



## 2009 Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale Information Blurbs - U.S.

*You may use these bits of information in talks, news releases, brochures, quilt booklets, signs, posters, web pages - where ever we need a reminder of the Relief Sale's purpose of supporting MCC. Also visit [www.mcc.org](http://www.mcc.org), <http://mcc.org/world/> and read "a Common Place Magazine" for updated stories.*

### **MCC GENERAL STATEMENTS**

<http://mcc.org/about/>

Caring in the name of Christ. (MCC's theme for 2009)

For more than 88 years, MCC has joined with others around the world to demonstrate God's love and salvation.

In North America, MCC is involved with immigration, refugee assistance, job creation, people with disabilities, offenders and victims of crime and more.

Wherever possible, MCC works with the regions' local partners.

Help spread care and hope around the world. Donations to MCC may be made in honor of or in memory of a loved one or friend. Give to a particular project or offer a general donation in someone's name to mark birthdays, anniversaries, graduations or other milestones.

MCC helps create hope with projects that assist people to lift themselves up and become self-sufficient.

MCC works among people suffering from poverty, conflict, oppression and natural disaster.

MCC workers serve in 53 countries in relief, community development and peace work.

MCC receives an "A" rating by the American Institute of Philanthropy's Charity Watch.

### **CARE FOR CREATION**

<http://mcc.org/careforcreation/>

- MCC is assisting with construction of biogas systems in many countries.
- Biogas systems give families a cleaner way of disposing of the waste that animals produce and offer an affordable source of renewable energy.
- \$65 provides labor to construct one biogas system.
- \$250 provides materials to build one biogas system.
- *Haiti* - MCC supported tree nurseries grow more than 400,000 seedlings a year.
- *Bangladesh* – MCC is helping farmers develop natural methods to control the pests that cut into their harvests.

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### EDUCATION – GLOBAL FAMILY [www.mcc.org/globalfamily](http://www.mcc.org/globalfamily)

- Sponsor children and young adults in their education to build stronger communities around the world.
- Sponsorships - \$25 monthly or \$300 annually
- MCC's Global Family program supports efforts in more than 40 countries to provide a safe place for children and youth to grow and learn.
- \$50 helps provide fees, uniforms, supplies or transportation so more students can attend school.
- *Egypt* – Literacy classes open doors for students in Egypt and provide a way to reinforce peace and solidarity between Christians and Muslims.
- *Egypt* – Through literacy classes, many adults and teens in Egypt are able to read the Bible for the first time, help children with their homework and find their way in a complex world.
- *Zambia* – Funding for school fees, uniforms and supplies are provided to help children attend school that otherwise could not.
- *Lebanon* – Students with disabilities are helped to build life skills and gain vocational training.
- *Nepal* – MCC provides AIDS orphans with schooling and basic health care.

### FOOD

<http://mcc.org/foodforall/food/crisis/index.html>

- Food for All
- The world is hungry. MCC is responding. Your help is needed.
- MCC food programs include emergency food assistance and long-term water and agriculture projects. MCC also works with community groups and governments to ensure that the voices of the poor and the hungry are heard.
- MCC responds by shipping food from North America or providing money to purchase food locally.
- MCC agriculturalists teach soil management, crop variety selection and livestock care to improve food production.
- MCC strives for food justice by working at peace and reconciliation so people can plant and harvest in safety.
- MCC provides food aid to people no matter the political and religious views of the country they live in.
- Food is a gift from God. Striving to ensure all God's children have enough to eat is a witness to God's grace and love.

