

# Earthquake Response Report



## *Caring for the homeless and hurting*

The 8.0 magnitude earthquake that shook China on May 12, 2008, left thousands dead and millions homeless. In the midst of this disaster, Christians have found many ways to demonstrate the love of Jesus. Thank you for your gifts and support that have made this compassionate response possible.

## **Bringing help and healing in Jesus name**



Partners International has built latrines that protect the health of families taking refuge in tent cities throughout Sichuan Province.

Working through our partners in China, Partners International responded immediately to the needs of people in Sichuan Province in the following ways:

- Distributed food in the affected areas, especially to the elderly and homeless
- Distributed clothing and basic hygiene supplies to those who lost their homes
- Provided counseling services for both earthquake survivors and those helping in the relief effort
- Built latrines in the refugee camps where thousands of families were without clean, safe sanitation facilities.

According to reports from our partners, military forces have demonstrated impressive effort in rescuing people during the critical time immediately after the earthquake struck. There has also been an overwhelming response from the Chinese people and most of the areas have plenty of supplies.

## **Future opportunities to live out the Good News**

Now that the initial relief stage is over, the long-term task of rebuilding homes, schools and lives has begun. For example, our partners report that, "Although more than 1.57 million tents were erected through June 22, many tents are still overcrowded. There are sometimes as many as 6 to 10 people, who may not belong to the same

**Partners International** brings Canadians into partnership with indigenous Christian ministries to advance the Kingdom of God. Together, through these Extraordinary Partnerships, we share and demonstrate the love of God that transforms people and makes a lasting difference in their communities.

family, living in a 22-square-foot tent space.”

Our partners are working with the government to identify opportunities to assist with longer-term rebuilding—especially in small, remote communities that can often be overlooked by large campaigns. Plans are now being put into place to:

- Rebuild homes and schools
- Rebuild village water systems
- Provide long-term care for orphans, the elderly and those with disabilities
- Develop microenterprise projects that reestablish household incomes
- Continue helping families and workers cope with the trauma of loss through counselling and spiritual assistance

## You can help

Pray for our partners as they become involved in long-term development. It will take a long time for the people to heal and rebuild their lives, and our partners are committed to join with them in this process. They plan to stay long after the relief agencies have left the region, ministering the love and peace of Christ to the people. Ask God to soften hearts to the truth of Jesus, and for the Christian workers to be a source of peace and comfort following this tragedy.



With your help, Partners International can minister to the physical and spiritual needs of parents who have lost children in this disaster.



Your support is helping Christian workers reach out with spiritual care for those grieving the loss of family, home and livelihood.

Please consider a gift to help Partners International to restore and rebuild lives and communities in China. Your support will demonstrate the love of Jesus to people in great need, and open doors of opportunity to share a message of eternal hope.