



U.S. immigration reform

CWS calls for policies that reunite separated families, protect workers from exploitation, end unnecessary detention, and provide a path to earned legal status for undocumented immigrants.

Normalizing U.S.-Cuba relations

CWS advocates an end to the U.S. embargo and ban on travel to Cuba and for normalization of U.S.-Cuba relations, provides emergency relief for hurricanes and related disasters, and maintains ecumenical dialogue with Cuban churches.

Helping children working as domestic servants

In Haiti, girls and boys indentured as domestic workers receive education, counseling, vocational training and recreational activities in a CWS-supported program.



Photo: Hillary Prag

Julien Duclas is a member of a CWS-supported agricultural cooperative in Northwestern Haiti. Hurricanes destroyed her home, all the goods she had stored to sell, and her mule, which was her form of transportation. With help from the cooperative, she rebuilt her home and obtained credit to once again sell rice, corn, and flour in local markets to support her eight children. "God himself sent the cooperative to us," she said.



Photo: Reuters/Logan Abassi, courtesy of www.alertnet.org

Emergency Response

When hurricanes, floods and mudslides wipe out communities and food production, CWS works with the faith community to provide disaster mitigation and response.



Photo: Gurises Unidos

Supporting Mayan women who defend human rights

CWS supports Guatemalan Mayan women who assist victims of political violence, and defend indigenous human rights.

Honduras

Guatemala

Nicaragua

Haiti

Dominican Republic

Eradicating Hunger

With major support from Foods Resource Bank, CWS-assisted programs value indigenous knowledge, teach nutrition and sustainable agriculture, provide materials, strengthen community organizing and improve advocacy with public officials—helping eradicate hunger and secure adequate food and nutrition throughout the year.



Photo: Don Tatlock

1,800 Central American families are monitoring the nutritional status of their children while improving diets and health with increased and diversified production of foods like fruits, grains and vegetables.

Promoting peace and human rights in Colombia

CWS presses for U.S. policies that promote respect for human rights and an end to the armed conflict and maintains ecumenical dialogue with Colombian churches.

Colombia

Defending the rights of Afro-Brazilian communities

CWS supports ecumenical solidarity with rural and urban Afro-Brazilian communities to promote their social, economic and cultural rights, including religious freedom.

Preventing Violence Against Children

Our regional program...

- ... prevents violence against children who work in Managua, Nicaragua's main markets and assists girl survivors of sexual assault.
- ... prevents the commercial sexual exploitation of at-risk youth in the municipality of Boca Chica, Dominican Republic.
- ... provides material and psychological support to street children and their families in Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- ... defends the rights of children working or living on the street in Montevideo, Uruguay.



Photo: Martha Farmelo

Care for Caregivers

Those who serve vulnerable groups often experience prolonged, intense job-related stress. Across the region, CWS helps organizations promote the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of their staff.



Photo: Rick Reinhard

Speaking Out on U.S. Policy in the Region

We raise our voices and work in coalition to press for U.S. policies that promote human rights, democracy and social justice in the region.

Indigenous Rights in the Gran Chaco Region

The Chaco program helps indigenous communities secure legal title to their ancestral territory and use the land in ways that are economically, socially and culturally sustainable.



Photo: Paul Jeffrey

Tri-national meetings have allowed more than 100 indigenous women to meet each other, share experiences and learn best practices for generating food and income and supporting their people's rights.

Bolivia

Paraguay

Argentina

Chile

Uruguay

Brazil

Resettling Colombian refugees

CWS and Chilean partners help Colombian refugees re-establish their lives in Chile.



Photo: Paul Jeffrey

"I was stunned by the heat in the Chaco—110 degrees—by how dry it was, how hard to live with such scarce water, and the simple and difficult conditions in which people live—and the difference we can make in their lives. By providing a tank to capture and hold rain water—just a tank—we gave a family essential water to cool their throats, hydrate their parched bodies, wash their dusty clothes, grow vegetables. Through CWS, their lives, yours, and mine are clearly all connected." —Martha Farmelo, CWS LAC staff



Photo: Julia Jones/Lincoln Crop Walks

Today, the bulk of our work is made possible with funds raised by those who join in CROP Hunger Walks in some 2,000 communities across the United States, and the contributions of the 35 CWS member communions and their specialized emergency and development ministries. We are also grateful for major support from the Foods Resource Bank for our work on food and nutritional security.



Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 35 U.S. Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations that provides sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief and refugee assistance around the world, without regard to religious affiliation.