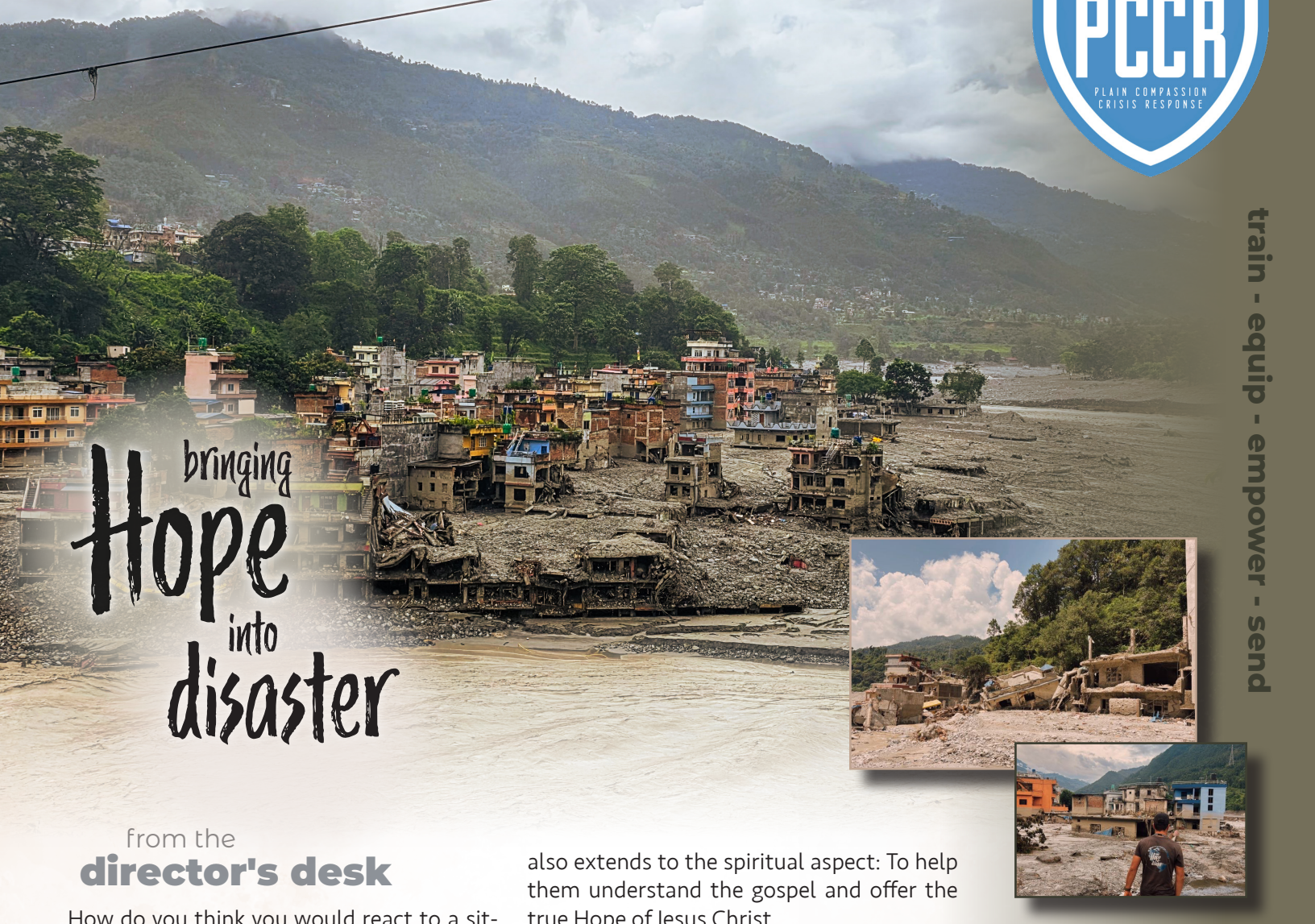
Plain Compassion Crisis Response

Q3 - 2026 | a helping hand in time of need

train - equip - empower - send



bringing Hope into disaster

from the director's desk

How do you think you would react to a situation presented to you in a matter of seconds? Your split-second decision means life or death. Your decision determines whether or not you see your family again. Or, even worse, you don't have a decision in the matter. You face imminent death.

