OCTOBER 2026

THE RESPONSE REPORT

SHARING OUR WORK BEYOND THE HEADLINES

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

a ministry of

Presbyterian Life & Witness
Serving God's Mission in the World

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- National Response Team (NRT) Members lead a Church Safety and Security workshop with the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky.
- In collaboration with the Global Ecumenical Liaison for Middle East and Europe, attended strategic partner meetings and project visits in Jordan and Lebanon to explore new opportunities to accompany their next phases of projects with impacted communities.
- Processed grants to support two presbytery's work accompanying immigrant community members in the aftermath of immigration enforcement in their areas.
- Production trip in Washington, D.C. for two documentaries: one about gun violence prevention and one about environmental racism. For this production trip, we partnered with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions and the Union of Concerned Scientists.
- Church Damage Grants were disbursed to congregations in Ohio, Hawaii, Virginia, and New Jersey.
- Provided a grant in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to support Ebola response.
- Disbursed a grant in India with our partner SNIRD to establish sustainable food systems and climate-resilient livelihoods by enabling vulnerable farming communities to adopt agro-ecological practices that ensure food and nutrition security.
- Initial Assistance Grants were disbursed in response to the Aspen Acres Wildfires in Colorado, Hurricanes Lowell and Nolo in Hawaii, and Hurricane Isaias in Florida.
- Hosted a virtual prayer service to honor the people who have been kidnapped or have died in immigration enforcement custody.
- Processed a grant in Nigeria with our partner CISCOPE that will support vulnerable youth and communities in Adamawa State through vocational skills training, start-up kits, and improved access to livelihood opportunities, while also addressing nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene needs.

- **In Greece, a grant that provides monthly humanitarian assistance to vulnerable households through a food bank and essential non-food item distribution was approved.**
- **Took part in a reference group with the World Council of Churches to work on strengthening the ownership and agency of local churches and denominations in humanitarian and development responses as well as linking the more everyday congregation-based diaconal work that supports vulnerable people and their communities with larger-scale efforts that are undertaken after a catastrophic event that exceeds local ability to respond.**
- **NRT members represented PDA at the National Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster (VOAD) Fall Members Meeting – three days of connection, collaboration, and learning alongside national disaster response partners.**
- **PDA Staff visited with the Presbytery of Western North Carolina's Disaster Response Coordinator, Volunteer Host Sites, and ecumenical partners to learn about their Hurricane Helene recovery efforts.**
- **NRT members provided production support in Detroit and Washington, D.C. for a Counter Stories Production film on gun violence prevention.**
- **Approved a grant for Movement for Justice in El Barrio, a grassroots, immigrant-led community organization based in East Harlem.**
- **NRT members presented a PDA Emotional and Spiritual Care (ESC) program in San Antonio at the invitation of Mission Presbytery.**
- **Disbursed a grant to support earthquake response in Peru with our partner CEDEPAS Perú. The grant provides food and shelter kits, materials to temporarily reinforce housing, and essential items such as hygiene kits, climate protection, kitchen tools, and more.**
- **NRT members represented PDA at congregational and presbytery events in the Presbytery of Philadelphia, the Presbytery of the Cascades, and the Synod of the Sun Fall Assembly gathering.**
- **In Zimbabwe, we are working with our partner CCAP-Harare Synod to provide a 30-day emergency intervention targeting 1,500 most vulnerable households (7,500 people) following severe storms. The grant will provide safe water access, emergency sanitation, and hygiene promotion and protection.**