

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Providing support for those in need since 1985

40 Years of Services!



Our Mission

To connect the vast resources of America through collaboration and partnerships formed with grassroots charitable groups, churches, and human service agencies throughout the United States and around the world, and to empower local volunteers to help those in need in their own communities, while enabling people to help themselves with a hand up.

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International Headquarters

8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 900
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
1-800-33-RELIEF
www.christianrelief.org

New Mexico Office

213 N 2nd Street
Raton, New Mexico 87740-3805

You may also write or donate directly to any one of our projects at the following PO Box addresses for faster processing:

Americans Helping Americans®

PO Box 96588
Washington, DC 20077-7931

Running Strong for American Indian Youth®

PO Box 52144
Phoenix, AZ 85072-9612

Bread and Water for Africa®

PO Box 96579
Washington, DC 20077-7930



Spokespersons /Executive Director

Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota), National Spokesperson, Running Strong for American Indian Youth® Project
Phyllis Keino, International Spokesperson, Bread and Water for Africa® Project
Cameron Krizek, Executive Director, Americans Helping Americans®, in the Appalachia Project

Visit our website (christianrelief.org/staff-and-board) for a list of the Board of Directors and staff of Christian Relief Services.

“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will reward them for what they have
done.”

Proverbs 19:17



Who We Are

What is the mission of Christian Relief Services?

To work through partnerships and in collaboration with grassroots charitable organizations in hard-hit communities that know what is most needed in the region they serve. Christian Relief Services works to mobilize the vast resources of generous Americans to help those in need around the U.S., Africa, and around the globe by providing life-saving emergency assistance and supporting programs that ultimately lead to self-sufficiency.

Why is Christian Relief Services a member of Christian Relief Services Charities family of charities?

As a member of (a subordinate unit under an IRS-approved group exemption) Christian Relief Services Charities (CRSC), Christian Relief Services benefits in several ways from administrative and technical support from CRSC as a cost-effective model in the areas of overhead, accounting, human resources, information technology, legal counsel and governance. Included in the CRSC family of charities are 20 housing and charitable affiliates. Christian Relief Services joined the CRSC family of charities in 1998 to continue providing aid to children and their families in communities often overlooked and stuck in a generational cycle of poverty.

How does the Christian Relief Services approach work to make a difference?

Many of our partners are in impoverished communities and cannot raise funds or solicit contributions from people or businesses in their area. Christian Relief Services leverages donations from supportive individuals and organizations, which we then share with our partnering organizations to meet the greatest need in their regions. The services and programs must be identified by the community as the most crucial, as there may be no other organization or effort besides Christian Relief Services that provides such assistance. In this way, the services and support provided are assured to be pertinent, urgent, and aligned with the values and mission of Christian Relief Services. Through our local partnerships, we can manage resources effectively and make the most significant possible impact for those who need it most.

“I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver.”

— Maya Angelou





Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

On behalf of the representatives for the projects Running Strong for American Indian Youth®, Bread and Water for Africa®, and Americans Helping Americans® in Appalachia, we sincerely thank you for your significant commitment to our mission.

Your generosity and compassion empower our organization and community partners to address fundamental survival necessities, including food, water, clothing, safe housing, medical care, and educational support for children enduring the severe implications of poverty. Our operations are responsive and evolve in alignment with the needs articulated by the communities we serve. We deeply appreciate your unwavering support, commitment to our objectives, and dedication to those we assist.

We encourage you to explore the report, which details the numerous impactful programs and achievements made possible by the steadfast support of our community stakeholders.

Hon. Paul Krizek, Esq.,
Executive Director/General Counsel





Running Strong for American Indian Youth®

A project of Christian Relief Services

Message from the Spokesperson



“For more than 30 years, I wanted to give back to the Native American community that had raised me and helped me achieve my dream of winning a gold medal at the 1964 Olympics. I knew first-hand the great need of my people – not only for immediate relief in the long winter months with heat and warm clothes and nutritious food for healthy minds and bodies, but for opportunities to grow self-sufficiency, leadership skills, and self-esteem, especially for Native youth. But there was no way I could have started on this path without your belief in me and willingness to embrace my goal as your own.” - Billy Mills.

Together, we are positively impacting the lives of Native American children and their families in a sustainable way.

Billy Mills

Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota), Olympic Gold Medalist National Spokesperson
Running Strong for American Indian Youth®





FY 2025 Program Services:

Food Security

We served 9,800 lunch meals and provided 9,800 additional take-home snacks throughout the summer of 2024 at 3 sites on Cheyenne River through the Summer Youth Feeding Program. 200 children on the reservation came through each weekday of the summer to have lunch and take some home for their families.

