

# Quarterly UPDATE

## North Dakota Orphan Grain Train ~ Mercy Meals ~

Spring 2021

The North Dakota branch of Orphan Grain Train has had a very busy year and we thought this would be a great opportunity to recap with our supporters. Covid may have changed the way our organization runs, but not our impact.

Over the past year, shipments were sent to:

- Moldova - 1,774 items
- Liberia - 2,160 items
- Georgia - 1,173 items
- Romania - 1,513 items
- Latin American Lutheran Mission - three shipments totalling 11,282 items
- OGT headquarters in Norfolk, NE - 974 boxes of unsorted clothing to be distributed further to those in need

We can't forget to mention the countless local donations given around Jamestown through Social Services, the Safe Shelter and Human Services Center.

Words cannot express our gratitude to all those that help to make this happen! Our organization couldn't do it without the generous support of our volunteers, giving their time and resources as well as our financial supporters.



Family in the Republic of Georgia was happy to receive winter clothing bedding, school supplies and quilts.



"See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in Heaven."

- Matthew 18:10

### Supplies needed!

Items we are in need of are:

- bath towels\*
- washcloths
- cloth diapers\*
- bottles\*
- large safety pins\*
- baby sleeper (newborn - 12 mo)
- toothbrushes
- combs
- pacifiers\*

\*Items in greatest need at this time.

We often get questions about what we can and cannot accept. Here are some of the most common:

#### Can Accept

- furniture
- bed pillows
- pots & pans
- dishes
- beds (new or used)\*

#### Cannot Accept

- knick knacks
- holiday decorations
- decorative pillows



Members of United Presbyterian Church put together 21 layette & hygiene kits.



University of Jamestown Sigma Honor Society packing medical supplies and clothes.

Another thank you goes to the Rotary Club of Jamestown! They put together layette and hygiene kits and donated cloth diapers and bottles for those kits.

**Financial support** is always appreciated and needed at this time. It goes to cover expenses, including shipping costs.

# Mercy Meals Packaging Events Resume & New Milestone Achieved

We are so grateful to be back packaging Mercy Meals again! The Covid -19 pandemic put a halt to most group packaging events, but praise God, this life-saving division of our organization has resumed packaging events.

A big thank you to all the groups and individuals who gathered to pack meals made of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and chicken flavoring, including 20 vitamins and minerals. Over the last few months we have groups from Trinity Bible College of Ellendale, First Assembly of God church in Jamestown, Home Schooling Association of Jamestown, Youth for Christ, UJ Leadership Council, GracePoint Church in Bismarck and Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Upham, ND.

With these packing events, Andrea Eckstein, local manager of Mercy Meals, made an exciting announcement!

**Since the beginning of Mercy Meals North Dakota in 2015, we hit a new milestone of 750,000 meals packaged!**

Where have the recent meals gone? From May 2020 to February 2021, the following have been shipped out:

- Latin American Lutheran Mission (LALM) in Laredo, TX - 7,128 meals along with 1,000 lbs of rice
- Liberia - 135,432 meals
- LALM - 7,776 meals
- LALM - 14,256 meals



We are always looking for groups to help package Mercy Meals. Contact us to arrange your packaging event!



We were happy to have this article shared with us from The Liberian Children's Ministry, showing their gratitude and the great impact of our support. Many years ago, OGT North Dakota sent beans from a farmer in our area all the way to Liberia and it left the kids asking for more.



## "When Will You Bring Us Beans Again?"

Dear Partner in Mission

Thank you for your prayers and gifts in 2020. Twenty-twenty was a difficult year for many people because of the pandemic. But in spite of this, God used you to bless the 5600 children in our 14 schools.

Please allow me to share with you the story of one of the children who has directly benefited from your prayers and gifts. A few weeks ago (January 4-18, 2021), while I was at our Polar Lutheran church and school in rural Liberia, Decontee Dorbor (DD, as she is known by her friends) and her little sister came running to greet me. A few minutes later, DD asked me, "When will you bring us beans again?"

