



Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

In 1984, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries was formed out of the Church of the Nazarene's "Hunger and Disaster Fund." Nazarene Compassionate Ministries functions as an arm of the Church of the Nazarene, focused on mobilizing the local church in holistic community development and emergency relief efforts.

Even before Nazarene Compassionate Ministries was created as a formal office of the denomination, a compassionate conscience has been part of the identity of the Church of the Nazarene from its beginning in 1908. Early on, the church invested in education of children through Hope School for Girls in Kolkata, India, and it has placed a special focus on the holistic development of children throughout its history.

Today, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries supports church-led initiatives in more than 150 countries worldwide, including holistic child development; emergency relief; anti-trafficking; economic development; food security; water, sanitation, and hygiene; health care, HIV and AIDS care; and refugee and immigrant support.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries exists to mobilize and support local churches around the world. The work of Nazarene Compassionate Ministries varies from country to country because the organization exists to support the locally led, locally designed efforts of congregations in specific community contexts.

Anti-Trafficking Initiatives

The Church of the Nazarene has a presence in many countries where children and adults are vulnerable to human trafficking. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries partners with local congregations in anti-trafficking efforts that range from prevention and education to protection and restoration. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries' strongest engagement in addressing the problem of human trafficking is through prevention as well as economic development and educational opportunities that lower the risk of poverty-induced trafficking.

U.S.-Based Education and Awareness

In the United States, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries provides educational and awareness support for local congregations, focused primarily on prevention and awareness as well as partnership.

Child Sponsorship

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries' child sponsorship program supports children who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and are at risk for human trafficking in areas including India, Nepal, the

Philippines, Madagascar, and Ukraine. Children who are sponsored attend child development centers that focus on meeting holistic needs—physical, emotional/social, intellectual, and spiritual— through formal education, tutoring, life skills, health and hygiene, nutrition, play, Bible-based lessons, and spiritual nurturing.

Madagascar Street Kids Center

The center provides a safe environment for children living on the streets in Antananarivo. Children receive formal education and remedial services to equip them to enter the public school system. They also receive meals, clothing, and other basic needs. Vocational training is provided for those who are too old to enter the educational system.

Preventing Child Trafficking in CIS

Kids' Clubs in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS, the former Soviet Union) provide prevention education and awareness aimed at at-risk children in countries such as Ukraine and Armenia, which are source countries for human trafficking. The clubs also provide academic support, life skills, and nutrition for children and youth. The Kids Clubs are often paired with vocational training for women and youth to provide employment and income-generating opportunities.

Preventing Child Trafficking in the Philippines

Educational support and “safe spaces” for at-risk children and youth from marginalized backgrounds in Zamboanga City and other areas work to make them aware of the risks of trafficking and how to mitigate them.

Church-Based Prevention

Churches in South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo, and other countries are provided targeted trainings and awareness programs to equip local congregations to identify risk factors and prevent human trafficking in their communities.

For more information visit ncm.org/trafficking.

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