



*American Baptist Churches and International Ministries  
Partner with Baptists and Others in Nepal  
to Bring Vital Relief in the Aftermath of the Earthquake*

### The Urgent Need

With each new day, the count of those killed or injured rises, as rescue and relief efforts continue in the aftermath of the massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Nepal on Saturday, April 25, 2015. Although initial reports estimated injuries and loss of life in the hundreds, by Wednesday, April 28, Nepal's National Emergency Operation Center announced that the official death toll had exceeded 5,000 and that some 10,000 have been found injured, and those numbers are expected to rise as rescue workers reach remote villages. An estimated 450,000 have been internally displaced by the quake and 8 million—over a quarter of the nation's people—have been affected.

**As a first response to this disaster, \$25,000 in emergency relief funds from One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) have been released to trusted partners of American Baptist International Ministries (IM) in Nepal. Additional relief aid is urgently needed.**

This initial grant of \$25,000 will support domestic Nepali Christian service organizations and on-the-ground relief efforts. The Nepal Baptist Church Council (NBCC), an IM partner for more than 20 years, will receive \$10,000 to provide food, water, shelter and medical attention for the victims. Human Development and Community

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Services (HDCS), IM's partner in Nepal for 11 years, will receive \$10,000 to help its two hospitals care for the injured. The United Mission to Nepal (UMN), an IM partner for over 30 years, will receive \$5,000 for its initial relief efforts.

## How You Can Help Right Now

Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing will be invested in the relief and recovery response of our IM partners, NBCC, HDCS, and UMN to provide:

- Short-term needs including shelter, food, medicine and water; and
- Long-term needs including the rebuilding of lives and livelihoods.

"We know already that the needs are enormous," stated Lisa Rothenberger, ABCUSA World Relief officer. "At the same time, we are already seeing a strong response from our American Baptist congregations. This generous response enables us to walk alongside the Nepali people today and into the future. Long after the immediate needs are met, our partners will still be working to rebuild, and this is where our gifts make the most difference."

## How to Give Now

1. Give to the special offering being received by your church.
2. Give online using a credit card. Go to [www.internationalministries.org](http://www.internationalministries.org) and click on "Earthquake Relief for Nepal."
3. Send a check marked "OGHS-Nepal Earthquake Relief" on the memo line to "International Ministries, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482."

"I have been deeply concerned for the safety of IM's colleagues and my personal friends whom we have known and worked with for so many years. I am also saddened by the devastation of so many places where I walked with my children when they were young. In this time of crisis—often frustrated by limited communication with so many people—I have to trust in God's love and care for them. And I have to trust God for people like yourself who will give to the relief endeavors of International Ministries. Thank you for sharing my care for this country with your support."

— Mrs. Carole Sydnor  
 IM development worker in Nepal for more than 21 years (Carole currently resides in the United States with her husband, Charles, also a former IM development worker in Nepal. She returns to Nepal periodically to serve with IM partners there.)



"Our heart goes out to the survivors who lost their loved ones, and to those who are still struggling in fear and in the devastated areas. IM has worked closely with NBCC and HDCS to build capacity and to enhance social development in Nepal. Our priority right now is to provide immediate relief assistance to the survivors in cooperation with partners in Nepal and through the global Baptist network."

— Rev. Dr. Benjamin Chan  
 IM area director for Asia

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