



**BIG CHANGE BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP —
ONE VOLUNTEER, ONE DONATION, ONE HELPING HAND.
IF YOU NEED SOMEWHERE TO START,
#STARTHERE**



OUR TOTAL IMPACT

- 1.2M+** LIVES IMPACTED
- 62K+** VOLUNTEERS
- 144** VOLUNTEER NATIONALITIES
- 130** DISASTER PROGRAMS
- 22** COUNTRIES SERVED
- 315** SCHOOLS COMPLETED
- 116K+** CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL
- 95¢** OF EVERY DOLLAR SPENT ON OUR PROGRAMS

WELCOME TO OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Community Spotlight: Water Committee in Guatemala

The Water Committee in the village of Seraxqen is an inspiring example of community-led recovery. The Committee, which was established by the local government upon collaborating with All Hands and Hearts' needs assessment, is an elected body of five local women and men. They are charged with managing water resources in this rural, mountainous community, which already had water challenges when two hurricanes exacerbated the situation a year ago by damaging wells and contaminating surface water.

When our assessment team arrived last January, they asked the community what the number one hurricane-related need was. The answer: accessible water infrastructure. Our volunteers got to work, and with the support of the Water Committee, constructed three disaster-resilient water catchment, storage and distribution stations. The stations are situated at the key community locations of the school, health post and community center. They have the capacity to serve all 81 families who live in Seraxqen, so that women and girls are not leaving home, work or school to walk far afield for water. The Guatemala Ministry of Health plays a role, too: it developed a maintenance manual, trained the Committee in tank chlorination and testing and will return monthly to test and clean the facilities.

Our teams may have returned home after completing the construction, but the Water Committee is now back on the job of managing equitable water distribution in Seraxqen! Thanks to in-country partnerships and involvement, we can be confident that these systems will support the health of Seraxqen residents for years.

CHARITY NAVIGATOR
Four Star Charity

We have earned a **4-star rating** by **Charity Navigator** for the **seventh year in a row**. Only 7% of rated nonprofits have received this distinction for financial and operational efficiency.



Community members, including the Water Committee, in Seraxqen.

FALL 2021 AT A GLANCE

RESPONSE

We are committed to supporting the immediate needs of communities after natural disasters strike. This quarter, we assisted communities in Detroit that faced severe flooding over the summer. Heavy rainfall inundated southeast Michigan, impacting a reported 2,000 homes. Our work included mucking, gutting and sanitizing 50 homes. In Louisiana, we quickly responded to Hurricane Ida, a Category 4 storm, by mobilizing volunteers to conduct roof tarping, debris and tree removal, muck and gut and mold sanitation in communities outside New Orleans, which were not protected by a new levee system. After the holidays, we'll transition to long-term recovery activities, focusing on home repair and rebuild and flood mitigation projects.



Volunteer gutting a flood-damaged home
Michigan Flood Relief



Staff member removing fallen trees
Louisiana Hurricane Ida Relief

RECOVERY

We are staunchly committed to addressing the long-term recovery needs identified by the communities we serve. We're delighted to report that the rebuild of Little Darlings Academy, a beloved preschool in The Bahamas, is now complete. We're along with our work queue for roof repair and rebuild. We look forward to shifting our focus to interior home repair in 2022, thanks to our generous donors who have helped enable us to extend our program, so we can assist more families. Our work in Louisiana to repair homes damaged by 2020 Hurricanes Laura and Delta successfully continued through the active 2021 hurricane season, and the program is nearing its scheduled end. In Ica, Peru, we continue to engage our local partners and contractors to complete the construction on the Santa Cruz de Villacuri School. After a long delay due to the pandemic, it's almost complete!



