MCC Blessing Bids for 2020

Looking for giving options to include in relief sale booklets and promotional materials? Below you will find brief descriptions of projects to inspire giving. The project information can be shared as “blessing bids” during auctions. Cost breakdowns can be used to incentivize donations during auction events.

In your printed relief sale materials, please use photos in their original .jpg format. Photos can be found in MCC Media Space in the collection called “Photos for relief sales and thrift shops,” or contact Les Gustafson-Zook.

To donate online, visit donate.mcc.org; designations can be noted in the “comments and instructions” box that is part of the online donation process.

In honor of MCC’s centennial year, blessing bids for any of these projects could be changed to “$100 helps to provide ____.” See page 9 of this document for more about MCC’s centennial.

Food and Nutrition

A gift of food gives families new ways to expand harvests, increasing income and improving nutrition. Around the world, MCC helps farmers care for the health of their land and grow more food for their families and communities.

HELP FARMERS IN DROUGHT-PRONE AREAS

Kenya

For farmers in Kwa Kavisi, Kenya, annual rainy seasons are a matter of survival. But this and many other drought-prone areas of the world are experiencing less rain and more frequent droughts. You can help farmers in Kenya learn to use agriculture methods that conserve water and improve the productivity of their land, such as soil cover, minimum soil disturbance and crop rotation. (MCC photo/Matthew Lester)

MCC Media Space ID: 99242

Learn more: https://mcc.org/stories/coping-climate-change
“What is conservation agriculture?” video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUDYncGelik
“Welcome to my table” video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3BinggGnnQ

Please designate your gift “Kenya-Food” to support this project.

$10 provides drought-tolerant seeds in Kenya
$100 (or choose any amount) contributes to conservation agriculture training for Kenyan farmers
GIVE A GOAT
Lebanon

In Lebanon, MCC provides pregnant goats to families in the Baalbeck-Hermel area who lack a secure source of income. The goats and their offspring generate food and income for struggling families who also receive training on goat care, pen construction, milk production and marketing. Around the world, raising goats enables people to earn money by selling the milk or breeding more goats to sell. (MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht)

Please designate your gift “Lebanon-Food” to support this project.
$50 provides one goat for a family

GIVE A BROOD OF CHICKS
Bangladesh

Chickens provide a ready source of eggs and meat and can be sold to boost family income. In northern Bangladesh, MCC is helping to provide 630 families with 25 chicks each. The families also learn about nutrition and how to care for chickens. Photo shows Kamoli Marong with her flock of chickens. (MCC photo/Dave Klassen)

Please designate your gift “Bangladesh-Food” to support this project.
$10 provides chicks for a family in Bangladesh
$25 provides vaccinations for a flock of 25 chickens in Bangladesh

BOOST NUTRITION FOR FAMILIES
Nepal

You can provide nutrition education that helps to put nutritious food on the table in places like Morang district, Nepal. Parents of malnourished children are learning how to make nutrient-rich flour (super flour) and are gaining skills and materials for kitchen gardens and fish farming, boosting nutrition for their families. Pictured, Kabita Devi Rajbhar prepares roasted corn, beans and rice to make super flour. (MCC photo/Colin Vandenberg)

Please designate your gift “Nepal-Food” to support this project.
$41 provides nutrition training and kitchen garden seeds for 10 families in Nepal
MEALS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Ethiopia

Your gift will help provide a daily hot meal for children ages 4 to 7 who attend Remember the Poorest Community School in Adama, Ethiopia. Teachers were concerned because their students were coming to school with empty bellies or missing school due to a lack of food. School lunches now nourish the children and help parents who are struggling to provide enough food for their families. Thank you for helping these young children learn and grow. (MCC photo/Sharon Mkisi)

Please designate your gift “Ethiopia-Relief” to support this project.

$150 provides lunch for one child throughout the school year in Ethiopia

Water and Health

A gift of water helps build irrigation systems, wells and piped water systems in communities around the world. A gift of health helps prevent the spread of disease and keeps families healthier.

PIPE SPRING WATER TO A VILLAGE
India

Spring-water projects use gravity to bring water from natural streams at higher levels to the villages below. Using a system of pipes and catchment chambers, water is diverted at the village level to ensure everyone has access. Families use this water for irrigation, bathing, washing dishes and laundry. MCC is helping to install or improve systems like this in 20 villages over a three-year period in the state of Odisha, India. Each system provides water for 250 or more people. (MCC photo/Colin Vandenberg)

Please designate your gift “India-Water” to support this project.

$25 provides 20 feet of durable pipe in India (Could use multiples of $25 and 20. On average, each system requires 9,800 feet of pipe.)