We supported 8 community food programs across South Dakota, Montana, Nevada, and Oklahoma with 17,339 food boxes full of fresh produce, frozen proteins, and shelf-stable essentials – totaling 511,471 lbs. of food!

We distributed 6,240 weekend Smart Sacks at Wakpala School on the Standing Rock Reservation, 13,500 Smart Sacks at Keshena Primary School on the Menominee Reservation 3,600 Smart Sacks at Takini Primary School on the Cheyenne River Reservation. Students at these schools, who often rely heavily on free and reduced school lunches, each receive a backpack full of food for the weekend to meet their family's food needs.



Education

To set Native elementary and middle school students up for success, we distributed 6,000 Elementary and 3,000 Jr. High backpacks, each filled with school supplies!





Winter Warmth

To help families stay warm during harsh winters, we distributed thousands of critical winter goods across 40 program partners in 15 states, including 6,906 winter coats and 6,000 winter kits (hat, gloves, scarf, socks, blanket). We also distributed 3,399 Christmas toys to children and youth on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.



Health & Wellness

We are working to address the disparities in access to dental and feminine hygiene products for Native American communities.

Through our SmileStrong and WičičhaǵAstrong (Lakota for “they grow, they thrive, they prosper, they are the generation”) programs, we distribute no-cost Dental Health Kits that contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, and more, Feminine Hygiene Kits that contain tampons, pads, soap, flushable wipes, and more, and Maternal Care Kits for new mothers and babies filled with postpartum essentials including prenatal vitamins, baby wipes, baby thermometer, burp rags, baby shampoo and conditioner, creams, perineal ice packs, and much more. These critical dental, menstrual, and postpartum products are often out of reach for those living in rural areas. In FY25, we distributed 3,000 Feminine Hygiene Kits, 2,000 Maternal Care Kits, and 6,000 Dental Kits to 40 tribal communities in 15 states.



Bread and Water for Africa®

A project of Christian Relief Services



Message from the spokesperson

In sector discussions, donors often feel overwhelmed by the challenges communities in Africa face. Many are thinking about stopping their donations because they believe their financial support doesn't lead to real change.

However, it's essential to acknowledge that the beneficiaries of programs funded by Bread and Water for Africa®, including vulnerable children in orphanages, educational facilities, and sustainable agricultural initiatives, demonstrate significant appreciation for the resources, shelter, and opportunities made possible by these financial investments.

These children are often the unintended consequences of civil conflicts, health crises, droughts, and other calamities outside their influence, yet they persist in their pursuit of survival and development. The principle that "many hands make light work" remains relevant; each contribution, regardless of size, adds up to a significant catalyst for transformation in numerous lives. The knowledge that global citizens care about their well-being serves as a vital source of motivation, empowering them to aspire toward their future ambitions.

Phyllis Keino

Phyllis Keino, R.N.
International
Spokesperson Bread and
Water for Africa®

Reflecting on a Year of Achievements in sub-Saharan Africa

Christian Relief Services has made a significant impact on the lives of many individuals across Africa through its affiliate organization, Bread and Water for Africa®. By leveraging resources and collaborating with grassroots organizations in countries such as Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia, Chad, Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, we transform financial contributions into meaningful and sustainable outcomes for vulnerable children and thriving families.



The strategic focus on healthcare and education ensures that support from Christian Relief Services transcends immediate relief, laying the groundwork for enduring community development. This includes the construction of schools and financial assistance to help students cover school fees and purchase uniforms, which are vital to their educational journey.



FY 2025 Program Services:

Education

The educational initiative has made a significant positive difference in the lives of over 31,000 students. In Ethiopia and Sierra Leone, a total of 1,687 students have gained access to essential combined school desks, greatly enhancing their learning environment and comfort. Additionally, more than 30,000 students have received vital donations of primary and secondary textbooks, providing them with crucial resources that support their academic growth and success.



Healthcare

Our comprehensive healthcare services have made a significant impact, reaching over 114,109 individuals through a robust network of 70 hospitals, health centers, and clinics across eight African countries. Notably, in Malawi, we provided care to 2,557 individuals, while in Kenya, we assisted 686 people. The Democratic Republic of the Congo provided healthcare services to 5,155 individuals. In Sierra Leone, we made a remarkable difference by serving 77,311 people, and in Ethiopia, our efforts extended to 28,400 individuals. This extensive outreach underscores our commitment to improving health and well-being across diverse communities.