After the Liberia Ebola crisis ended in 2015, Orphan Grain Train (OGT), North Dakota Branch, shipped a container load of beans to Liberia for the children in our schools. DD followed her friends and came to our school because she wanted to eat beans. DD knew nothing about Jesus. Her parents were not believers and they wanted nothing to do with our school and the Lutheran church in their village.

Today, DD and her sister are happily attending our Polar Lutheran School and learning about Jesus and His love for them. Because of your faithful prayers and gifts, DD and the 320 children at our Polar Lutheran School are learning of God's love that took His Son to the cross in order to save us from sin, death, and the devil.



DD (right) and her friends, waiting to be served some delicious and nutritious beans in March 2016

Thank you for your gifts that are sharing the love of Jesus with DD and her friends.

## An answered prayer!

TMT Farms generously donated 20,000 lbs of beans that will be sent to Liberia this month. A heartfelt "thank you" for your support and helping to feed children at this Christian school in Liberia.

# A Closer Look at the OGT Romania Shipment to Charity Foundation of the Blind

**Purpose of Organization:** The foundation exists to help various individuals and families in need, including sick people, families with many children, seriously and mildly disabled people, seniors with no income, distressed victims of natural or ecological disasters, orphans and victims of domestic or social violence.

**Intended objectives:** The improvement and amendment of the life of people who are in need, by giving them material and moral support consisting of food, clothing, medicine, toys, medical equipment, domestic equipment, agricultural tools and financial support. They also provide education on various themes by organizing courses and seminars.

**Number of people served:** There are 3,860 beneficiaries in the foundation with different problems and classified in different degrees of disability.

**Items used outreach efforts:** food, medicine, toys, medical equipment, domestic equipment, clothing, footwear, strollers, crutches, flashlights, games, school supplies, body care maintenance articles, etc.

**Plan to distribute the donated items:** To help parents with a package of basic food and basic things. In December, on the occasion of the winter holidays, we want to make children happy with a gift. We want to bring the joy of the Nativity of Jesus in the house and the hearts of disadvantaged children and those who suffer from various disabilities with your help.



Bring or send clothing and other in-kind donations to:

## The North Dakota Branch

103 4th Ave SE, Jamestown, ND 58401  
Mondays and Saturdays from 9am - noon  
To arrange additional drop off times, contact Tom Boerger at 701-320-3875 or Sue Corwin at 701-320-3259.

## Orphan Grain Train Headquarters

606 W Phillip Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701  
402-371-7393  
email@ogt.org  
Fax: 402-371-7350  
Warehouse/Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am - 4pm CST

To support the North Dakota Branch, send checks or money orders payable to:

North Dakota Orphan Grain Train  
PO Box 1546, Jamestown, ND 58402-1546

To contribute by credit card, visit [www.ogt.org/nd](http://www.ogt.org/nd) and click "Donate to North Dakota Branch."



*For we are co-workers in God's service;  
you are God's field, God's building.  
- 1 Corinthians 3:9*



North Dakota Branch  
PO Box 1546  
Jamestown, ND 58402-1546

*Thank you for your generous support!  
We couldn't do it without you!*

### **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.

### **What is Orphan Grain Train**

Orphan Grain Train is a 501c3 nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and in 68 countries around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ's example as a servant and His love for us.



### **ND Branch Warehouse**

103 4th Ave SE  
Jamestown, ND 58401

[ndakota@ogt.org](mailto:ndakota@ogt.org)

[www.ogt.org/nd](http://www.ogt.org/nd)



**Like us on Facebook!**

**Orphan Grain Train, Inc.**

## **Branch Hours & Volunteer Opportunities**

**We continue to be open  
Mondays and Saturdays  
from 9am to noon!**

Note, we are taking precautions due to the risks associated with Coronavirus. Masks are encouraged.

For additional drop-off and volunteer times, call Tom at 701-320-3875 or Sue at 701-320-3259.