



*Relief for Human Need Worldwide*

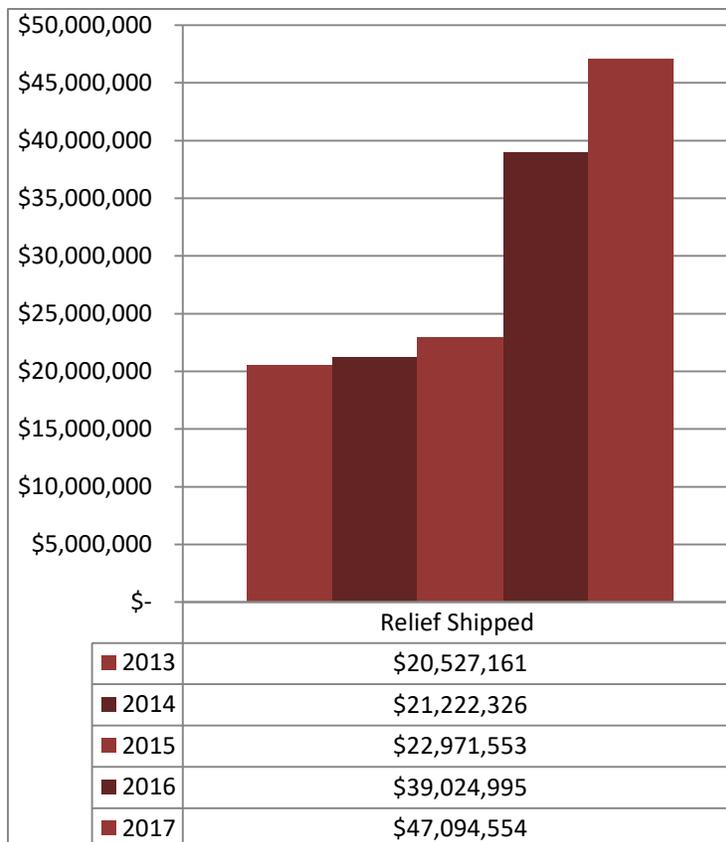
# Orphan Grain Train Annual Report

## June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

On September 15, 2017 Orphan Grain Train Inc. Celebrated 25 years of serving God's kingdom and those in need around the world. It was great to celebrate all God has done through Orphan Grain Train these past 25 years. Thank you all for your love of our Savior Jesus Christ which leads you to love others as he first loved us. OGT along with others all around the world appreciate your eagerness to be His hands and feet.

### The Big Picture

Three hundred and forty five full shipments of relief supplies shipped to countries around the world this year. Two Hundred and Thirty semi-loads went to domestic locations and One Hundred and Fifteen 40 ft. (or larger) shipping containers, went to destinations overseas. Clothing, school supplies, medical supplies, and nearly 4.5 million servings of rice/soy meals and 146,855 pounds of edible beans shipped to destitute people in the United States and countries around the world. The total number of countries served by Orphan Grain Train now stands at 68. Thirty states have received disaster relief and humanitarian aid. The chart below shows the growth of OGT over the past 5 years.



## **International Shipments**

Of the 115 International Shipments from Orphan Grain Train this past fiscal year, 64 of the containers were loaded at the Norfolk warehouse with 2 funded by Headquarters for a total of 66 containers.

The following countries received shipments from Norfolk.

- Bangladesh – 1 shipment
- Congo – 1 shipment
- Georgia – 3 shipments
- Ghana - 4 shipments
- Haiti – 7 shipments
- India – 4 shipments
- Kenya – 1 shipment
- Kyrgyzstan – 1 shipments
- Latvia – 4 shipments
- Liberia – 7 shipment
- Malawi – 1 shipment
- Moldova – 1 shipments
- Nicaragua – 7 shipments
- Peru – 1 shipment
- Philippines – 10 shipments
- Puerto Rico – 3 shipments
- Uganda – 1 shipment
- Ukraine – 3 shipments
- Uzbekistan – 1 shipment
- Zambia – 3 shipment

## **Domestic Disaster Relief**

2017 will be known as the year of the hurricanes; hurricane Harvey hit Texas on August 25<sup>th</sup> then hurricane Irma swept over Florida on September 10 and ten days later hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico on September 20, 2017. We continue to assist families devastated by the 2017 hurricanes.

There have been eleven semi-loads of sheet-rock delivered, three loads of insulation, three loads of clothing, and one of shingles, along with two loads of mattresses to Houston.

60% of the food pantries in Houston flooded so they were in great need and because of generous donors OGT has been able to deliver 6 semi-loads of food and water to assist with those efforts.

Orphan Grain Train also purchased 324 rolls (80 miles) of pasture fencing and 1,600 fence posts and delivered two loads of donated hay to help the ranchers affected by the April 2018 wildfires in Oklahoma. The loads were delivered to Taloga, OK to be distributed to ranchers by the Dewey County Conservation District.

## **Orphanages, Prison, and Hospitals**

Orphan Grain Train's "Adopt an Orphanage" coordinator Pastor John Reehl went to rest in the arms of his Savior on November 18, 2017 at his home in Grand Island, NE at the age of 83. From 2001–2005 Pastor Reehl assisted with pastoral ministry at an English language Lutheran congregation in Germany. During this time in Europe Pastor Reehl and his wife, June, developed the "Adopt an Orphanage" program for Orphan Grain Train. The program now includes over 85 orphanages, seven hospitals and three prisons in five countries. Pastor Reehl also developed "Warm Boots" for children in Russia to be able to attend school. This program is in its 18th year of collecting monetary donations to purchase boots at Christmas time for orphans.

Reehl Ministries will continue with OGT leading the transition with the addition of Karen Tiedeman; Pastor Reehl's daughter, Rev. James Carretto, and Rev. Joel Heisterman.

## **An Army of Volunteers**

The mission of Orphan Grain Train is uniquely dependent upon their dedicated volunteers, many of whom have given numerous years of service for the sake of others. During the 2017-18 Fiscal Year the grand total of volunteer hours were 108,696.95, which if we paid the volunteers \$9/hour the cost to the organization would have been about \$978,272.55. We can never repay the debt of gratitude owed to each and every one of our faithful, dedicated, hard-working volunteers. Thank you all ever so much.

## **Mission Statement**

**In loving response to Christ, the Servant, the Orphan Grain Train movement encourages and enables God's people to share personal and material resources in bringing Christ's name and character to needy people, both far and near. Sometimes that character expresses itself as a word well spoken, sometimes as a bandage well applied, and sometimes as a child well fed.**