

## CWS Hurricane Response: Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico

Church World Service is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. CWS responds to emergencies in the United States and worldwide in conjunction with and on behalf of our 37 member denominations. In the last year, our team has worked in partnership with communities and other organizations to respond to Hurricane Matthew in Haiti and the United States, drought in Kenya, monsoon flooding in Myanmar and the Kumamoto earthquake in Japan. We also distributed more than 206,000 CWS Kits and Blankets to Angola, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Syria, United States and Venezuela.

As hurricanes battered the United States and our Caribbean neighbors this fall, CWS has been responding in Texas, Florida, Cuba, Haiti and Puerto Rico. In all, we have shipped well over 130,000 CWS Kits and more than 1,000 CWS Blankets in the last 10 weeks.

As Puerto Ricans continue to face acute and severe challenges in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, we are working to get supplies to our partners on the ground to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of thousands of families.

### Working with the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, we shipped the following:

- 22,500 CWS Hygiene Kits
- 8,716 bungee cords
- 2,550 CWS School Kits
- 330 tarps
- 200 cast iron, double-burner stoves
- 50 propane tanks



*Supplies are unloaded in Puerto Rico on November 1.  
Photo: American Baptist Home Mission Societies.*

### Another shipment is in the works, this time in conjunction with the United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries and Week of Compassion (Disciples of Christ). It will include:

- 5,000 CWS Hygiene Kits
- 1,000 all-in-one water filters
- 500 tarps



Our team is also working with our denominational partners to explore the possibility of shipping supplies to the storm-battered U.S. Virgin Islands, which were impacted by both Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria.