Provide Safe Housing for Vulnerable Families

— Worldwide —

Around the world, poor families struggle to find safe housing, and a tragic number either live in destitute conditions or are homeless. God is calling on his Church to take action and provide dignified housing to those in need.

This summer, you can welcome poor families home!

CrossCatholic.org/safe-shelter
A Global Housing Crisis

For poor families around the world, “home” is not necessarily a safe or comfortable place. More often than not, they live in cramped, broken-down shacks — little more than crude shelters cobbled together from sticks, tarps and a few rusty metal sheets. When the rain comes, it pours in through holes in the roof, and when the strong winds rise, parents fear the entire structure will collapse. Imagine raising children in this kind of dirt-floored shanty, with no indoor plumbing or electricity. You can see why poor families like these live in fear, frustration and hopelessness.

During this unique time in history, having a safe home is playing an even more critical role in family health and survival than ever before — so we are asking you to help provide the incredible blessing of a sturdy home to families with urgent needs. Through our network of trusted Catholic ministry partners, your gift will help support the efforts of our ministry partners.

This year, we have home building or repair projects either planned or underway for our partners in nine countries, and we hope to raise $1.2 million in total funds.

Your loving response will be an answer to prayer — and a source of hope. Please share Christ’s love by providing the gift of safe shelter today!

The Impact of a New House

- A solid roof protects from storms, water damage and sun exposure.
- Sturdy walls provide security and protect from outside predators and vermin.
- A concrete foundation makes a house more durable and also improves health, hygiene and cleanliness.
- A lockable door provides protection from intruders. People are able to sleep peacefully knowing they are safe and secure.
- A safe place to live releases families from the struggle to survive to an environment where they can better themselves and even thrive!
Build Houses for Families in Need

Life has been hard for Rebeca Maradiaga Torrez (pictured left). As a single mother of two small children living in the village of El Guayabal, Nicaragua, she makes a small salary of $100 a month as a housekeeper — barely enough to put food on the table. She faithfully cared for the homes of strangers while her own family lived with Rebeca’s mother in a dilapidated mud and stick shack. The conditions were unsafe and unsanitary — leaving the family vulnerable to intruders and illnesses.

But thanks to supporters like you, Rebeca and her children finally have a safe place call home. Our ministry partner, called Rainbow Network, builds houses — complete with a concrete floor, a metal roof, lockable doors, basic electricity and a sanitary latrine — for destitute families. Every beneficiary pitches in to work on all the houses built in their community, helping to foster relationships and a sense of ownership.

Please — contribute today and help Rainbow Network and other Cross Catholic Outreach ministry partners provide safe housing for the world's most vulnerable families.

Your gift will turn impossible dreams into reality!

Yearly Overview of Rainbow Network Housing

Total number of houses to be built this year: 21
Beneficiaries: 100 children and 68 adults.
Area impacted: Las Mangas, a rural village in Nicaragua.
Cost per house: $8,000
Materials: Concrete walls and foundation, sturdy metal roof
Features: Indoor electricity, wooden door, windows, a porch and enough land to plant fruit trees and a vegetable garden.
Dedication Day: Each family is given a housewarming gift, a Bible, along with the keys to their new home.

Once construction is complete, Rainbow Network hosts a communitywide dedication ceremony. Each beneficiary family is given a Bible.
Our Mission

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

How We Serve

Rather than create new institutions to distribute aid, we support existing ministries and churches already serving the poor. In addition to being the most cost-effective way of helping the poor, empowering these ministries allows us to support the Church’s spiritual mission and its important position of leadership in poor communities.

Good Stewardship

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach. These detailed accountability measures have earned us ongoing accreditation by the following organizations:

- The Chronicle of Philanthropy
  The nonprofit world’s No. 1 news source

Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2021, the close of our ministry’s fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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