Americans Helping Americans®

A project of Christian Relief Services



Message from the Executive Director

Americans Helping Americans® in Appalachia does just what its name implies. We give a hand-up, not a handout. We remember from our lives the times we have needed just a little kindness and support to make it through. Your donations enable us to reach out to Americans in Appalachia to assist with housing rehabilitation, handicap access, heating, and food boxes for veterans, seniors, and other families in need.

Through your community-minded generosity, we can continue our seasonal programs to assist impoverished children by providing school supplies and after-school mentoring programs during the academic year, holiday food and warm clothing in the winter, and lunch boxes and enrichment camps in the summer. (See “Building Up and Strengthening Our Fellow Americans”)

Once again, thank you for enabling us to be “A Gentle Voice for Good” and helping our fellow brothers and sisters in need. God bless you!

Cameron Krizek Executive Director
Americans Helping Americans®

FY 2025 Program Services:

Americans Helping Americans® provided vital assistance to thousands of men, women, and children in Appalachia and across our great nation.





Basic Needs Support

In fiscal year 2025, Americans Helping Americans® made a significant impact by distributing 15,120 food boxes, each carefully packed with enough nutritious food to sustain a family for an entire week.

In addition to providing food assistance, we addressed community needs by supplying 5,700 warm blankets to help individuals stay comfortable during the colder months.

We also recognize the importance of personal health and hygiene; to support this, we distributed 3,000 dental kits to promote oral health and provided 3,000 hygiene kits to ensure families had access to essential personal care items.

For those enduring harsh winter weather, a total of 5,012 winter coats were distributed, along with 1,008 pairs of winter gloves to keep hands warm, and 336 socks, which are crucial for comfort and warmth during the chilly season.

Additionally, we responded swiftly to the crisis caused by Hurricane Helene, recognizing the immediate needs of displaced mothers and their babies. In response, we provided 4,260 diapers to help care for infants and young children affected by the disaster, along with an additional 3,528 emergency food boxes to support families in urgent need during this challenging time. Through these comprehensive efforts, Americans Helping Americans® demonstrated its unwavering commitment to assisting those in need across the community.



Financials

Statements of Activity-year ended June 30, 2025. The financial results depicted here are derived from the Christian Relief Services, June 30, 2025, audited financial statements. Our complete audited financial statements can be obtained at www.christianrelief.org/ or by calling 1-800-33-RELIEF and requesting a copy.

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	2024 Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
Contributed nonfinancial assets	\$ 31,996,354	\$ -	\$ 31,996,354	\$ 31,621,529
Contributions from affiliates	5,100,000	3,900,000	9,000,000	9,899,085
Contributions	4,862,310	9,085	4,871,395	4,975,681
Wills and bequests	32,155	155,162	187,317	210,826
Government grants	-	-	-	49,401
Workplace campaign	-	15,917	15,917	11,732
Other income	1,084	-	1,084	857
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of time restrictions	14,636	(14,636)	-	-
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	4,059,822	(4,059,822)	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	46,066,361	5,706	46,072,067	46,769,111
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
International programs	26,425,288	-	26,425,288	28,090,528
Indian programs	9,353,398	-	9,353,398	7,616,614
American domestic programs	6,064,242	-	6,064,242	6,355,369
Housing programs	82,703	-	82,703	440,371
Total Program Services	41,925,631	-	41,925,631	42,502,882
Supporting Services:				
Fundraising	4,180,024	-	4,180,024	3,458,550
Management and general	95,929	-	95,929	92,989
Total Supporting Services	4,275,953	-	4,275,953	3,551,539
TOTAL EXPENSES	46,201,584	-	46,201,584	46,054,421
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(135,223)	5,706	(129,517)	714,690
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,435,335	14,722	1,450,057	735,367
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,300,112	\$ 20,428	\$ 1,320,540	\$ 1,450,057



Accountability

Christian Relief Services is widely recognized and certified as a highly efficient charity through:



The Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance (BBB)

We've earned the right to display their charity seal of approval by fulfilling the Alliance's comprehensive standards of accountability (www.give.org). The Wise Giving standards go beyond what government regulators require and entail rigorous scrutiny of our governance, effectiveness, finances, fundraising, and information materials.



America's Best Charities (ABC)

We are recognized by America's Best Charities as one of the best, and have earned their seal of approval (www.best-charities.org). Their standards include those required by the U.S. Government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Fewer than 5% of all American charities meet these standards, and even fewer still have earned their seal of approval.



Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) #11367

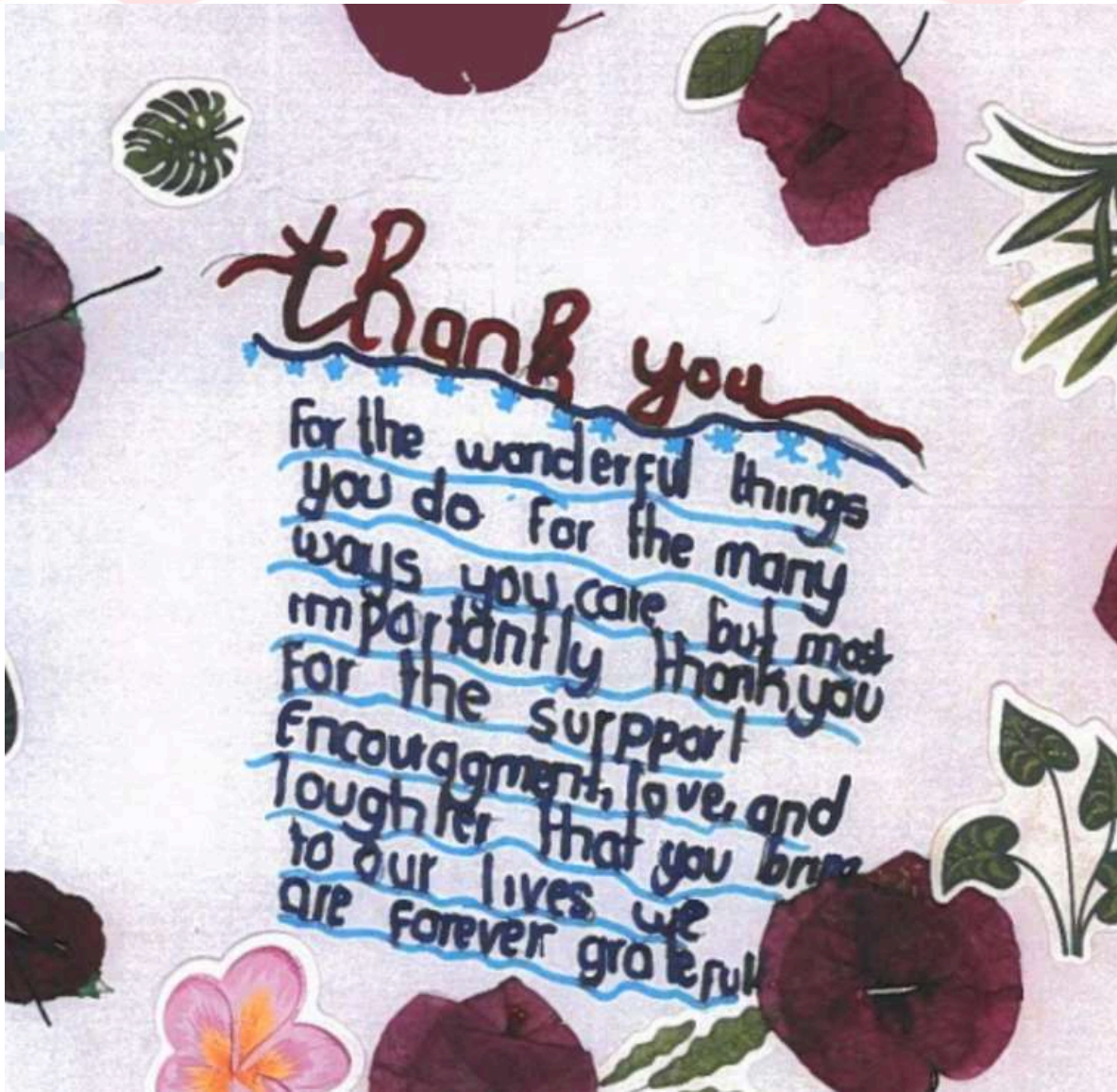
We qualify for annual participation in the CFC, the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign (www.opm.gov/cfc). Charities must satisfy an extensive review of financial and governance practices to be accepted into the Campaign. Thanks to the hardworking federal and state employees, military personnel, and private sector workers for their generous support through their workplace giving campaigns.

Christian Charities USA

Christian Relief Services is proud to be a member of the nonprofit federation, Christian Charities USA, which pre-screens and certifies high quality national charities serving people in need throughout America and across the world through a Christian call to action.







Christian Charities USA



#11367



Leave a Legacy!

You can leave a legacy to Christian Relief Services through your estate planning. Consult with a financial professional and email us at info@christianrelief.org for more information. Your legacy gift becomes a lasting tribute to helping Christian Relief Services continue making a tremendous positive impact on the lives of countless Americans and many deserving children in Africa.



8301 RICHMOND HIGHWAY
SUITE 900
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22309
703-317-9086
1-800-33-RELIEF