$18,000 provides one complete spring-water system in India
HELP DIG A WELL
Mozambique

MCC and the Christian Council of Mozambique are working together to provide wells in the Caia district, where the search for clean and reliable water is urgent. Plans include drilling approximately nine new borehole wells this year. Each well provides clean water for an average of 500 people, and local committees are trained on well maintenance.

“Our well is a blessing,” says Molita Nacuduzi, pictured in the village of Chitongo. “It is good for us all, [especially] for us girls who used to make that long and dangerous walk each day.” (MCC photo/Paul Shetler Fast)

MCC Media Space ID: 98964

A one-page donor proposal with additional information is available on the Hub or by request.

Please designate your gift to “Mozambique-Water” to support this project.
$80 provides two water filters, which are needed for one well in Mozambique
$600 provides a pump for one well in Mozambique
$4,000 digs one complete well in Mozambique

SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN’S HOSPITALS
Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea)

In North Korea MCC provides water filters, canned meat, multivitamins and other humanitarian items to pediatric hospitals to provide nutrients and help hospitalized children recover. Pictured, a mother stays with her two-year-old son at South Pyongsan provincial pediatric hospital in Pyongsong. (Names are withheld for security.) (MCC photo/Jennifer Diebert)

MCC Media Space ID: 105045

Please designate your gift “North Korea-Health” to support this project.
$35 provides one large bottle of multivitamins in North Korea (around 1,400 doses)
$17 provides one water filtration bucket in North Korea (These are used in a patient’s hospital room and then families can take them home when the child is discharged.)
Education and Vocational Training

A gift of education gives children better chances to learn and grow, improves teaching and increases opportunities for youth through vocational training.

SCHOOL KITS
Various countries

Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families who struggle to afford basic school supplies. Each year MCC ships school kits to many countries that include Afghanistan, Jordan and Ukraine. School kits are often requested after disasters and help bring normalcy to children whose families have been forced to flee their homes. Pictured, brothers Edi (left), Maxim and Igor, (last names not used for security reasons) sit with new MCC school kits in their home in Nikopol, Ukraine, where MCC is helping to meet urgent needs of families displaced by conflict. (MCC photo/Matthew Sawatzky)

MCC Media Space ID: 100740

Please designate your gift to “Cash for Kits.”

$5.50 provides items for one school kit (notebooks, pencils, colored pencils, ruler, eraser, pens and pencil sharpener).

$55 provides items for 10 school kits

$100 helps to cover shipping costs for MCC kits

CHURCH-BASED PRESCHOOL
Colombia

The Colombian Mennonite Brethren Church is meeting a critical need in the El Progreso neighborhood of Soacha, Colombia, by providing education, meals and care for young children. This area is home to many people who fled rural areas because of armed conflict, and many parents in El Progreso struggle to find ways to support their families. Thank you for supporting this church ministry and helping to care for children in Colombia.

MCC Media Space ID: 81644

Please designate your gift “Colombia-Education” to support this project.

$120 provides lunch and snacks for preschool children in Colombia for one week.

$24 provides lunch and snacks for preschool children in Colombia for one day.
TUITION FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN
Lebanon

You can help refugee children who are living in Lebanon attend school, including children from Syria. MCC-supported preschool and kindergarten classes provide quality education as well as psychological support, including art therapy and home visits. For refugee families, education is far more than reading and writing—it’s a chance to build a future beyond war. Pictured is a kindergarten class that is part of this project. (Children’s names are withheld for security.) (MCC photo/Matthew Sawatzky)

*MCC Media Space ID# 71812
Learn more: [https://mcc.org/stories/building-future-time-war](https://mcc.org/stories/building-future-time-war)

Please designate your gift “Lebanon-Education” to support this project.
**$50** helps refugee children in Lebanon attend school
**$400** provides a year of kindergarten tuition for one child in Lebanon (140 children attend school through this project.)

VOCATIONAL TRAINING
Rwanda

Your gift will help young adults in Rwanda learn a new trade at two Mwana Nshuti vocational training centers. Students choose from programs in hairdressing, vehicle mechanics, sewing, construction and culinary arts. Mwana Nshuti students receive classroom instruction for several months, depending on which program they choose, followed by a two-month internship. The students also study language, business skills and more. Pictured are culinary arts instructor Gaudence Nyirasafari (left) and student Alaise Mukagasana. A small school with committed teachers, Mwana Nshuti is also a support system for young people who have been marginalized in mainstream education due to poverty or learning difficulties. Mwana Nshuti means “My Child, My Friend.” (MCC photo/Owen McCullum)

*MCC Media Space ID: 92001
Learn more: [https://mcc.org/stories/culinary-arts-brighter-future](https://mcc.org/stories/culinary-arts-brighter-future)
A one-page donor proposal with additional information is available on the Hub or by request.