The grim reality of such a dilemma is what thousands of people in Nepal were faced with on that fateful day in August. The survivors in these desperate situations are often left with little or no hope of things ever returning to normal. As I listen to the stories of the volunteers and their interactions with the people, I'm reminded that the mission is bigger than the brokenness they see around them.

The mission certainly includes resolving the physical devastation around them, but it also extends to the spiritual aspect: To help them understand the gospel and offer the true Hope of Jesus Christ.

A home can be rebuilt. A community can be restored, lives can slowly begin to find some measure of normalcy again. But ultimately, our hope isn't found in the things that can be rebuilt around us. Our true hope is found in Christ.

As our teams begin the strenuous work of cleaning out houses and offering the hope of Christ, would you partner with us in bringing relief and hope to the people of Nepal? You can give financially or simply pray for the teams and the people of Nepal. Your support goes a long way in offering hope and redemption to those who have lost everything.

Forever grateful,

Merv King,
Director

Table of Contents

Nepal - Pg. 2
Ukraine - Pg. 4
Venezuela - Pg. 5
Events - Pg. 6
Coins for Crisis - Pg. 6
Intl First Response - Pg. 8





"The LORD is near to
the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit."
Psalm 34:18

New Field: Nepal

CATASTROPHIC FLOOD

On Wednesday morning, August 26, a glacier in the Himalayas broke free from the underlying rock and crashed a few thousand feet to the valley below. The force and debris caused an avalanche which gained momentum and became a powerful debris flood. Churning with rocks, mud and other debris, this massive force of nature grew rapidly and became a devastating flash flood.

This wall of mud and water moving at estimated speeds of 90-120 mph rushed downstream, wiping out bridges and towns, cutting off entire communities from aid and support. Anything in the path of the flood was either washed away or buried in layers of mud and debris left behind. Sources estimate that more than 84,270 people, including 32,000 children have been affected by this disaster. The death toll has reached 1,400 with over 6,000 still missing.

Our team connected with the Mayor of Belkotgadhi, a municipality in the Nuwakot District of Bagmati Province, Nepal, and we are now working in this area. Our current project focuses on digging out homes that have been buried or filled with layers of mud left behind by the flood, with the goal of helping as many families and individuals as we can find some measure of stability and take the next step towards recovery and rebuilding.

Progress on this project is slow but steady. Backhoes or excavators are used to remove the mud and trench floodwater away from the homes. There is also a significant amount of manual labor involved. Shoveling up to a few feet of mud and debris from inside the homes and carting it outside. Then power washing the interior to remove the remaining mud and floodwater damage.

The project length will be a minimum of 8 weeks, possibly longer, focused on digging out as many homes as possible. The number of homes will vary depending on factors like accessibility, depth of mud and manpower and equipment availability. Our fundraising goal for the Nepal Project is $40,000. Your donations will cover costs like fuel for the equipment, tools and supplies, logistics & transportation costs and other project expenses.

This flood has altered the river's course, devastating towns, cities and the surrounding landscapes. At times making the process of recovery and rebuilding a seemingly insurmountable task for the people of Nepal. **Would you consider donating to support the Nepal Flood Cleanup Project? Your support will help bring hope, encouragement, and clean houses to the people of Nepal.**

Funds raised so far **$8,416**

Total Fundraising Goal **$40,000**

Join us in making a difference!

Visit our website:
www.plaincompassion.org OR: scan the QR code

Make the check payable to: **Plain Compassion Crisis Response**
Write **Nepal** on the memo and mail to: PO Box 356 - Honeybrook, PA 19344

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Homes that were flooded often have their entire first story/basement filled with mud and several feet of mud in the next floor. This photo is of one such home, which needs to be mucked out in order to become inhabitable again.











Photos and notices of missing people, posted by their family members.



Nepal is a beautiful country, and everywhere we have gone, through the mountains and valleys, there is so much evidence of God's handiwork. But even in the midst of all this beauty, there is so much suffering and pain.

A restaurant owner we talked with several times told us that he had lost more than 10 of his friends in the flood. Another family we had the chance to spend time with told us, with tears in their eyes, about their son who had been working near the river that day and never came back.

Pray for the people of Nepal as they try to move on with their lives in the midst of their pain and loss.

