



pennyappeal

EMERGENCY

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE FEEDBACK 2019/2020



pennyappeal

We are currently operating emergency response initiatives across several countries, while simultaneously providing life-saving aid to refugees who have fled in search of safety.



In times of crisis, every country has its own set of distinct needs, with abject poverty and the urgent need for food, water and medical aid being among their top priorities.

Penny Appeal's teams are working tirelessly to provide support in as many areas as possible, in a way that is tailored to meet the specific needs of the communities we help. Emergency aid is our top priority and getting people out of danger remains of the utmost importance. We are also devoted to going beyond the rescue phase and often implement a dual-phased approach to our emergency responses to ensure that once safe, the affected individuals are supported throughout their recovery. By implementing a recovery phase within our responses, we ensure that our support goes far beyond the provision of emergency aid, supporting and empowering the communities we help throughout their journey to recovery.

We are proud to say that our holistic approach to humanitarian aid ensures that we provide a rehabilitative service, securing a better future for those who have suffered unimaginably through conflict or disaster. In times of crisis, our emergency panel assesses the situation before deploying our Disaster Response Team, a specialist team of Penny Appeal staff members with experience working in a crisis setting. The team works non-stop to deliver round the clock support to victims, while striving to understand and explore the growing need of those affected. Working within the community, in many cases alongside local organisations, authorities, external stakeholders, and local government, we ensure that each and every one of our projects are culturally sensitive, relevant, and suitable. This allows us to meet the exact needs of the community and ensure that we are inclusive in the distribution of our aid.

For communities suffering the enduring effects of war or natural disaster, we implement our dual-phased recovery process. Beyond providing emergency relief, where we address high priority needs such as food, water and medical aid, phase two of our response provides long-term, sustainable solutions to help individuals rebuild their livelihoods and whole communities heal.

In addition to our ongoing emergency response initiatives in Syria, Gaza, Bangladesh, Yemen, Indonesia and India, 2019 has seen us open our support to help the victims of a number of natural disasters and violent attacks. We have begun several emergency response initiatives, responding to tragedies in New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, Nepal, Sudan and Kashmir, whilst also providing preventative assistance to families at risk of flooding here in the UK.

SYRIA



Penny Appeal's work in Syria is a lifeline for people who have spent nearly a decade living under siege.

For some children, war is all they have known, and they have grown up against a backdrop of heavy bombing and intense, unyielding poverty.

Many people in Syria live in such a state of starvation that they have turned to eating animal feed in their desperation. Your support has been a lifeline to those with nothing. We have distributed thousands of meals in Syria this year, providing Syrian families with food parcels packed with nutritious, culturally appropriate food. This support extends to Syrian refugees living in Turkey and Lebanon, where we have also distributed food.



The healthcare crisis in Syria is another area of significant concern. The targeting of health facilities has meant that many hospitals have been destroyed.

This year, we focused on scaling up our support to include pregnant women, new mothers and their babies. We implemented an incredible project known as the Mobile Health Clinic, bringing accessible healthcare directly to refugee camps.

We have been delivering healthcare to women and children around Raqqa and are proud to report that the clinic saw an incredible 7,129 patients in just its first six months of operation. The clinic operates six days a week, is free of charge and provides referrals to specialist services where needed.

Our expert staff have also delivered community sessions to raise awareness on variety of topics from gender-based violence to poisonous insects, to further ensure that internally displaced Syrians are able to keep themselves safe.

Your incredible support has further enabled us to respond to the unfolding humanitarian situation in north-eastern Syria. In October, military operations in the area triggered the displacement of thousands of people, many of whom had already been displaced before. The vast majority of internally displaced Syrians began to flee south, to areas that were unprepared for such high numbers of arrivals. Throughout the refugee camps the need for water, food and hygiene essentials soared.

By contributing to our emergency fund, you enabled us to provide urgent humanitarian support to Syrian IDPs Food baskets, hygiene kits and 'new arrival kits' containing the basic necessities for life in a campsite for families of five, are all a part of our emergency response.



GAZA



Life in Gaza was changed forever following the 14th May 2018 massacre, in which over 100 people were killed and thousands were injured.

Entirely cut off from the rest of the world, the people of Gaza are living in jail-like conditions, the blockades causing the strip to become what is known as 'the world's largest open-air prison.'

The people living in Gaza have no access to food, clean water or a life outside the small strip of land where they have been confined.

