



Habitat Bangladesh distributes communication materials on best practices for water, sanitation and hygiene management.

Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund distribution

Fiscal year 2020

The Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund supports the efforts of Habitat for Humanity organizations to provide adequate shelter and other interventions for particularly vulnerable people in communities around the world.

These groups – children who have lost one or both parents, people who have a disease or disability, and marginalized people suffering social exclusion – have very limited capacity to escape chronic poverty themselves. The OVG Fund enables Habitat to provide the most vulnerable with a hand up through housing solutions.

In fiscal year 2020, 107 U.S. Habitat organizations tithed \$324,351 to the fund. These funds will support programs in Bangladesh, Brazil and Cote d'Ivoire. In addition, a U.S. affiliate tithed on a bequest in September 2020 and funded a Haiti project with \$100,000 in support.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can support the OVG Fund, please visit the tithe homepage on MyHabitat – hfhi.sharepoint.com/sites/Tithe – or contact us directly at tithe@habitat.org.

FY2020 Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund distribution

\$100,000 TO PROVIDE CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR RISHIPARA COMMUNITIES IN BANGLADESH

The Satkhira district, a coastal belt located in southwestern Bangladesh, is home to the Rishi people, who are considered part of the “untouchable” caste. These families are particularly vulnerable because of social stigmatization. With the continued support of the OVG Fund, Habitat Bangladesh will construct six new houses and renovate eight houses, serving 70 individuals. In addition, Habitat will construct 32 household toilets to serve 160 individuals, install four deep tube wells to serve 200 individuals, and construct five community bathhouses to serve 250 individuals, specifically vulnerable women and children. Nearly 300 hygiene kits will be distributed to families to help protect against the spread of COVID-19, and community members, including children, will be trained in comprehensive water, sanitation and hygiene practices.

\$100,000 TO SUPPORT HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR THE ELDERLY IN HAITI

The elderly population in Haiti is particularly vulnerable to poverty, homelessness and disease because of inadequate support from the government and social services. With the OVG Fund, Habitat Haiti will build 15 new disaster-resistant houses, latrines and water collection tanks to help homeowners who are 65 and older in the Corail, Beaumont and Pestel communities in the rural southwest. Habitat Haiti also will train 1,000 elderly individuals in reducing the risk of disease related to COVID-19 and cholera. This project is fully funded by one U.S. Habitat organization that tithed on a bequest in September 2020.

\$124,000 TO IMPROVE HOUSING AND WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE FOR FAMILIES IN COTE D’IVOIRE

Dida N’Glossou in the central region of Cote d’Ivoire has extreme poverty that is further exacerbated by frequent flooding from a local river. In this region, most families do not have access to decent water or sanitation. The OVG Fund will continue to support families in this region by constructing 16 houses with latrines and installing a new motorized solar water pump to increase access to water and help mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. Habitat will also provide ongoing community hygiene education.

\$99,943 TO SERVE FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN WITH MICROCEPHALY AND MOTOR DISABILITIES IN BRAZIL

Since 2015, Brazil has been the focus of one of the largest epidemics of arbovirus caused by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito spreading Zika, dengue and chikungunya. One of the most serious consequences of this epidemic has been the birth of babies with microcephaly, a rare neurological disorder in which a child’s brain does not develop completely, requiring rehabilitation and lifetime specialized care. The FY2019 OVG Fund planned to provide improved housing support to 25 children with special needs caused by microcephaly. Because of COVID-19, the funds instead supported 350 families with children with congenital Zika virus syndrome, providing them with emergency kits containing food, hygiene and cleaning products to help mitigate negative impacts of the pandemic. With the support of the FY2020 OVG Fund, Habitat Brazil will continue its plans to serve the 25 initially identified families with improved housing.



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