

# Orphan Grain Train, Inc.



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## Caring for Children’s Heart, Body and Soul

Hope and Care for Children sustainably serves the most vulnerable people in Liberia by being the hands and feet of Jesus Christ. They love sharing God’s hope to orphans and children. There are many challenges when striving for development within a shattered system such as Liberia. There are lingering effects of a Civil War that demolished the infrastructure, Ebola, and more. Children are the first to suffer as school fees become a discretionary family expense rather than a necessity. Children are needed to work, often at young ages, just to put food on the table. Children are left orphaned when parents die at a young age. Children are robbed of their innocence and their hope. But God gives us victory in Jesus!

*Continue reading on pages 2 & 3 how your support changes lives.*



# Caring for Children's Heart, Body and Soul

Since 2017, Orphan Grain Train has blessed Hope and Care that they may be a blessing to others. We thank God for OGT who impacts life now and eternally. God bless you!

Here are just a few of the ways OGT has blessed Hope and Care:



## Rice Meals Providing Lunch to Hungry Students

Most students at Hope Lutheran School struggle to eat one meal per day. Students arrive not having eaten breakfast, without lunch money or even a small snack. It was OGT who came to their aid by providing rice meals. Students responded by requesting school on Saturdays!

## School Materials

Because OGT supplied the new Hope Lutheran School with desks, tables and other materials, Hope was able to offer more financial assistance in the impoverished community. In return, more kids were able to learn about Jesus and become Christ-followers.



## Medical Supplies to Medical Clinics

Who knew how God would use the tiny hand-made OGT layette sets, woven with love and prayers. Hope's new clinic soon built a reputation for loving babies, causing expectant mothers to give up unsafe traditional methods of childbirth to have babies at Hope with hope - all because we gave each newborn the OGT layette sets.





## Outfitted an Entire School Library

It is uncommon to find a school library in Liberia. But God worked through OGT to outfit Hope Lutheran's library with quality bookshelves and books. The students love spending time expanding their knowledge of God and His creation in the library.

## Provided Bibles and Small Catechisms to all 125 Lutheran Churches

God's Word was shared to pastors throughout the 125 churches in the Evangelical Lutheran Church Liberia Synod. Man cannot live on bread (or rice) alone.



## Bikes and Backpacks

And just because God loves showing us He is in the details, He also provided bikes and backpacks bringing so much joy to the Hope and Care family.

*Words can never convey how much appreciation Hope and Care has for Orphan Grain Train. You are sharing Jesus' love and hope with children living in dark despair.*





# Winter Brings More Suffering

It has been close to a year now that Ukrainian men, women and children have had to be very courageous and strong against an invasion of their homeland. Many have stayed to fight; some have remained in their war-torn homes and others have fled to safer grounds. I don't think many of us thought these

attacks would go on this long and yet, Ukrainians are fighting passionately for their lives, families and country.

Every day air raid alarms sound and are heard throughout territories in Ukraine. Families hide in basements while hearing missiles hit and the ground rumbles. They may hide for days or even weeks and emerge scared and very hungry. More than a million Ukrainians are temporarily left without electricity and running water. The conditions have worsened with bitter cold days.

Orphan Grain Train has had eight air-cargo shipments and three shipping containers of aid and food distributed in Ukraine



*Some very happy and relieved families in eastern Ukraine were able to get firewood to heat their homes. Thank you, OGT supporters!*

to give hope and to show the love of Jesus to devastated families. Romania, Moldova, Latvia and Lithuania recipients have also received several containers to help with the thousands of refugees seeking shelter in those countries. Items shipped included beds with mattresses for shelters and churches, triage medical supplies for the wounded, blankets, winter clothes and boots, hygiene kits, diapers, and generators. Included was also a large tent that is being heated and used to house many families seeking refuge. We have shipped pallets of canned vegetables and meats, water, fortified rice meals, and dry products which are greatly appreciated with feeding hundreds of families at shelters and to make care packages for those remaining in their homes. In some regions, there are no jobs, grocery stores have empty shelves and limited electricity and running water. OGT's recipient, Smolin Ministries, have volunteers courageously going into regions recently de-occupied by Russian soldiers to give care packages to the families that have been hiding in their homes during the shelling. The families are so grateful for food, hygiene items and to see friendly faces of fellow Ukrainians. Orphan Grain Train also had 5,2910 pounds of bread flour and 66 gallons of sunflower oil delivered to For God's



*Families wait in line for food and hygiene products while enduring very uncertain times.*



Children International (FGCI) in Ukraine. The much-needed flour and oil were delivered to several locations which baked fresh bread to feed many families in need.



*These Ukrainian boys received hygiene kits and blankets..*

Orphan Grain Train was also able help one of our recipients in the Donetsk Region in eastern Ukraine, which has seen much shelling and fighting. They received generators, flash lights, powerbanks to quickly charge electronics, instant pots that cook foods fast, and firewood for many families living in homes with limited electricity and heat. The firewood is a blessing to heat their homes and shelters, especially on extremely cold days.

We plan to continue these much-needed shipments of humanitarian aid for these families enduring horrific living conditions. We want to thank our devoted and generous donors, volunteers and supporters for helping with each and every shipment. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and your family.