Jonathan Beiler
Scout Team Lead

Throughout my time in Nepal, our team had the opportunity to talk to many of the people and families affected by the recent flooding. Most of these people had lost everything they had previously known up to that point.

While in the Nuwakot District, we had the opportunity to talk to a young man whom we found standing outside of his house. When the flood happened, he was studying in Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal. The rest of his family, however, had stayed behind in their village to tend to the family business.



When he got the news of the flood, he assumed his family was no longer alive. They contacted him the next day and told him that they were safe, but that the rest of their village had been destroyed. He said that he tried to stay in Kathmandu and continue his studies, but he couldn't think about anything besides his own village and the devastation his family and friends had faced. So, later that week, he returned to what was left of his village.

His house was one of the few still standing, as it was just outside of the main path of the flood. But the water had still pushed mud all the way up to the second floor of their house, destroying everything inside.

The rest of his family was able to make it to safety in time, but he told us stories of many of his friends and neighbors who weren't able to make it out of their houses in time. Even though he had lost almost everything, he was still extremely grateful that his family was alive and that people were there to help them.

We were able to talk to him for about 45 minutes, and he told us a lot about his life and what he had planned for the future. My prayer is that God will continue working in his heart and in the hearts of his family, and that through the interaction we had with him, he would come to give his life to Christ.

Clay Hoover
Scout Team Member

From the scout team: Volunteer Perspective



Ukraine
CLOSING THE FIELD

A few thoughts on closing down the Ukraine Project:

In any disaster, our main focus is to identify and meet the needs that are not currently being met or that the local community are not able to handle on their own. This was the case in Ukraine during most of our time there. But increasingly, more Ukrainians are emerging who are willing and able to do front-line evacuations, including civilian volunteers and volunteer police units.

Front-line evacuations come with a significant risk already, and where speed and communication are essential, language barriers pose yet another real security challenge. With most of our volunteers not speaking the Ukrainian language, translators are necessary, which can make communicating clearly and quickly more difficult during high stress and dangerous situations.

In addition to this, with the significant increase in drone technology and activity, some of the most effective anti-drone measures fall under the defensive weapons category and therefore do not align well with our organizational standards. So in order to maintain the integrity of these standards while also minimizing the potential of becoming a liability to our local partners, we have made the decision to discontinue our operations in Ukraine.

We participated in evacuations as long as it made sense to do so, while also considering other projects we could help with that were consistent with our mission and vision. Some of these projects included the IDP Shelter and multiple Rebuilding Projects.

With our decision to close this project, we recognize that the work in Ukraine is not finished. The war is not over, the needs of the people are still significant. Hope is still needed. As we transition, we are leaving the work to our dear friend and partner Chaplain Leonid and those who are supporting him. He will continue operating the IDP Shelter and plans to continue front-line evacuations alongside the local volunteers who are working with him. Continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and those who are committed to continue the work. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve in Ukraine and deeply appreciate your support and prayers in all of this.

Thank You for Standing With Ukraine.

After four and a half years of working in Ukraine, we have made the difficult decision to close our field there. Our hearts are torn as we prepare to leave a country that has held such a significant place in this organization. So many of our volunteers have walked the streets of Ukraine, shared meals with its people, heard their stories, and witnessed both their pain and their incredible resilience. Most of all, we have come to love the people we were privileged to serve.

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Ukraine became much more than a place where we worked. It became a place filled with friendships, memories, and stories that we will carry with us long after we leave. And as we look back on these four and a half years, we are reminded that none of what happened there would have been possible without the people who stood behind us.

So, as we prepare to close this field, we simply want to say thank you. This work was only possible because of your prayers, donations, encouragement, and willingness to stand with us. Together, we were able to serve for 24,890 volunteer hours, supported by another 5,640 hours of management and coordination.
Those hours turned into action. Our teams traveled more than 170,943 kilometers, moving over 1.1 million kilograms of supplies and goods to where they were needed. Throughout the project, 74,368 people were aided or reached. Most importantly, 2,637 people were evacuated or rescued throughout our time there.

We also operated an IDP shelter, providing a safe place for people displaced by the war. In total, 688 people stayed at our shelter.

Behind every number is a person—someone brought to safety, someone receiving desperately needed supplies, or a displaced person finding a safe place to stay. And behind every one of those efforts were donors like you who made it possible.