The blockade has led to shortages of basic items such as food and fuel, leading to a humanitarian disaster. **Over 96% of Gaza's water is unsafe to drink. Over 45% of the population are unemployed,** and with strong restrictions on agriculture and fishing, the people of Gaza are essentially forbidden from helping themselves. Food is a particular concern, with food insecurity higher among the refugee population.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza escalated significantly from the beginning of the Great March of Return demonstrations in March, with 14th May being marked as the most violent day since the 2014 attacks on Gaza. **Throughout 2018, nearly 25,000 Palestinians were injured and 262 were killed, including 52 children.**

GAZA



We're ensuring that impoverished families in Gaza are receiving nutritious meals with our life-saving food distributions.

Our food parcels contain enough food to feed a family for an entire month. Some distributions specifically reached out to female headed families and people with disabilities to ensure that those most in need were supported.

To address the critical need for clean, safe drinking water, we have supplied water tankers to a number of schools across the strip. The tankers provide fresh, clean water to thousands of students.

We have provided water tanks to 100 families in need of clean water. The tanks have a capacity of 300 litres, providing enough safe water to last each family five months. We have also provided rechargeable illumination systems to 100 families.

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YEMEN



There are currently more than 20 million food insecure people in Yemen, 15 million of whom are in acute need of humanitarian support.

Tens of thousands have been killed or injured in the conflict and an estimated 3.3 million have been displaced. At present, 80% of the country need humanitarian assistance, with 15 million in dire need of immediate assistance for survival.

Your contributions to Penny Appeal's Emergency Response Appeal have enabled us to **support 500 war-affected households in Rima Governorate with food packs**. Each pack contained 50kg white flour, 10kg rice, 5kg sugar, 9kg beans, and 4.6 litres of vegetable oil.

We have also provided families with basic hygiene kits to prevent the spread of cholera and distributed vital medical supplies to local health facilities. At the beginning of 2019, **we reached 8,000 Yemenis** with immediate assistance in Aden, Sanaa and Taiz.



ROHINGYA



Two years have passed since the Rohingya fled Myanmar. Since August 2017, an unprecedented number of Rohingya refugees have fled to Bangladesh, with the total reaching over 900,000 at the start of this year.

Due to Bangladesh's limited resources, many Rohingya refugees have had to settle in unsafe locations with little to no shelter, insufficient medical and limited hygiene essentials. They fled to Bangladesh for safety but now face a brand new kind of danger, poverty and uncertainty.

For the Rohingya, the long-term crisis is having a significant impact on their food security. Not only do they have very limited access to food, but there is also a strong lack of access to food of the correct nutritional value, particularly for the children who are now growing up in the camps. In addition to our yearly food distributions, we have set up three Outpatient Therapeutic Programme centres to help fight malnutrition in the camps. This incredible project has been running for 18 months and was able to enter its second phase this year, thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters.

Our initial aim was to provide nutrition to 10,000 children under the age of five, and 1,000 pregnant and nursing mothers, who would also receive psychosocial support. We have exceeded this aim and have so far provided nutritional support to over 20,000 people, including 4,325 pregnant and nursing women and 18,384 children.

In addition to the critical need for food, clean water, sanitation and medicine, the refugees arriving into Bangladesh, most of whom are women and children, are completely traumatized. Deprived of emotional support of any kind, the desperate situation of the Rohingya refugees has had a devastating effect on their mental health.



Women and Child Friendly Spaces have been built throughout the camps to look after the physical and emotional wellbeing of vulnerable refugees.

Our Women and Child Friendly Spaces have been designed to protect refugees and empower them to thrive in their new lives in Bangladesh. These spaces were built to be a safe place for women and children. They foster a sense of belonging for Rohingyas who are dealing with dangerous and unfamiliar camps on a daily basis.

In addition to health information, protection services and psychosocial support, we provide life skills training to in order to rebuild livelihoods and create financial independence. Our experienced counsellors and medical practitioners are on hand to listen, providing a supportive landscape in which the women can explore not only their fears and worries, but also their hopes and dreams for the future. By supporting Rohingya women in this way, we empower them to move forward with their lives, equipped with the resources and tools they need to navigate their trauma, at a pace that works for them.

We currently have two Child Friendly Spaces in the camps to help children receive the support they need to adjust and socialize with others. Thousands of Rohingya children are living with intense trauma, following the violence and devastation they witnessed as they fled their homes.

Our Child Friendly Spaces provide a holistic environment in which children can feel safe and supported, allowing them to close the door on the outside world. With a range of psychosocial support on offer, the children have access to trained counsellors and support staff who can listen and help them to manage their trauma. In addition to this, the spaces act as an informal education hub, with a range of lessons on offer, taught in both English and Burmese. Further to this, the children are given nutritious meals and provided with textbooks, bags and other items to support their education.

