Homes for the Poor
Restoring Lives with Safe, Sturdy Shelter
— Worldwide —

This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.

PSALM 34:6
Project Synopsis

Description
This project will provide safe, sturdy housing for poor families, emphasizing homes for vulnerable children, women, families, people with disabilities and the elderly.

Purpose
To restore the dignity of families living in unthinkable conditions and to provide tangible proof of God’s love through a personal encounter with Christ’s mercy.

Location
Needy communities in developing countries around the world where our ministry partners serve.

The Need
• The poorest families in the developing world live in dirt-floor shacks with walls and roofs made of sticks, mud, cardboard and scraps of plastic or metal.
• Natural disasters, including back-to-back major hurricanes that ravaged Central America in 2020, have disproportionately impacted impoverished families, leaving thousands homeless and vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation.

Your Impact
• Your generous gift will empower Catholic ministries to shelter the poor, typically through building durable concrete homes. The houses your gift will fund will be built with quality materials, a solid foundation and a waterproof roof, reducing the risk of flooding, wind damage, mosquitoes and disease.
• When families are blessed with good homes, it improves sanitary conditions, reduces childhood diseases, boosts school attendance, and frees individuals to take the necessary steps to break the cycle of poverty.
• When the Church provides struggling families with humane housing, it tangibly demonstrates Jesus’ love and compassion for those who live on the margins of society.
A Human Tragedy

Social distancing and quarantines recently swept the globe as key strategies to prevent the spread of disease, but for many of the families living in the world’s remote villages and urban slums, quarantining at home isn’t a workable solution. It’s a tragic fact, but many of these impoverished families simply don’t have a proper home and, therefore, no safe place to retreat.

Instead, they live in cramped, flimsy shanties or camp out in primitive settlements. When it rains, water pours in through a leaky roof, leaving dirt floors a soggy mess, and children often miss school due to repeated illnesses from these unsanitary living conditions. Many women also sustain painful lung diseases from years of cooking over indoor fire pits. Without a safe place to rest their heads, these families face a never-ending cycle of patching leaks, enduring stifling heat, overcoming disease and staving off despair.

For them, the COVID-19 pandemic has been yet another cross to bear.

Still, there is hope. Through the outreaches of the Church and the support of friends like you, these cruel conditions can be overcome, and these brothers and sisters struggling in developing countries can have their dignity restored.

Cross Catholic Outreach has already established a trusted network of compassionate Catholic partners in these countries, and those missions have developed effective plans to address the critical need for housing. The only thing they lack is the financial resources to purchase materials and build. You can play that vital role, empowering these Catholic priests, religious orders and lay leaders with a generous gift and enabling them to provide safe shelter for some of the most marginalized people in society.

Our current projects range from building homes for impoverished families in the Philippines to repairing houses in Haiti to providing housing for young women in Guyana — and more. Your gift will fund this important work as an expression of faith, hope and charity.

A simple but sturdy house will improve a family’s quality of life in countless ways. Almost immediately after moving in, many report dramatic health improvements. They explain how the gift has finally allowed them to pursue an education for their children and develop a more robust faith.

Your gift today will make all of this possible. Please join us in this important mission and help lay a solid foundation in a poor family’s life!
Shelter Them from the Storm!

The Gospel reminds us that the first human challenge Jesus faced was a lack of proper shelter. Literally born in a place fit only for animals, he experienced the same kind of indignity many families in developing countries endure day after day — some, from generation to generation.

As Catholics, we are called to see the face of the Holy Family in each impoverished mother, father and child still facing hardships like these. Through Christ’s call to love “the least,” we are compelled to address the needs of families desperate for a safe place to sleep.

As these brothers and sisters cry out for help, our Catholic mission partners depend on you to help them address the need. Please join us now in supporting the Church’s global effort to provide safe shelter. Be a witness to God’s inexhaustible love for the poor by rescuing a family from filth, disease, squalor and sleepless nights. Whatever amount you can offer for this cause, the Lord will honor your compassion for his most vulnerable children, and the poor will be grateful for your sacrifice.

The need is urgent. This cannot wait. Sponsor a home today!

Our Mission

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

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:

Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2023, 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.