PHP partnered with 14 presbytery Hunger Action Advocates, 182 Hunger Action Congregations and 264 Earth Care Congregations across the country in 2020.

PHP’s social media engagement continues to grow: 5,337 page likes on Facebook; 1,791 Twitter followers.

PHP is supported by generous gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing (OG300000) and the Hunger Fund (H999999).

The Presbyterian Hunger Program works to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes. For blogs, resources and more, go to pcusa.org/hunger

Thank you for your financial contributions, time, energy and prayers!

“to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke…then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall go before you” — Isaiah 58:6–8

Agriculture is the essence of life for many people around the world, but for farmers in Gaza, it is life itself. Since 2007, Israel and Egypt have maintained some form of a land, air and sea blockade on Gaza, controlling the flow of resources and people to and from the zone. The violence in Gaza has destroyed lives, lands, farms and greenhouses, as well as exhausted people’s energies and damaged the economy.

Among the most affected are the farmers who depend on their land as a source of income. The economic situation has forced farmers to borrow each year to pay for expensive imported seedlings, pesticides, organic manures and other resources needed to cultivate their land.

The lives of 20 farmers changed when the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) partnered with Improvement and Development for Communities Center (IDCO) to provide the agricultural inputs needed to re-establish the production of small-scale greenhouses and technical on-the-farm training to disadvantaged small-scale farmers in the Gaza Strip.

Al Sayed Suliman Abu Sbeitan, a tomato farmer and father of three children, usually borrows money to buy seedlings and organic manures to prepare for the growing season. “The seedlings and organic manures I received this year from the PHP/IDCO project are of high quality,” said Al Sayed. “This year, I don’t have any debts; thanks to the PHP. This year, I used the money to pay for the universities of my two children.”

Learn more about the work of IDCO here: bit.ly/IDCOvideo
IN 2020 . . .

You helped PHP give 131 grants totaling nearly $1 million, impacting 20 countries, including the United States. This included 46 COVID grants that were provided to congregations and organizations for addressing the food insecurity and other emergency needs emerging at the beginning of the pandemic. In 2020, PHP also consulted with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to support $420,000 in PDA grant funding for 21 PHP international grant partners for emergency COVID-19 work and for the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon.

PHP embraces the PC(USA) vision of Matthew 25 that encourages us to see Christ in those who are hungry, thirsty, imprisoned and oppressed and to engage our work to “alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes” as a central way to live out our calling. Through speaking and teaching, supporting grant partners, producing educational and worship resources, and hosting networks and congregational support programs, PHP works to eradicate systemic poverty, to dismantle structural racism and to build congregational vitality.

We approach this by looking to our partners — who directly experience the pain and injustices of these systems — for their perspectives and solutions. PHP then attempts to promote and amplify their campaigns and strategies by involving Presbyterians and by supporting organizing and movement building to coalesce the people power needed to make systemic change possible. Much of our work can’t be quantified numerically or within the span of one year, because we know that long-term sustainable development, community empowerment and systems change takes many years. This report offers a few examples of the impact of your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing!

Addressing WHY people are HUNGRY through:

MORE AND BETTER FOOD

People have sufficient money, seeds, land, water, equipment and training to feed themselves and their families. Better food also means everyone in the food production process is treated fairly.

- Over 3 million pounds of food distributed across the U.S.
- 410 fruit trees (papaya or tangerine) provided in Madagascar
- Supplied over 100 animals worldwide, including pigs, rabbits and goats
- 3 Stocked Grain Banks with 155 bags of millet in Niger and 1 Seed Bank in Democratic Republic of Congo
- 106 gardens and greenhouses were created for schools, families, communities in Palestine, Cameroon, Haiti, Bolivia and New York

SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLE

The solidarity work we do with vulnerable communities includes changing unfair structures and passing more just policies — around wages, labor, trade and job opportunities.

- More than 54,300 people trained in multiple countries in areas of land rights, farming, social development and addressing gender-based violence
- $98.5 million secured for affordable housing trust funds in Topeka; Richmond; and Washington, D.C.
- Over 30,000 masks and other PPE distributed
- 51 sewing machines distributed to women-headed households in Somalia and Yemen to increase and sustain their household income

A MORE LIVABLE ENVIRONMENT

Caring for Creation is a necessity to ending hunger and poverty, and the reverse also is true: the pollution, extraction and harm done to the environment significantly worsens social and economic conditions for people who are hungry.

- 40 water pumps, 2 cisterns to harvest rainwater, 1 borewell and 1 sprinkler irrigation system
- Constructed 40 toilets/washrooms in India
- 646 Presbyterian congregations purchased 31,414 pounds of fair-trade coffee
- 1,031 Presbyterian congregations purchased eco-palms for sustainable forestry and livelihoods
- In Peru, advocacy efforts resulted in a multi-sector commission that will address health care and environmental remediation from toxic metal poisoning.