It is all thanks to your commitment to Penny Appeal that we have been able to keep these spaces open and operational throughout 2019, giving Rohingya women and children a safe place to belong.

In addition to our Women and Child Friendly Spaces, we have also set up five adolescent clubs within the camps, to give both girls and boys a creative, safe space to spend their time. 56 girls and 40 boys currently attend the clubs where they receive awareness-raising sessions on various issues such as discrimination, gender equality, risk identification, women's rights, sexual and reproductive health, hygiene and life skills. The spaces also provide a safe place for adolescents to socialise and take part in recreational activities.

ROHINGYA



INDONESIA



On 28th September 2018, a deadly 7.4 magnitude earthquake struck Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

The earthquake triggered a tsunami that struck Talise Beach in Palu City and parts of Donggala. Over 1,400 people lost their lives, while 85% of homes were destroyed. Over 60,000 people were internally displaced, with many living on the streets.

We have been working with local partners in Palu City since the earthquake struck last year, providing life-saving aid to people in need. This year, with your support, we began the third phase of our response, which has been strongly focussed on livelihood recovery and disaster preparedness.

We built a shelter with 30 units for families who lost their homes and livelihoods during the earthquake. The shelter has five sets of communal bathrooms to boost sanitation and reduce the spread of illness. **Along with our shelters, we built 20 kitchens**, equipped with stoves, tables, appliances and everything you'd need to prepare a delicious home-cooked meal.

In addition to these shelters, we constructed two playgrounds for the children living in or close to the new buildings. Each playground has swings, a seesaw, a slide, and a swivel chair. A playground provides the perfect space for children to meet, socialise and build strong, lasting friendships. Having a safe, outdoors space allows children to fully express themselves.

Encouraging children to express themselves emotionally during play is just as important as encouraging good physical health. Free play has proven to be therapeutic for children who are emotionally distressed from traumatic situations, making these playgrounds an important addition to the shelters. The children living in the new building go to the playground every day to play and socialise. This intervention has enabled them to be children once again.

We ran a Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop to educate the community on how to prepare for potential disasters. The training focussed on preparedness and damage control in the event of earthquakes, fire or liquefaction.

INDONESIA

Our Women Friendly Spaces and livelihood projects in Indonesia are making way for a brighter future.

We have been working hard to set up two Women Friendly Spaces in Duyu and Rano. The space in Duyu is now open and **our partners are currently providing psychosocial support services to the women here.** The psychosocial activities include regular group meetings, recreational activities and one to one counselling. There are also counsellors who visit victims of gender-based violence to provide them with support.

In addition to this, **we have also been running awareness sessions on gender-based violence for the women accessing this space.** In September, 43 people, including three male community organisers, attended the workshop.

Our Women Friendly Space in Rano will be complete very soon. This centre is in a much more remote location, so it has taken longer to transport materials. Once it has opened, it will run in the same way as our Women Friendly Space in Duyu.

Many of the women in the area are very invested in livelihoods work, with many prioritising this over the Women Friendly Spaces as they need immediate support for their families. **Our livelihoods project is taking place in Duyu, Rano, Rago and Beka, and consists of 12 groups of 10 – 15 women. Through this, 117 women have received business development training.** Those involved are part of enterprise groups focused on the production of items such as coconut oil, moringa chips, banana chips, and pumpkin seeds.

The government is supporting these groups with training and certification, which is a huge accomplishment as the government's support will contribute to the sustainability of this project. Next year, we will be distributing equipment to ensure that the women have the tools needed for their enterprises.

Some of the enterprises are already in business and we are working towards the establishment of local level market outlets in Duyu and Rano for the women from each group to sell their products.



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MOZAMBIQUE



This year, one of the worst tropical cyclones ever to hit Africa struck Mozambique, spreading disaster in its wake.

