



Key Facts about Catholic Relief Services

CRS is ...

- Experienced – Begun in 1943 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States, CRS is the official international relief and development agency of the U.S. Catholic Community. CRS has always served people regardless of race, religion or nationality.
- On the Ground, Around the World – Programs located in 100 countries and territories in 4 global regions: Latin America & Caribbean, Africa, Asia, E. Europe & the Middle East.
- Professional – Approximately 4,600 national and international staff working overseas and 345 staff located at Baltimore Headquarters and 5 U.S. Regional Offices.
- Effective – 8 Program Areas helped more than 97 million people worldwide in 2009.
 - * HIV/AIDS
 - * Agriculture
 - * Education
 - * Peace & Justice
 - * Emergency Response
 - * Health
 - * Microfinance/Small Enterprise
 - * Safety Net (ex.: hospice care, orphanages)
- Efficient – Total operating expenses in FY10 were \$823 Million. Fully 94.79% was allocated to programs, while 5.21% was used for admin management, awareness building and fundraising. Once again, an “A” rating by the American Institute of Philanthropy.
- Responsive – 33% of CRS FY10 expenses went to emergency efforts such as those now ongoing in Haiti; Darfur; Ethiopia; and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Today, emergency response also continues in earthquake-rocked and still flood-soaked Pakistan and in drought-ravaged Lesotho, Niger and Kenya. Virtually anywhere within its global network, when emergency strikes, CRS is **already on the spot.**
- Committed – After emergency efforts subside, CRS continues to provide developmental assistance to families and communities often for years to come.
- Dedicated to the Poorest of the Poor – FY 10 Distribution of Overseas Programming:
 - Africa – 74%
 - Latin America & the Caribbean – 11%
 - Asia – 11%
 - E. Europe & the Middle East – 4%
- Empowering Catholics at Home – Through Operation Rice Bowl, Food Fast, Fair Trade and other programs, CRS engages U.S. Catholics in the process of creating a more just, sustainable and peaceful world. Private, mainly Catholic generosity is often required to leverage Public Funding. Such support is key, and helps to get more “bang for the buck.”
- Always Glad to Hear from You
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