Fund a CWS Program

Is your church interested in doing something different to help other people? How about a way to be creative, have fun - and make a real impact in our world?

Church World Service is inviting you to play a critical role in one of our programs - the School Safe Zones program in eastern Africa OR the Gran Chaco initiative in South America. Here’s how it works:

1. Choose a program to support.

School Safe Zones

Give children a chance to learn - and thrive - in a safe space. Your support will help improve a school’s infrastructure, train teachers, provide campus safety and more in east Africa, including Burundi, Kenya and Mozambique. You will impact children’s lives forever.

Gran Chaco

Indigenous communities of the Gran Chaco - South America’s largest dry desert including parts of Paraguay, Bolivia and Argentina - are suffering from deforestation and being evicted from their ancestral land. Your support will help families learn their rights, secure their land and create a sustainable future for their children.

2. Set a goal.

Every gift matters. How much would your congregation be able to accomplish towards providing lasting change for these communities? Challenge yourselves. Here are some price points you can aim for:

School Safe Zones

- **$350** Train four teachers from a school to be more effective in the classroom.
- **$600** Improve sanitation with the construction of a new latrine.
- **$1,500** Provide clean water with the installation of a rain catchment system.
- **$2,500** Allow school leaders to learn from each other through a peer exchange program.
- **$10,000** Offer customized infrastructure improvements for an entire school.
Have fun as you raise funds.

Fundraising can be simple and fun! You can host a talent show, set up a bake sale or send the youth group out to wash cars. People love “hands on” activities, so don’t be shy - ask others to help you and turn an ordinary event into one that changes lives.

Here are some ideas that have been successful for other congregations:

Food events
(where you can charge admission or take a free will offering):
- Pancake breakfast
- Potluck dinner
- Salad Luncheon
- Bake sale
- Soup dinner
- Multicultural buffet night
- Congregational Cook Out
- Popcorn Sunday Service - sell popcorn prior to the church service starting. (It really works well!)

Special events:
Take a special offering during worship for your CWS Program.
- Host a dance.
- Talent show
- Youth car wash
- Congregational Yard Sale
- Host an educational event or lecture.
- Sponsor a concert.
- Plant a pumpkin garden and sell them.
- Coordinate a silent auction.
- Host a Mardi Gras Party.
- “Kids Can Change the World”- Have the kids of the congregation put change is a empty water bottle every time that they use clean water for a month prior to your collection.
- Host a Relay for Water - have participants carry water without using their hands to the end of the race.
Check out the free support materials.

We have sermon starters, posters, bulletin inserts, videos and more at church.cwsglobal.org.

Turn in the funds.

Within two weeks after your event, send a check with the money you’ve raised to:
Church World Service, P.O. Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515.

Be sure to indicate which program you’re supporting on your check: School Safe Zones or Gran Chaco.

Follow up with your congregation.

Once your event is completed, a CWS staff member will follow up with you to share how your funds make an impact. Please share these results with your congregation.

You and your congregation can make a real impact in eastern Africa or the Gran Chaco. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact your CWS staff specialist or ask Matthew Stevens, mstevens@cwsglobal.org. Thank you for your support!