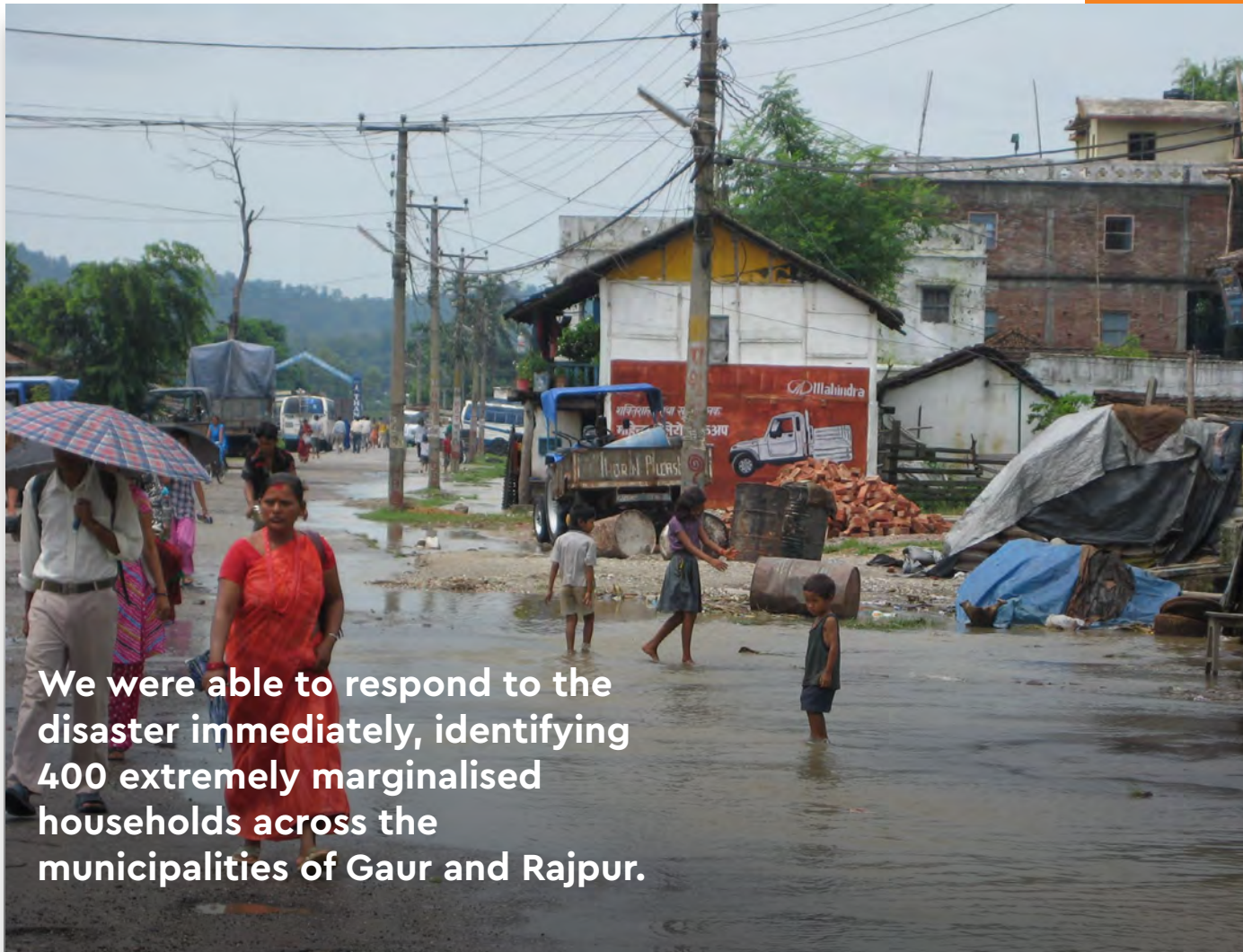
Cyclone Idai devastated communities throughout Zimbabwe, Malawi, Madagascar and Mozambique. Over 600 people were killed by Cyclone Idai in Mozambique alone, with 1600 injured and thousands of homes and acres of crops destroyed.

In the days following Cyclone Idai, families fled to their rooftops to escape the rising waters. The cyclone caused severe damage to large areas, cutting them off and making the delivery of aid extremely difficult. The threat of famine rose at an alarming rate, while an outbreak of cholera threatened the lives of those caught in the storm.

Your generous support meant that we were able to quickly put together an emergency response to the disaster. We deployed our Disaster Response Team to Mozambique, where they worked tirelessly to provide support to the victims and their families. We implemented our response within just six days, holding food and hygiene kit distributions, delivering aid to some of the most vulnerable people in the country. Our team also delivered aid to the region of Buzi, where people had not received any aid for 11 days. **Thanks to you, we were able to be there for people in their most desperate moments, when all hope was lost.** Your generosity enabled us to reach thousands of people across Mozambique and Zimbabwe, including over a thousand children.

We are currently in the process of developing our recovery projects to further support those affected by this disaster.

NEPAL



We were able to respond to the disaster immediately, identifying 400 extremely marginalised households across the municipalities of Gaur and Rajpur.

In July, heavy rainfall triggered severe flooding and landslides in the Rauthat district of Nepal.

Rauthat is the country's poorest district and home to the largest population of Muslims in Nepal, an extremely marginalised community. **The floods killed over 50 people and displaced over 10,000.** Many residents took to their rooftops for shelter. **The rain affected 30 out of the country's 77 districts** and came as part of their monsoon season, which takes place between June and September. With climate change reducing weather predictability, the late-arriving rainfall brought chaos due to the torrential downpours that occurred all at once.