I would like to leave you with one short story. We evacuated a grandma out of the hot zone. After we were at staging, she tried to give us money for coming to rescue her. Our translator gently pushed the money away and said, “No, there are people who give money so we can come get you for free.” With tears in her eyes, she said, “Thank you!! Thank you!!”

That moment captures so much of what these four and a half years have meant to us. We were able to go because people like you gave, prayed, and stood behind the work.

We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity God gave us to serve the people of Ukraine. We have seen His protection, provision, and faithfulness throughout this work.

Thank you for praying. Thank you for giving. Thank you for trusting us. And thank you for helping us be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Ron Hershberger
Field Director





a helping hand in time of need









Venezuela Trip Report

EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

Our team has safely returned home from Venezuela and as we look back our hearts are full of gratitude.

Thank you to everyone who prayed, gave, encouraged us, and followed this journey. Your support made it possible for us to stand alongside people experiencing some of the darkest days of their lives.

When we arrived in La Guaira, we simply asked God every morning to lead us where we were needed most.

And He did.

No two days looked the same.

Some days we spent digging through collapsed buildings alongside local firefighters and international rescue teams, helping families recover loved ones from beneath the rubble. Other days we visited displacement camps and orphanages, distributed food, prayed with grieving families, and simply sat with those carrying unimaginable loss.

We were privileged to partner with Samaritan's Purse, helping prepare hundreds of shelter tarps. Distributing and setting up emergency tents for displaced families to help rebuild some sense of shelter and stability.

We were also able to work with Gideon Rescue, Operation Blessing, local and international firefighters/SAR teams, Venezuelan churches, and many incredible individuals on the ground.

Again and again, God reminded us that He isn't looking for people who have all the equipment, gear and answers—He's looking for hearts willing to say yes and just go.

We never knew what each day would bring. Looking back, we can see His faithfulness. He kept opening doors, directing our steps, and placing people in our path at just the right time.

Please continue praying for Venezuela. While media attention will fade, thousands of families are still grieving, rebuilding, and facing an uncertain future. Recovery will take months, and for many, years.

Thank you for making this mission possible. It has been an incredible privilege to serve the people of Venezuela.

Arthur Jones
Venezuela Field Director

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Our Events of 2026

Fall Awareness Event



Steak Dinner | Silent Auction | Live Music | Candy Drop











Softball Tournament | Volleyball Tournament | Food Trucks











Thank you to everyone who was a part in making our events a success!

Whether by playing in the tournament, volunteering or simply coming out to enjoy the activities, music and food, thank you for your part in it!

We're looking forward to growing and improving both the Softball Tournament and the Fall Awareness Event next year and hope to see you again!

PLAIN COMPASSION CRISIS RESPONSE
2026
ANNUAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT
SERVING WITH purpose

4th Annual
SOFTBALL
TOURNAMENT ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND

your *Spare change* helps bring hope in time of need

coins for crisis

Our 3rd Coins for Crisis event runs the entire month of October. This is another great opportunity to contribute to a worthwhile cause while sharing your spare change. Your coins will support the work PCCR continues to do, bringing Hope to those in need around the world.

- For more event details.
- To find a location near you.
- To sign-up to get involved as a collection partner.
- To see how much we raised to date with Coins for Crisis.

Scan the QR code or check out the Coins for Crisis page on the events page of our website.





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Inside this newsletter:

Nepal - Pg. 2
Ukraine - Pg. 4
Venezuela - Pg. 6
Events - Pg. 7
Coins for Crisis - Pg. 7
Intl First Response - Pg. 8

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First Response INTERNATIONAL



The initial responses to Venezuela and Jamaica were made possible in part by the generosity of an anonymous donor who designated part of his donation to the Intl First Response Fund. Any donations to this fund are designated for scout trips and starting responses similar to Jamaica. This is especially vital for responses to disasters like earthquakes, storms and floods, and will greatly enhance our ability to respond quickly and effectively.

If you are interested in financially supporting the Intl First Response Fund which will empower us to plan potential scout trips and open new fields internationally, feel free to make a donation via one of the options listed below.

Card:
Visit our website:
www.plaincompassion.org
OR: scan the QR code.

Check:
Write ***Intl First Response*** on the memo line and make the check payable to:
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for more ways to give, chcek out our new **GIVE** page! Visit plaincompassion.org/give or scan the QR Code on the left