By distributing aid through Catholic churches and ministries already in place and serving the poor, Cross Catholic Outreach makes the best use of donated resources and supports the Church’s spiritual mission and leadership in the community. In fact, accomplishing these goals is our main mission.

One of the ways we maximize the impact of every dollar donated is by making wise choices in how we help the poor. In some cases, the best option for meeting a ministry partner’s request for food may be to send a cash grant so supplies can be purchased locally. In other cases, it is better to ship food purchased on the global market. Choosing the right option can save 30 to 50 percent of the food’s cost. Making wise choices allows us to accomplish more with each donated dollar.

Another way Cross Catholic Outreach gets “more bang for the buck” is to secure donated medicines, medical supplies, food and other resources from generous corporations. These valuable supplies can then be delivered to the poor at the cost of shipping alone. For every dollar given by American Catholics, more than twenty times the value — even significantly more — in goods can be shipped to the poor overseas.

Cross Catholic Outreach takes its role as a good steward of resources very seriously. We direct every donor’s gift to its intended project; we provide accurate reports about our activities; and we keep costs extremely low — with more than 95 percent going for program services that benefit the poor. Just as we handle funds with the utmost integrity, we hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards:

- We ask each overseas ministry to document their costs as well as the impact of their outreach.
- We make periodic visits to confirm that a project or program is carried out as promised.
- We nurture long-term partnerships with those ministries who sincerely serve the poor as a Christian community and prove themselves trustworthy with the funds and goods we provide.

**Income**

| All Sources | $354,039,739 |

**Expenses**

| Program Services | $337,404,767 |
| Administrative | $9,944,384 |
| Fundraising | $6,168,236 |

Our detailed level of accountability to donors and our strong ethical practices have earned us recognition by the International Catholic Stewardship Council. This is important, because how we conduct our ministry is just as important to us as what we accomplish, since both are done for the glory of God.

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