Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
2018 At A Glance

QUICK FIGURES

• $5.6 million granted around the globe
• $3.5 million granted nationally in 35 states (including Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands). In 2018, PDA processed one-third more grants and more than doubled the designated funds distributed than in previous years
• $2.1 million granted internationally in 24 countries
• 438 National Response Team members spent 2,379 days in the field in 58 presbyteries
• 167 Presbyterian Women trained in Disaster Preparedness
• 9,146 work team volunteers served in 12 states
REFUGEE MINISTRY

2018 was filled with changes in official U.S. policies to limit both international aid and refugee status to thousands of people in desperate need of a new country to provide them a place to live and thrive. When viewed through the lens of U.S.-based churches and organizations that minister with refugees, asylum seekers and others who have been forcibly displaced, it was a year of great despair and great inspiration. In 2018, PDA disbursed 24 grants totaling $466,000 nationally and abroad to presbyteries and partners assisting refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons.

PDA has been responding in cooperation with mid councils and congregations along the border, the Office of the General Assembly’s Office of Immigration Issues, the Office of Public Witness and our ecumenical and interfaith partners working with refugees and immigrants. PDA supports these local initiatives through individual consultations, the deployment of National Response Team members and grant making. For more information about PDA’s refugee ministry, visit www.pcusa.org/PDA/refugee

STORY MINISTRY

It is estimated that PDA documentaries were screened for more than 11,000 people in 2018. These films are resources to discuss topics like gun violence (Trigger), refugee resettlement (To Breathe Free), immigration detention (Locked in a Box), the widespread impact of natural disasters and long term recovery (Kepulihan) and more. Study guides are available for most films, see www.pcusa.org/StoryProductions for more information.

Much of 2018 was dedicated to working on the newest film Flint: The Poisoning Of An American City, which will be available later in 2019. The film follows the environmental history of Flint and the car industry and how the continued abuse of the river and post-industrial neglect of city infrastructure and environmental regulations have led to the poisoning of families and communities. The film also focuses on how Flint is a warning sign for other post-industrial communities across the United States who will be confronting industrial contamination and pollution of their own water sources and environment.

THANK YOU for making our work possible!

The content in this handout provides a preliminary glance at the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To see the full scope of your gifts at work in 2018, read the annual report Mission Mosaic: www.pcusa.org/MissionMosaic18 (available in April)