



Immediate Response, Long-term Rebuilding

When a disaster strikes, we want to respond immediately. That's important because the timing may make the difference between life and death for many people. But when the images of the disaster disappear from the news, it's easy to forget that for survivors, the initial shock is only the beginning of a very long journey. One of the hallmarks of Presbyterians' One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) response is that through both Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and our other two OGHS programs, we walk that journey with survivors throughout the long process of rebuilding their lives and their community.

When a tsunami struck southern Asia in 2004 on the day after Christmas, the world responded immediately. Within a week, Presbyterians had given more than \$500,000 and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) had sent \$320,000 to partners in the region for immediate relief. Anticipating the duration of the crisis in most communities, PDA asked Presbyterians to give even more, and wisely set aside much of their generous gifts for the long-term rebuilding.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING • **Where Is Your Treasure?**



For Pak Yadi, the loss was devastating. His wife and children, his home, and his ability to farm his land all vanished in the time it took the tsunami to crash inland and then recede, dragging tons of salty mud on top of his farmland. Until the salt could be removed or neutralized, it would kill whatever was planted.

But your gifts to OGHS helped Mr. Yadi start over, enabling PDA's partner to make low-interest loans to farmers to rent unaffected land nearby and to buy seeds and tools. By raising melons for sale in local markets, the farmers could buy food and medicine, make loan payments, and slowly set aside money to reclaim their own land. The farmers learned that by joining together in a cooperative, they could help one another rather than compete. Now, four years after his future looked totally hopeless, Mr. Yadi, remarried and reconnected with his land, looks forward with his wife to the birth of their first child.

Let us thank God for giving us the chance to be a part of this rebirth of hope. Today, on our one chance this year to support these ministries through One Great Hour of Sharing, may the healing balm of Christ's love wash through us to reach those who next need it, wherever they may be in this coming year.

Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing change people's lives:

- One way PDA responds to immediate needs is by providing emergency life packs (\$125 value) containing basic necessities for displaced persons.
- Self-Development of People helped fishing and farming communities' tsunami recovery through its regional partner, the Development Promotion Group.
- The Presbyterian Hunger Program worked with communities displaced by the tsunami and by multinational land speculators buying up their farmlands.

For more examples of One Great Hour of Sharing's immediate disaster relief and long-term rebuilding ministries, go to www.pcusa.org/oghs/disasterrebuilding.



www.pcusa.org/hunger



www.pcusa.org/sdop



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DISASTER ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE.

www.pcusa.org/pda



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