



God is Working in Cuba

Strengthening relationships and building bridges while sharing the Good News

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Hurricane Ian Disaster Response

Hurricane Ian tore through Cuba last week destroying buildings and causing havoc for many families. The hardest hit area was the province of Pinar del Rio in the western part of the island where many people were left homeless following the immense winds and flooding. The entire country was without power for more than 24 hours and many areas are still without electricity and fuel needed for cooking and clean water.



Throughout this ordeal, members of Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation maintained communication with Moravian church leaders as well as the Cuban Council of Churches. These leaders have reached out to us for aid to assist those directly affected by the hurricane. \$7,500 has already been sent for immediate assistance and additional funding and materials may be provided as needs are assessed. This will go towards helping Moravian communities affected by the hurricane as well as to those living in Pinar del Rio where most of the devastation occurred.

Economic Crisis

Our friends in Cuba have also asked for help dealing with ongoing needs arising from Cuba's worst economic crisis in thirty years. In addition to long standing economic problems, Cuba is struggling to deal with the effects of the pandemic, increased inflation and fuel shortages exacerbated by the fire in August that destroyed much of a critical fuel terminal at the port of Matanzas. Unfortunately, the Cuban people are the ones suffering from these difficult conditions. There continues to be a shortage of food, hygiene items, medicines and medical supplies.

To help with hurricane recovery and to ease some of the burden of the economic crisis, ARMF is in the process of procuring enough food and supplies to fill another container to be sent to Cuba within the next few weeks.



We will be accepting certain material donations to be sent in the container. Items of need are:

Over the counter medications: Multi-vitamins, Vitamin C, acetaminophen, antibiotic creams and ointments, oral rehydration salts, etc.

Medical supplies: Please contact Joe Jarvis if you have access to medical supplies that could be used by the medical facilities that we assist.

Personal hygiene items: Soap, detergent, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc.

Christian Education: School supplies such as markers, paper, glue sticks, etc.

If you are interested in donating any of the above items, please contact Joe Jarvis at 336-403-4104 or joe@armfcuba.org

Moravian Resources Conference

The Moravian Resources Conference just concluded in Panama City, Panama. This conference was offered by the Board of World Mission to brothers and sisters throughout the Spanish speaking world, including Cuba.

It was reported to be a highly meaningful and enjoyable time for participants. Bishop Armando Rusindo was one of the presenters, along with Bishop Sam Gray and Justin Rabbach, Executive Director of BWM, who are both on the board of ARMF. We were happy to support this event by providing four Chromebook computers for use by the delegates.



Seminar for Pastors



The Cuban people are used to living in difficult conditions but the challenges of the last few years have been especially trying. The pandemic, economic crisis and frequent natural disasters have weighed heavily on them. In an attempt to cope with stresses in their lives, many reach out to their pastors for support. Unfortunately, many pastors feel ill equipped to provide counselling during such difficult times.

ARMF is partnering with, United Servants Abroad to hold a training seminar on how to counsel people during times of crisis. It will be attended by pastors and their wives who are often partners in ministry. This seminar will have highly skilled presenters including Rev. Sam Gray, a Moravian Bishop and ARMF board member. It is intended to help pastors work with others during times of crisis as well as learn coping skills for themselves.

Other Projects

- Materials to complete the greenhouse for the farm at Camagüey are unfortunately still being held up in customs. We look forward to a time when it can begin providing food for the community.
- A clothing thrift shop business is under consideration to provide modestly priced clothing and to help churches become self-sustainable.
- A Moravian youth camp in Cuba is planned for next summer to unite Cuban youth with their counterparts from the United States.
- The daycare center in *Guantánamo* is looking to expand by building a second floor so it can accommodate more children in need of childcare in a loving Christian environment.
- There is a need to provide care for the elderly in church communities. This might include assisting with food, medicines and other basic needs.

Water Purification System

Members of ARMF have determined that they can develop a water purification system equal to or better than the ones purchased for the churches in Cuba, but at a much reduced cost. They are currently in the design and development stage of a state-of-the-art system that could be used in other parts of Cuba and potentially used globally for others who need access to clean water.

How can you help?

The ARMF could not continue its work with projects such as these without your help. We ask that you prayerfully consider a financial donation to sustain our ongoing projects and to develop new ones as we seek to support our Moravian friends in Cuba who in turn reach out to help those in their communities. Please know that ARMF has no paid employees and extremely low operating costs. Donations to the ARMF General Fund allow us to distribute funds to the greatest need; however, if you feel strongly about supporting a particular project, please let Joe know.

TO DONATE

CHECKS:

Made out to ARMF
Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation
2121 Harper Rd. Clemmons, NC 27012

ONLINE:

A small transaction fee may be applied.
PayPal: <http://www.armfcuba.org/donate.html>

MMFA: One time or recurring donations:

<https://mmfa.info/armando-rusindo-mission-foundation-donation-form/>

Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All donations are tax deductible under IRS regulation 501(c)3.

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Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. 1 Corinthians