



Caribbean Waves June 2020

In Spite of COVID-19...

Stories of hope and God's grace during the COVID-19 pandemic around the world

As the COVID-19 pandemic began to spread around the world, daily life quickly began to change for everyone. "Coronavirus," "pandemic," "social distancing," "quarantine," "self-isolation," and "face masks" all became part of our vocabulary seemingly overnight. Churches closed their doors, businesses closed down, and thousands became ill. Life as we know it has greatly changed.

**The world may look different,
but God remains the same.**

However, though everything feels out of control, and no one knows what the future holds, as Christians, we know that God is sovereign and in control. Though our ministry opportunities look different now, OM has continued to serve around the world and show the love of Jesus to those who need it most. Our teams across the Caribbean have been praying for the end of COVID-19 and for continued opportunities to share the gospel around the world. Will you pray with us?

See page 6 to contact your national office



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Women from Tabitha Ministry in Zambia sewing masks for the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Photos by Kauya Mali.



Loving Those Who Haven't Heard about Coronavirus

In places where literacy rates are low, the population is often more at risk during a crisis like the coronavirus pandemic. One such community is a Hindu low caste people group in Pakistan, where OM workers have seen a critical need to organise awareness programmes.

“We have been doing relief and development work within this community for the last several years,” Stuart*, a ministry leader, explains. “Now we’re helping out with basic things and giving instructions on how to try to deal with and avoid the coronavirus.” ...The simple programmes are helping equip an ostracized community to have a better chance of staying healthy. “We are helping the villagers, through the awareness programmes: distributing facemasks, soap and literature that helps teach about better sanitation practices.”



Since Pakistan was put on lock down in an attempt to prevent the spread of coronavirus, there is the danger in poorer communities that many will go hungry... And the majority don't have money to buy food or other essentials right now. “They have to stay home, and the shops are all closed. So we want to distribute food to them so they will not die of hunger.”

OM is raising funds to help feed those in critical need and to provide further training to the community. The team has already reached nine villages with this awareness programme and plans to keep going. Join us in demonstrating Jesus' love in practical ways to people who may not be able to read God's word but can recognise when they are treated with love, respect and care.

*name changed

By Ellyn Schellenberg



On-Call for Such a Time as This

Nicolas* and Sandra* are trained to respond to crises and ready to share a hope that neither natural disasters nor the coronavirus can shake.

“This crisis is different from others we have helped in,” said Sandra. “It is on our doorstep and we don’t know when it will end.” The couple normally travel to crisis zones in other parts of the world for a predetermined number of weeks, as they did in response to the natural disaster in the Bahamas in 2019. “We are used to more physical crises,” continued Nicolas. “This time we can’t see it, but when we put on our ‘moon suits’ (protective clothing), we know this is real.”

“Why are you risking this?” neighbours asked.

“If we are not doing it, who else will?” Sandra replied with feeling and energy. “We believe we should do this because God wants us to help people.” ... As Jesus followers, they should not be irresponsible or take unnecessary risks, Nicolas acknowledged. However, ultimately they are secure because they have the promise of eternity with Jesus. “I do not need to be afraid; I know where I am going and this gives me a peace I can share,” he emphasised. “My faith is giving me the strength to do this.”

*name has been changed
By Inger R.

STATS

May 2020

FUNDS RAISED THROUGH APRIL 2020

• \$ **611,240**
\$800K

Will you give?

Because of donors like you, OM workers around the globe can be able to continue spreading the hope and help of Jesus to the needy during this season of uncertainty.

During this global pandemic, please join with us as we...

- PRAY • COMFORT •
- SERVE • SUPPORT •
- SHARE THE GOSPEL •

Your gift will help OM take the love, hope & peace of Jesus to hurting people worldwide!

<https://give.omusa.org/om/usacovid>



CATEGORIES OF FUND USE BY %

- Workers and their families 62%
- Media Outreach 16%
- Mobilising Local Believers 5%
- Relief Ministries 17%



We won't let the coronavirus stop our work to spread the **GOSPEL**

Can this be smaller
vertically so we can
add the mission
statement below?

12%

AMERICA
& OCEANIA

21%

EUROPE

23%

ASIA

23%

MIDDLE EAST
& AFRICA

21%

SHIPS MINISTRY

% OF PEOPLE
SERVING WITH OM



6854

PEOPLE SERVING
WITH OM

128

NUMBER OF
NATIONALITIES

54.9%

PEOPLE SERVING
> 5 YEARS

We want to see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least reached

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