



Orphan Grain Train Central Nebraska Branch Bulletin November 14, 2017

Shipments Received in Kyrgyzstan & Latvia

Kyrgyzstan and Latvia have received the shipments that were sent in late July and early August. Praise God! Here are a few photos of nurses who work with senior patients from a hospital in Valmiera, Latvia receiving some of the items!



Hurricane Harvey, Irma, and Maria Disaster Relief

The requests OGT has been receiving for assistance in **Texas** is for tools and building materials for rebuilding homes. OGT recently purchased \$40,000.00 worth of drywall, 5 truckloads, 2 of which will be shipped on Friday, October 13 to the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Houston for reconstruction of homes. This is just the start of a large commitment to Houston and Texas coastal region of Rockport and Victoria for restoration and rebuilding of homes destroyed by Hurricane Harvey. On October 30 we moved two of the bedroom units (each unit houses 18-20 beds) to the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church for volunteers to sleep in while using the Gloria Dei facility for meals and showers. We also sent a unit that will store tools for volunteers to access. We plan to be there for the long term and this is just the beginning of our commitment to help with disaster relief of Hurricane Harvey.

Now for Hurricane Irma which destroyed portions of **Florida**, OGT is planning to send volunteer village units to the Fort Myers area as well as containers of supplies for the rebuilding process. We are looking at options for the village to be in a key location with the ability to obtain proper permits. Orphan Grain Train was stationed and assisted victims of Hurricane Katrina for 5 years and we plan to be a part of the rebuilding of homes destroyed by Hurricane Harvey and Irma for the long term.

Orphan Grain Train's first relief container for **Puerto Rico** was loaded Thursday, October 26 and is expected to arrive in San Juan on November 14th. A Christian church, Centro Cristiano Gracia Y Verdad will be receiving the shipper owned container filled with bottled water, generators, canned food, baby food, diapers, cleaning supplies, hygiene supplies, household items, and clothes. Cornerstone Ministry Center in Seymour, Indiana loaded the container with donated goods from the area and supplies from OGT's Indiana Branch in Jonesville, Indiana. Hurricane Relief funds donated to OGT's International office were used to fund this first of several planned shipments for Puerto Rico. These goods will be distributed to the many families and individuals of Puerto Rico whose lives have been shattered by Hurricane Maria.

If you would like to donate goods or construction supplies, they can be delivered to the Central Nebraska warehouse. Monetary donations can be sent to Orphan Grain Train, PO Box 545, Grand Island, NE

68802, please indicate Hurricane Relief. If you would like to double your donation and your impact please read below about Thrivent Financials amazing offer.

Go to Thrivent.com and clicking on Disaster Relief Opportunity, then 2017 Hurricanes, then select Orphan Grain Train from the list of eligible organizations. Donations have to be made directly from a bank account or credit card. There is still over \$500,000 of Thrivent money left to be matched, so if you're wanting to have you donation matched you would have to act fairly soon.

Thank you for assisting the victims of the hurricanes through Orphan Grain Train. Please continue to pray for those that have lost so much.

Volleyball Team Volunteers at the Warehouse

Members of the Centura volleyball team and their coach recently visited the warehouse. After a short tour of the facility and a few instructions, they got to work by showing their talent in sorting and packing. In less than 1½ hours they packed over 50 boxes! Thanks coach Feeney and teammates for your volunteer service. You are welcome anytime!

Beatrice Group Learns about OGT

Fifteen ladies from the Beatrice area came to the warehouse to learn more about our operation. They are all volunteers at the Bargain Box, a thrift and consignment store in Beatrice. Because Beth and Bob Stark usually make a monthly trip to their store to pick up overstocked items and deliver them to our facility, Bargain Box workers are familiar with the mission of OGT. However, they wanted to see firsthand what we do in Grand Island, so they made arrangements to tour our warehouse. The ladies were so impressed they hope to have another group visit us next spring!



Successful Fish Feed

The Orphan Grain Train fish feed at Calvary Lutheran, Rosemont was a big success and included many guests. Among them was Marilyn Heikes, a former member of Calvary Lutheran bringing sixteen 3'x6' sleeping mats all the way from Berryville, VA. Her sister Diane Hemberger from Hastings also makes mats for OGT. Thank you Marilyn and Diane!

Urgent Need for Lead Volunteer

We are still looking for a person to be in charge of supervising warehouse workers on Tuesdays of each month. Arlene Doremus Grove moved away in June and Joyce Senff and Nanna Wieck have been filling that position. But, they both spend winters in Texas, so we will soon be without a lead volunteer. If you know of anyone who might be interested in that job, please contact Cheryl Tickner at dtickner@eaglecom.net or call 308-894-8125 . Training will be provided.

Fish Feed Teams Needed

Fish feeds are an important source of funds for the Central Nebraska warehouse's shipping and general operating costs. At the current time we have 2 regular fish feed teams. More fish feed volunteers are requested to help share the load and to serve as backup teams when the regular teams are unable to work due to other commitments.

Volunteering to help with fish feeds is a good way to support Orphan Grain Train. If interested, please contact Dick Troester at 308-380-3730.