



Vitafood Meals for the Hungry

— Honduras —



Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

JOHN 6:35



Executive Summary

Description

This project will send nutrient-rich Vitafood meals to feed hungry children, the sick and other vulnerable Hondurans through our local ministry partner, The Pearl Association. Vitafood is scientifically formulated with the optimal balance of vitamins, minerals, protein, fiber, fat and carbohydrates to meet the needs of malnourished children. The Pearl Association will distribute the meals throughout its local distribution network of 170 institutions, including hospitals, health centers, children's centers, schools, feeding centers and Catholic medical dispensaries.

Purpose

To fight hunger, rehabilitate the malnourished, strengthen medical programs in underserved communities, and live out Christ's call to serve the vulnerable.

Location

The Central American country of Honduras.

Cost

Our goal is to send 2,177,280 meals to Honduras at a cost of about **\$160,000**. Every dollar sends 14 donated meals!

Highlights

NEED

- 60% of Hondurans live in poverty.
- 23% of children are stunted, with peaks of up to 40%.
- Anemia affects 29% of children under 5 — with a prevalence of up to 60% in babies between 6 and 8 months.

Source: World Food Program

IMPACT

- By sending more than 2.1 million Vitafood meals, you will help prevent stunting and other hunger-related conditions among children.
- These meals will demonstrate the love of Christ as they strengthen local Catholic outreaches and other humanitarian services reaching the poor and marginalized.



**If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.**

ISAIAH 58:10



Kenia Maradiaga depends on Vitafood meals to avoid going entire days without eating.

A Country Beset by Tragedy

Since 1998, Honduras has lived in the shadow of Hurricane Mitch, a horrific storm that wiped out 70% of the country's crops and destroyed about 80% of the nation's transportation infrastructure. The destruction was so bad that Carlos Roberto Flores, the president at the time of the disaster, said Mitch had reversed 50 years of progress.

More than 30 years have passed since Mitch, but the havoc that hurricane and other disasters have wreaked on Honduras continues to ripple through the country. For example, the year 2020 saw back-to-back hurricanes Iota and Eta on top of a pandemic, and ongoing COVID-19 restrictions are also placing a heavy burden on families struggling to get by.

Kenia Maradiaga is a case in point. She sometimes goes days without eating because of a rise in food costs and a decline in work. She searched diligently for other odd jobs to increase her income, but still went to bed hungry more often than not.

Guillermina Perez has a similar story. She lives in Pacayal, a remote community where many families have lost jobs and opportunities because of the pandemic. Unable to access a variety of foods, Guillermina feeds her three children almost exclusively beans and plantains. She knows her family is undernourished, but she has no way to improve her humble means.

Thankfully, Kenia and Guillermina have not been forgotten by God or his Church. Through Cross Catholic Outreach's partnership with a local charity — The Pearl Association — these women and others like them have found both a source of food and a reason to hope. Guillermina says the Vitafood meals she is now receiving give her children the energy they need to thrive in school.

The Pearl Association is able to reach these needy families through its network of 170 hospitals, health centers, children's centers, schools, feeding centers, Catholic medical dispensaries and medical brigades. Their system is impressive, but it relies on major food shipments provided by Cross Catholic Outreach — and friends like you — to continue its critical services to the poor in Honduras.

Please join us today in supporting The Pearl Association's mission of mercy. Together, we can bless Honduras' most vulnerable families and meet their urgent needs!



Help End Their Hunger!

The Pearl Association has asked for our help — and with your support, we can respond!

A large donation of nutrient-rich Vitafood has been made available to us, but we need your help to move these meals into the hands of the malnourished. Your generous gift will help cover the cost to rush the meals to Honduras and rescue families from hunger during this difficult time. These meals will, in some cases, literally save families from going entire days without food.



Show Christ's love to a struggling Honduran family by meeting this basic need for a daily nutritious meal!

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.



Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2024, 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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