OGT's Wisconsin branch shipped three of the shipments to Ukraine. Many other OGT branches shipped humanitarian aid to our partners in countries serving Ukrainian refugees. Yet, other OGT locations have delivered aid to the Norfolk warehouse for shipment and others have worked with local organizations shipping to Ukraine. Thank you, OGT volunteers for your continued commitment to serving Ukrainian families.



*OGT was able to have more than 5,200 lbs. of bread flour and 66 gallons of cooking oil delivered and distributed to several destinations to make bread for those in need.*



*The fresh baked bread along with other supplies are shared with families in desperate need.*

# '2022' – A Year In Review

2022 was an amazing year with showing God's love to thousands thru international and domestic shipments.

**Thank you** to our supporters that raise up OGT in prayers, give generously with donations, funds and precious time. Orphan Grain Train would not be able to deliver relief for human need worldwide if it wasn't YOU. Thank You!

- Orphan Grain Train delivered more than \$42 million worth of donated food and humanitarian aid domestically and internationally during 2022.
- In the United States, 154 – 53' containers of aid, food and disaster relief supplies were delivered to those in need in 25 states.
- Internationally 118 – 40' shipping containers filled with lifesaving food and humanitarian aid were distributed to 24 different countries.
- OGT shipped 7.8 million fortified rice meals to help fight hunger & malnutrition worldwide.
- A total of 120,655 volunteer hours were given with a value of \$1,085,895.00 if paid \$9/hour. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus thru giving of your time and talent for those in need worldwide.



## Did You Know....

**We do all of this** with 98.2% of all donations going toward helping those in need worldwide. We use only 1.8% of all donations for administrative and marketing needs.

**OGT has 27 locations** from California to Connecticut collecting and distributing donated goods and food. To find a location near you, go to [www.ogt.org](http://www.ogt.org) and click on Branch Locations.

**OGT has 4 out of 4 Stars** from Charity Navigator, America's premier independent charity evaluator. Again, we received a 100% for Overall Score & Rating for 'Financial' and 'Accountability & Transparency'. Check us out at [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)



*We appreciate your support of our ministry and we respect your privacy. You can feel safe and secure that we do not share any of your personal information with other organizations or persons.*

## Thrivent Choice Dollars Expire Friday, March 31

**Attention Thrivent Members** – Please direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Orphan Grain Train before they expire on March 31, 2023. Please keep in mind that the phones will be very busy on that day so why not designate your Choice Dollars **today**. It is simple and doesn't cost you anything but your time.

YOU MUST RENEW THE DISTRIBUTION OF YOUR CHOICE DOLLARS EVERY YEAR. YOUR CHOICE OF A PRIOR YEAR DOES NOT CARRY OVER.

There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars. Go to [www.thriventchoice.com](http://www.thriventchoice.com) or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "choice dollars" at automation.

Thank you for considering OGT when making your Choice Dollars donation.





# Cries for Food

Action for Progress is a new recipient in Malawi and the region is struggling with food shortages due to the disastrous typhoon early 2022 and weather-related crop failures because of too much rain later in the season. It is estimated that over 2 million people are currently suffering from hunger and malnutrition due to shortages, and this will grow more serious between now and the time of harvest in April. OGT's Mid-Atlantic Branch in West Grove, PA. was able to ship 120,744 Kids Against Hunger meals and other aid to bring some relief to more than 500 residents in Kalumbi Village. During the distribution, one of recipients was David Mayakho, his father died when he was 6, and he lives with his mother. She cites the seriousness of their food and clothing shortage, as well as the other challenges she faces while trying to raise her children.



*The line is long with 500+ receiving life-saving Kids Against Hunger meals to give hope and nourishment.*



*David and his mother are thrilled and relieved to receive food to alleviate hunger in their home.*

*"Sometimes I wake up in the night crying, just thinking how and what I can feed my children. It hurts me to see them going to school with an empty stomach, then returning home to find there is still nothing to eat," said Mayakho, David's mother.*

She expressed appreciation that someone cared enough to send them food. Thank you, Mid-Atlantic Branch donors and volunteers, for showing Christ's love to many destitute families in Malawi.

## The Latest News Delivered to You

Would like to see more of what Orphan Grain Train does? We have 27 locations sorting and packing donations and loading shipments for those in need here in the US and abroad. The Headliner e-newsletter showcases containers of aid and food being distributed to children and families grateful for the help. It shows volunteers being the hands and feet of Jesus and other OGT happenings. The Headliner is the up-to-date OGT news.



If you are interested in receiving these amazing stories delivered to your inbox then please go to [www.ogt.org](http://www.ogt.org) and scroll down to Weekly Headliner Signup - Submit your name and email address. Don't worry, we never give out your information and if you decide it is not for you, just unsubscribe. Or call 877-371-7393 and we will sign you up.

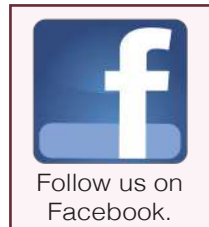


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Charity Navigator  
has given Orphan Grain  
Train "4 Stars", which  
is their highest rating.



*These Lutheran students in Liberia are excited to be unloading boxes of Mercy Meals from Orphan Grain Train! Read more on how OGT supports these children's education on pages 1-3.*