Volunteer and staff reflooring
Louisiana Hurricanes Laura and Delta Relief



Volunteers rebuilding a roof
The Bahamas Hurricane Dorian Relief

RESILIENCE

Our programs aim to help communities become stronger in the face of future disasters. We're delighted to announce the completion our first Guatemala program: a durable water solution in Seraxqen and a community center in Sesajal. We'll build upon those experiences next year, focusing on the construction of vital Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) infrastructure across the most vulnerable schools of Alta Verapaz. In Paradise, California, during this fall's high-risk wildfire season, we've been building new homes to replace those burned in the 2018 Camp Fire, according to best fire-resilient strategies like double-paned windows and fire-resistant siding, and planting indigenous, fire-resilient trees to rehabilitate scorched land. In early 2022, we'll return to mitigation activities like chainsaw work to create fuel breaks and remove hazard trees, as well other environmental and home modifications.



Community Center in Sesajal
Guatemala Hurricane Relief



Volunteers putting the finishing touches on a home
California Wildfire Relief

RENEWAL

We listen closely to local community members to understand their unique needs and find creative and meaningful ways to help. Our program in Bega Shire, New South Wales, Australia focused on basic and long-term WaSH facilities for property owners who did not have sufficient facilities following the 2019-2020 bushfire devastation. Before closing our program in November, we shared our model and methods with local nonprofits, Rotary Club of Pambula and Habitat for Humanity Australia, so the vital work may continue after we have left. We have also begun rebuilding our 21st school in Mexico, which faced severe damage from the 2017 earthquakes. Beyond the physical infrastructure, we are providing holistic solutions to support the needs of the Albarradas community, including Disaster Risk Reduction training, which helps develop a culture of safety for students, teachers and families.



Part of the team in Albarradas
Mexico Earthquake Recovery



Volunteers and community members at a completed shed
Australia Bushfire Relief

LOOKING AHEAD: 2022

In addition to the above-mentioned transitions and continuations for our relief programs in response to Hurricanes Ida and Dorian, wildfire mitigation and recovery in California, Guatemala's phase 2 and the next school rebuild in Mexico, we are pleased to announce the following new initiatives:

NEPAL

Our earthquake recovery work restarts in February! After a long pause necessitated by COVID-19 travel restrictions into the country, we'll be returning to Sindhuli District, this time to support healthcare infrastructure in a rural community. The Dudhauri Health Post requires additional space and facilities to provide adequate maternal health services and to meet the growing health needs of the area, especially in light of the recent pandemic. This program will be our first project centering on constructing a medical infrastructure, and as with our Nepal school reconstruction projects, we are thrilled to be able to increase access to critical resources like health and education.

HAITI

We are deeply grateful to all of your generous contributions to our Haiti Relief Fund. Together, we have raised over \$20,000 to support those affected by the devastating earthquakes that struck Haiti in August 2021. The funds will be donated to two of our trusted partners, CORE (Community Organized Relief Effort) and Build Health International, to help aid in their efforts to address the most urgent needs of the impacted communities. Both nonprofits have long and respected reputations in Haiti, and we are proud to support them, thanks to your generosity.

Photo: (Left) School children using the newly installed WaSH system in Haibung, Nepal; (Right) Brick by brick: volunteers working in Sindhuli, Nepal



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Ways to Give

We have flexible giving options, including cryptocurrency, stock, credit card, check, and donor advised funds. Visit our [ways to give](#) website page to learn more or reach out to donate@allhandsandhearts.org for support.

Fundraising Group Trips

We're delighted to announce an exciting new opportunity to get involved and support the students of Albarradas, Mexico. With your own tailored trip in January 2022, you will help with the rebuild efforts of the only primary school of Albarradas. To learn more, please send a message to our team at info@allhandsandhearts.org

Volunteer With Us

One of the best ways to support our work is by joining us on program! Take a look at [our website](#) for more information on volunteering. If you have any questions about volunteer opportunities, please send a message to our team at volunteer@allhandsandhearts.org.

Join Our Alumni Network

After leaving program, join more than 8,000 fellow volunteers on our [Alumni Network](#). Connect with friends, stay updated about our work around the world, access a range of resources designed specifically for our community and join our regular alumni events. Contact alumni@allhandsandhearts.org with questions.