator for Leadership
Kelsey Friesen	Volunteer and Project Coordinator
Kevin King	Executive Director
Larry Stoner	Regional Operations Coordinator (U.S. Region 1)
Lucille Toews	Administrative Assistant
Lyndell Good	Receptionist / Administrative Assistant
Phil Helmuth	Volunteer Recruiter
Ron Guenther	Assistant Executive Director
Ross Penner	Director of Canadian Operations

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MDS LOCAL UNITS

CANADA

Alberta Unit  
Atlantic Canada Unit  
British Columbia Unit  
Manitoba Unit  
Ontario Unit  
Saskatchewan Unit

U.S. REGION 1

Florida Central & South Unit  
New York Finger Lakes Unit  
New York Northern Unit  
North Carolina Unit  
Pennsylvania Casselman Valley Unit  
Pennsylvania Cumberland Valley Unit  
Pennsylvania East & New Jersey Unit  
Pennsylvania Juniata Unit  
Pennsylvania Lancaster Unit  
Pennsylvania North Central Unit  
Pennsylvania West & Maryland Unit  
Puerto Rico Unit  
Virginia Eastern Unit  
Virginia Shenandoah Valley Unit

U.S. REGION 2

Alabama & Northwest Florida Unit  
Eastern Ohio & NW Pennsylvania Unit  
Illinois Unit  
Indiana & Lower Michigan Unit  
Kentucky & Tennessee Unit  
Michigan Unit  
Mississippi & Louisiana Unit  
Wisconsin Unit  
Western Ohio Unit

U.S. REGION 3

Arkansas Unit  
Colorado Unit  
Iowa Unit  
Kansas Unit  
Minnesota Unit  
Missouri Unit  
Montana Western Unit  
Nebraska Unit  
New Mexico Unit  
Oklahoma Unit  
South Dakota Unit  
Texas North/East Unit  
Texas West Unit

U.S. REGION 4

Arizona Unit  
California Unit  
Idaho Unit  
Oregon Unit  
Washington Unit





**Mennonite  
Disaster  
Service**

583 Airport Rd  
Lititz, PA 17543

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
LANCASTER, PA  
PERMIT # 812

**How many  
leadership volunteers  
does it take to  
run a year of MDS  
projects?**

In 2018, it took ...

67 project directors   62 office managers  
13 construction supervisors   112 cooks  
111 crew leaders

**Step up and  
join the team  
in 2019**