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### FOOD (cont'd)

- People everywhere have a right to enough food to live active, healthy lives.
- Those with abundant food have a responsibility to share with those who are hungry.
- MCC sponsors shipments of soybeans that is being made into protein-rich soy milk, boosting nutrition among children in orphanages, baby homes and day care centers.
- Soybeans are made into protein-rich soy milk to supplement diets of the elderly.
- \$35 provides rice, beans, oil, salt and instant noodles for a family of six for one month.
- \$124 provides sustainable agricultural training, equipment and seeds for 10 families.
- MCC provides a daily lunch in preschools to help reduce malnutrition.
- \$19 provides daily meals for one abandoned or orphaned child.
- \$25 provides vegetable seeds and fruit seedlings for 10 families.
- *North Korea* - More than one third of children in North Korea are chronically malnourished.
- *Ethiopia* - \$42 will feed a family of six for one month.  
\$210 will cover the cost of feeding a family for five months.
- *Bangladesh* – Working with local agriculturalists, MCC volunteers helped develop innovative experiments in irrigation and crop methods resulting in some farm families being able to afford two meals a day for the first time.

### HEALTH

- About 4,500 children die each day from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation facilities.
- *Laos* – MCC promotes health through the building of wells and latrines and public presentations on topics such as hygiene.

### KITS– [www.mcc.org/kits](http://www.mcc.org/kits) -

When you put a Mennonite Central Committee kit together, you help provide care for people in need. The approximate cost for creating a kit is listed below.

<i>Relief Kit</i> – Provide valuable supplies to families traumatized by war and natural disasters.	\$38
<i>Newborn Kit</i> – MCC distributes newborn kits to hospitals, clinics and orphanages.	\$18
<i>Sewing Kit</i> - Provide basic tools to make and mend clothing.	\$18.50
<i>School Kit</i> – Given to students displaced by natural disaster or war and to those struggling to afford schooling.	\$7.75
<i>Health Kit</i> – provide needed hygiene supplies and are given to people affected by war or natural disaster	\$7.40
<i>AIDS Care Kit</i> – supplies help home care volunteers provide comfort to people living with HIV and AIDS.	\$70 plus \$100 to purchase medicines and patient support.

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### PEACE and JUSTICE

<http://mcc.org/about/peacecommitment/>

- MCC strives for peace, justice and dignity of all people.
- MCC supports trauma healing for people to overcome the pain of their experiences and forge new lives.
- MCC sponsored trauma healing helps people accept what has happened, but that there is hope.
- MCC is helping teach children how to recognize, report and avoid cluster bombs.
- Every act of LOVE is a work of PEACE. – Mother Teresa
- *Bosnia* - \$50 helps produce documentary films to improve awareness and protection of human rights and to encourage peace.
- *Columbia* – MCC supports a two-year course that brings people from different backgrounds together to explore practical ways to build peace in their own communities.
- *Sudan* – MCC supports radio programs to increase awareness about human rights. \$45 helps provide radio airtime and marketing for one radio program.

### THE POWER OF \$1.00

#### **\$1.00 provides:**

- Vegetable seeds for one family
- Rice, beans, oil, salt and instant noodles for a family of six for one day
- Two days of supplemental food and multivitamins for one AIDS patient
- Nine people giving \$1 can provide food for an orphan for a month.
- Emergency food for one person for three days
- Twenty people giving \$1 can build a canal to provide water for one family.
- Two people giving \$1 can buy enough supplies to help one child in Bangladesh attend school for one year.
- Fifteen people giving \$1 will irrigate a half-acre plot where one family can raise enough food to last for six months.

### SHELTER

- \$10 provides plastic sheeting and household supplies for one temporary shelter.
- \$100 provides plastic sheeting and household supplies for 10 temporary shelters.
- *Iraq* – Approximately one in six Iraqis have left home, seeking safety.

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### WATER

<http://mcc.org/water/>

- Water is a sacred gift connecting all life.
- Water is life.
- MCC is assisting communities in developing clean water systems that increase families' health.
- The average person in the developing world uses 10 liters of water per day, the average Canadian or U.S. uses more than 300 liters per day.
- 15% of the world population is malnourished, due in part to insufficient water for crops.
- \$12 is the cost of supplying clean drinking water for one person.
- \$70 provides materials for a well cap and drain for one well.
- *Laos* - MCC is helping to drill wells and build latrines in villages where there are high rates of waterborne diseases.