Please designate your gift “Rwanda-Education” to support this project.
**$200** provides vocational training for one young adult in Rwanda
Meeting Urgent Needs

A gift of relief helps MCC respond quickly in times of disaster or conflict and supports long-term recovery and rebuilding that bring hope months or years after a crisis. To learn more about MCC’s current relief responses please visit: [https://mcc.org/learn/what/relief/disasters](https://mcc.org/learn/what/relief/disasters)

PIGS FOR RELIEF

**Democratic Republic of the Congo**

People who flee home need immediate food, shelter and safety. But in time, they also need ways to earn income and rebuild their lives. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, raising pigs helps people who fled violence in the Kasai region begin to support themselves. Pictured, Jean Lutondo feeds pigs given to displaced families in Tshikapa, DR Congo. (MCC photo/Kabamba Lwamba)

*MCC Media Space ID: 97656*

Learn more: [https://mcc.org/stories/raising-pigs-planting-seeds](https://mcc.org/stories/raising-pigs-planting-seeds)

Please designate your gift “DR Congo-Relief” to support this project.

$60 provides one sow for a family in DR Congo

$200 builds one piggery to house pigs in DR Congo

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RELIEF KITS

**Various countries**

Relief kits provide valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster. MCC ships relief kits to many countries including Haiti, Iraq and Malawi. Pictured, Francine Neema stands with her children Espoire Tubaka, Necole Tubaka, and Dorcas Tubaka holding the relief kit and comforter they received as part of MCC’s material resource distribution in Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi in 2019. (MCC photo/Amanda Talstra)

*MCC Media Space ID: 97925*

Please designate your gift to “Cash for Kits.”

$30 provides items for one relief kit (bath soap, shampoo, laundry soap, toothbrushes, bath towels, combs, fingernail clipper, band-aids, sanitary pads).

$100 helps to cover shipping costs for MCC kits
MEALS AND SHELTER FOR REFUGEES

Colombia

As Venezuelan refugees pour into Colombia seeking basic necessities, MCC is partnering with a local church working to be the hands and feet of Jesus to people facing an unknown future. The Mennonite Church of Riohacha has opened up its doors, using its church facility to house 35 Venezuelan refugees, helping them transition to life in Colombia or providing assistance until they can return to Venezuela. MCC is providing two meals a day for the 35 people living at the church and 10 additional refugees. Families can stay at the church for a maximum of three months or until more permanent housing and some type of employment is found. As they move on, other refugee families are invited in.

This photo and a one-page donor proposal with additional information is available on the Hub or by request.

Please designate your gift “Colombia-Relief” to support this project.

$85 provides one month of meals for a Venezuelan refugee in Colombia

$975 covers the weekly cost of meals for 45 refugees in Colombia
MCC Centennial Blessing Bids

The designation “New Hope” can be used with special centennial items that are auctioned during 2020 relief sales.

GIVE A GIFT OF NEW HOPE
Expand MCC’s 100 years of ministry in the name of Christ

This year MCC celebrates 100 years of ministry! We invite you to help commemorate this special year with a gift that will provide new hope for people in need. For 100 years now, you have made it possible for MCC to share God’s love and compassion for all. Your gift will support core MCC programs and make it possible to expand our ministry through special centennial projects.

Examples of special MCC centennial projects, which will only be possible through extra financial support:

In Syria, MCC hopes to help more families and communities build a future beyond war. Your donation will help to retrofit homes, support agricultural and livelihood trainings, and provide education and trauma support for children. Pictured, Rev. Ibrahim Nseir, pastor of the National Presbyterian Church of Aleppo in Syria, stands at the site where his church once stood. Rev. Nseir’s church is an MCC partner and helps distribute shipments of MCC comforters and kits. Your centennial gift will help local churches in Syria respond to needs in their communities. (MCC photo/Emily Loewen) MCC Media Space ID# 88066

In Chad, MCC hopes to provide water and sanitation in camps for displaced people, including for Aïchatou Abdoulaye (pictured) and her family. With your financial support, 35,000 people in these camps will be blessed with new or improved wells, latrines, hygiene items, household waste management and more. (MCC photo/Colin Vandenberg) MCC Media Space ID# 98439

Your centennial donation will meet needs in these places and others. Join MCC to provide new hope for those who need it most.

Designate special centennial donations to “New Hope”
$100 celebrates MCC’s first 100 years of ministry and extends care to people uprooted by conflict and disaster.

Additional centennial resources:
- More about events that celebrate MCC’s 100th birthday: https://mcc.org/centennial
- More about MCC’s centennial fundraising campaign: https://mcc.org/new-hope
- “MCC is 100” video, Youtube: https://youtu.be/sslqfG7HaUU
- “New Hope in the Name of Christ” video, Youtube: https://youtu.be/T-Y66fIO5Lm8