



# YOUR IMPACT

AN UPDATE ON MCC  
FOOD PROJECTS



Mary Nyashin Tsief stands in front of her home in Rubkona's Internally Displaced People's camp with her grandchildren. With the generous support of MCC donors like you, Mary's family has received vital emergency food rations for the past year. (MCC photo/Mackenzie Schwarz)

## Your gifts in Mary's hands

Food rations from donors like you feed families on the brink in South Sudan

Mary Nyashin Tsief has been living in the Rubkona Internally Displaced Peoples Camp in South Sudan for the past four years. Her family is among the hundreds of thousands of people displaced within Unity State due to immense flooding. These disasters have wiped out crops, farms, livestock and all cultivable soil, making it nearly impossible to grow food or access markets. Violence and economic turmoil have exacerbated those challenges, meaning Mary's family often doesn't have food to eat.

But thanks to you, MCC's partner, Episcopal Church of South Sudan - South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (ECSS-SSUDRA), has provided 800 families (3,071 people) with emergency food baskets every month for an entire year. Priority has been given to families like Mary's who have no source of reliable funds to purchase food and no ability to produce their own food.

**Two-thirds of South Sudan's population depend entirely on humanitarian assistance to survive. Your generous support has been critical to ensure families like Mary's do not go hungry.**

## Emergency food relief to South Sudan

You are helping save lives with sorghum and salt

Sorghum is a grain that is commonly distributed in South Sudan as part of emergency food packages. The monthly packages that South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (SSUDRA) has distributed with your generous support included 33lb bags of sorghum alongside beans, cooking oil and salt to meet people's basic nutritional needs. Here's why in a country like South Sudan, sorghum is the grain of choice:

- Unmilled sorghum can be prepared in multiple ways and is a key ingredient for many local staple dishes.
- Sorghum has an extended shelf-life compared to other grains like flour which means it can be transported far distances over longer periods of time without spoiling.
- Sorghum is less sensitive to moisture than grains like flour. Given that transportation is often by boat and that recipients often live in shelters that leak, unmilled sorghum is a more dependable ration.
- Sorghum needs to be milled and families like Mary's who receive unmilled sorghum in their food packages also receive the money they need to mill their sorghum.



Prior to receiving monthly food packages that donors like you helped make possible, Mary and her family would go into the floodwaters to forage water lily bulbs (pictured here). With your compassionate support, Mary and her family have monthly rations of sorghum, beans, cooking oil and salt to supplement their diet. (MCC photo/Mackenzie Schwarz)

### Partner spotlight:

#### Episcopal Church of South Sudan – South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (ECSS-SSUDRA)

The Episcopal Church of South Sudan - South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (ECSS-SSUDRA) is the relief and development arm of the church. Its mandate is to facilitate the emergency and development programs and build capacity of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan institutions and dioceses to identify and prioritize community needs, act to reduce poverty and hunger, and effectively deliver lifesaving services for improving livelihoods in communities.

This organization was established in the 1970s to offer humanitarian relief services across the province of the ECSS.



**The life here in the camp is good and difficult. Before I was registered with SSUDRA we were really suffering a lot. We went into the floodwaters to collect the water lily bulbs – that was what we had to eat to survive. But now things are better.**

- Mary Nyashin Tsief, South Sudan



## Feeding hope in Ukraine

You're helping Ukrainians fleeing violence and war access essential food and hygiene kits

More than one hundred years ago, MCC cared for those fleeing present-day Ukraine, ultimately helping many of them make a new home in Canada years later. Today, with the compassionate support of MCC donors like you, we honor our history and forge ahead into the future by extending help and hope to our global neighbors in Ukraine.

Through the work of Step with Hope, you are helping ensure emergency assistance is reaching Ukraine's internally displaced people in communities across the Dnipropetrovsk region. When people arrive at Step with Hope's door, they typically have nothing except valuable documents and the clothes on their back. The emergency food and hygiene packages MCC donors have helped to provide are essential as they contain everything from diapers and toothpaste to flour and tea.

As Ukrainians emerge from a long, cold winter where fuel shortages reigned, rent was high and employment opportunities were low, your support has been invaluable to ensure they have had access to the necessities they need to survive.

The town that Anna\* called home has been completely destroyed in the ongoing conflict with Russia. She and her husband fled to the Dnipropetrovsk region where they were met with open arms by MCC partner Step with Hope. Through your compassionate support, Anna received the psychological and practical help she needed to take the first steps to begin rebuilding her life. (Step With Hope photo/Izabella Vaschinina)

*\*Last name is withheld for security purposes.*



**A big thank you from us and on behalf of all elderly people who have been disadvantaged by the war, that you care so much, that you help us and do not leave us alone with these difficulties.**

- Anna, Ukraine

# Your impact around the world

## Current MCC projects

Conflict. Climate Crisis. Violence. Poverty. The reasons for food insecurity vary, but the impact is the same. When people don't have stable access to food, they become malnourished, they suffer and too often they die. With the partnership of MCC donors like you, we are providing emergency food and also helping farmers earn more income and grow more food to support their families. Here are a few recent examples:



### Honduras

**Initiative:** This project seeks to improve the climate resiliency of 400 farms in southwestern Honduras through crop diversity, the development of rural savings and loans groups, and conservation agriculture initiatives like grain storage and sustainable water sourcing.

**Partner:** Comite de Desarrollo Social (CODESO)

### Haiti

**Initiative:** Working in partnership with three farmer-owned cooperative associations, this project improves food and security for farmers in Haiti. Participants are strengthening their capacity to feed their own families through learnings at agriculture and livelihood training and support in their small businesses.

**Partner:** Partenariat pour le Développement Local (PDL)

### Zimbabwe

**Initiative:** Building on three years of success, this project is ramping up its support to over 5,400 people in the Mwenezi district of Zimbabwe. These farmers and their families are implementing intercropping systems for improved food, seed production and livelihood security amidst the escalating effects of climate change.

**Partner:** SCORE Against Poverty

### Gaza

**Initiative:** Distribute ready-to-eat food baskets and bedding to 250 families affected by the current conflict. This humanitarian assistance is purchased locally in Gaza based on existing supply.

**Partner:** Al-Najd Developmental Forum (NDF)



## A legacy of generosity

Jonathan and Liana Toews, from Altona, Manitoba, have supported the work of MCC for many years. Recently, they decided to leave MCC a legacy gift in their will on top of their already generous active support.

“We hope that the wealth we have accumulated can contribute to a better world in some way, to be part of something bigger than us because life itself is a gift. We know that this decision looks different for everyone, but for us, we are happy to leave a gift for MCC in our will.”

Jonathan and Liana Toews are leaving a legacy of generosity with a gift to MCC in their will. (Photo courtesy of Jonathan and Liana Toews)

Learn more about how you can leave MCC a gift in your will at

[mcc.org/legacy](https://mcc.org/legacy)