Orphan Grain Train

Maryland Branch

2017 Annual Newsletter

Dear Friends of OGT,

Energizing... Gratifying... Inspiring!

These are words that describe our first year in our new warehouse! Our beautiful warehouse in Millersville, MD, has given us a presence in the community and volunteers, donors and partners are joining us every week. Amazing!!!

For the first ten years of our ministry, we shipped an average of 2.6 international shipments per year. *In 2017, we shipped 6 containers!* Your generous support combined with the benefits of a warehouse have enabled us to reach further and serve more!

It is a joy to be able to share with you the blessings we have witnessed and received in 2017.



South Sudan

In the Fall of 2017, we shipped to the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

The shipment arrived Christmas Day and was received with joy and celebration:

"It was a miracle for me" the Bishop said.

The Dinka people had never seen a forty-foot container.

The Bishop explained to them that the container was a gift from far away America and people there in America wanted them to know they had not been forgotten. It was a gift was from Jesus. The people began to dance around the container (that was still on the truck) singing. This continued Christmas Day when over 3,500 people showed up for a Christmas Day Worship Service.

They plan to keep the container and cut out windows and a door to make it into a sewing classroom to teach women a practical trade.



In the Media

Severna Park Voice Reports on Liberian Shipment

Click <u>here</u> for the article or go to www.ogt.org

Want to see more pictures?

Click <u>here</u> to view a slideshow.

https://www.flickr.com/gp/151979064 @N03/K245U4/show

Popcorn and a Movie

Click <u>here</u> to watch new OGT videos and read more stories!

(or visit ogt.org)

Puerto Rico

Coordinating with the Mid-Atlantic and New England Branches, a 40-foot container was received in December by Centro Cristiano Gracia Y Verdad Inc., in Puerto Rico.

They were overjoyed to receive the 40-foot shipping container for storage, 26,136 Harvest Pack meals, 5,184 Kid's Care meals (pasta/bean soup), water, and other essentials to help recover from Hurricane Maria.





Food, clothing, cleaning supplies, medical equipment, tools, and hygiene supplies were included.

India

In 2017 we initiated our partnership with the Christian Missions Charitable Trust in Chennai, India. Our two containers helped support their efforts to alleviate poverty through their:

- Sewing school for young girls
- Soup kitchens that feed the elderly and those living on the streets
- Bethany Healthcare Center, which provides free health care to those living in poverty





Shipments included hospital furnishings, medical supplies, equipment, linens, hygiene kits/supplies, and sewing supplies.

Liberia

Children... new school supplies... smiles!

OGT MD shipped two containers to school children in Liberia, through the Liberian Children's Ministry established by Joe Boway. The shipments contained over 600 desks, 20+ chalkboards and other school equipment from the old Severna Park High School!

"When those children come to school they not only learn to read and write... **they have hope** because they learn that tomorrow

has something in store for them!"

Joe Boway, Founder Liberian Children's Ministry

Classrooms Before





Classrooms After





Severna Park High School desks and chalk boards







Volunteers Make It Happen!

OGT has many volunteers from all walks of life – young and old!

Close to 100 regular volunteers participate in our Tuesday/Saturday sort and pack days. Some work in the warehouse organizing/receiving donations, working the fork-lift, shrink-wrapping larger items and many work in the sorting room. Boxes are labeled, filled and readied for shipment.

A variety of groups give generously of their time and resources to help with special projects:

- Girl and Boy Scouts
- Local school students
- Home schoolers
- SWAT teams/Police organizations
- Special needs communities
- Youth groups

While there may be different volunteers on any give workday, all would agree that the camaraderie they experience doing God's work, creates a joyful atmosphere and a feeling of a job well-done!

Thank you to all our volunteers!

Working With the Local Community

We are expanding our partnership with local non-profits. This year 537 winter coats, 153 boxes of winter clothes and 25 suits were distributed to inner city Baltimore residents and to some in the immigrant population.

We are privileged to partner with Lutheran Mission Society, the Anne Arundel Police, Giving Back – Linda's Legacy, Helping Up Mission and many local churches.



Serving the Community

The warehouse has enabled us to promote our "Walk Out" program, which allows anyone from the community to take medical equipment or supplies to help with a personal need. They are free to keep the items or return them when no longer needed. Please share with those in need that we offer free canes, crutches, walkers, hospital beds and other medical supplies.

Come Visit Us!

Warehouse Address 621 East West Blvd. Millersville, MD 21108

More Info:
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Volunteers Needed for Packing/Sorting: Every Tuesday: 9 - 1 p.m.

2nd Saturday of every month: 9 - 1 p.m.

Donations will be accepted: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10 - 1 p.m.