Due to extreme poverty, many of the homes in Rauthat are not properly equipped to deal with such high levels of water, meaning **over 100,00 households were badly affected by the flooding and thousands were forced to flee.** In the first days of the flood, people were left with no food or water as they fled to nearby shelters. Already food insecure, the district is only ever one disaster away from crisis and for hundreds in the local community, access food was an immediate concern in the days following the flood.

We were able to respond to this disaster immediately, identifying 400 extremely marginalised households across the municipalities of Gaur and Rajpur. We conducted a food distribution, delivering packages of food that contained rice, biscuits, sugar, water and other essential items. We also delivered water bottles and tarpaulins to families in need.

KASHMIR



On Tuesday 24th September 2019, a powerful 5.8 magnitude earthquake hit Eastern Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

A reported 37 people were killed in the disaster, while nearly 580 were injured, homes were completely destroyed by the earthquake, while 7,100 were left with partial damage.

The earthquake affected Pakistan's capital of Islamabad and other cities in the eastern Punjab province, as well as Lahore and Peshawar. Its epicentre was close to the city of Mirpur in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, a region that suffered one of the deadliest South Asian earthquakes on record back in 2005.

Our team in Pakistan was deployed to the Mirpur district with an ambulance on the evening of the earthquake. Following their needs assessment, they held meetings with other local partners and authorities on the ground, who shared updates on the situation. Jatla was identified as the worst affected district and the primary needs were identified as non-food items, emergency food, infrastructure support, and drinking water.

So far, we have distributed food packs containing items such as lentils, flour and rice. The packs contained enough food to feed a family for 2 weeks. Along with the food packs, **we have distributed clean water to the families affected by this terrible disaster.** Our second phase was focussed on the distribution of tents, tarpaulins, and non-food items such as scarves and blankets.

Our response is ongoing, and we are currently developing our projects to ensure that our work is as holistic and sustainable as possible.

You have made all of this possible; it is through your kindness and generosity that we are able to reach so many people in need. By taking on a challenge and raising money for our Emergency Response, you have been a beacon of hope for people all over the world. You have enabled us to remain prepared and put us in a position to respond to the disasters and tragedies faced by people across the globe throughout 2019. Thanks to your dedication, we have been able to go beyond the provision of emergency aid, implementing sustainable recovery projects to support and empower entire communities.

TURKEY



The Uyghur Muslims live in the Xinjiang region of China, but their homeland is now a place of oppression.

Over one million Muslims have been imprisoned in concentration camps, where they have been banned from reading the Qur'an and are not allowed to fast.

Reports state that men are being tortured within the camps, women are suffering rape and abuse, and children are being taken away from their parents. Outside the camps, Islam has been banned and ancient masjids have been completely destroyed.

Many have managed to flee this cultural genocide, arriving in Turkey, which is home to nearly 4 million refugees and has the largest refugee population in the world. However, the continuous influx of refugees has put an incredible strain on Turkey's infrastructure and basic services, increasing poverty rates and causing food insecurity in overburdened districts. In addition to rampant poverty and overcrowding, the Uyghur refugees also face Turkey's harsh winters and a high risk of experiencing natural disasters.

Over the past decade, Turkey has been victim to a number of disasters that have caused widespread damage to buildings, increased the levels of food insecurity and disrupted

education services. Regions living in abject poverty have had their already desperate situations worsened as food supplies have been cut off and livelihoods destroyed. For young children, access to school has been compromised, putting them at a severe disadvantage and threatening a future of poverty.

Over the last three years, around 67,000 Uyghur families have fled to Turkey in search of safety.

Most of them are living in a refugee centre in Kayseri, as well as in poor neighbourhoods in Istanbul. They depend upon state assistance and the support of their relatives to meet their most essential needs.

As they do not have residence or work permits, they cannot find jobs to generate an income for their families. Due to the lack of infrastructure available to their already profoundly overburdened host community, the Uyghur Muslims face extreme challenges.

This winter, Penny Appeal sent emergency aid to our Uyghur brothers and sisters in Turkey to ensure that these poor Muslims were supported in their most desperate time of need. We provided Uyghur families with food packs and warm clothing to help them get through the cold winter months, and supported them as they began to rebuild their lives in Turkey.

AUSTRALIA



The Australian bushfires have destroyed more than 2,000 homes and claimed the lives of at least 27 people, and more than 500 million animals.

More than 16 million acres of land went up in flames.

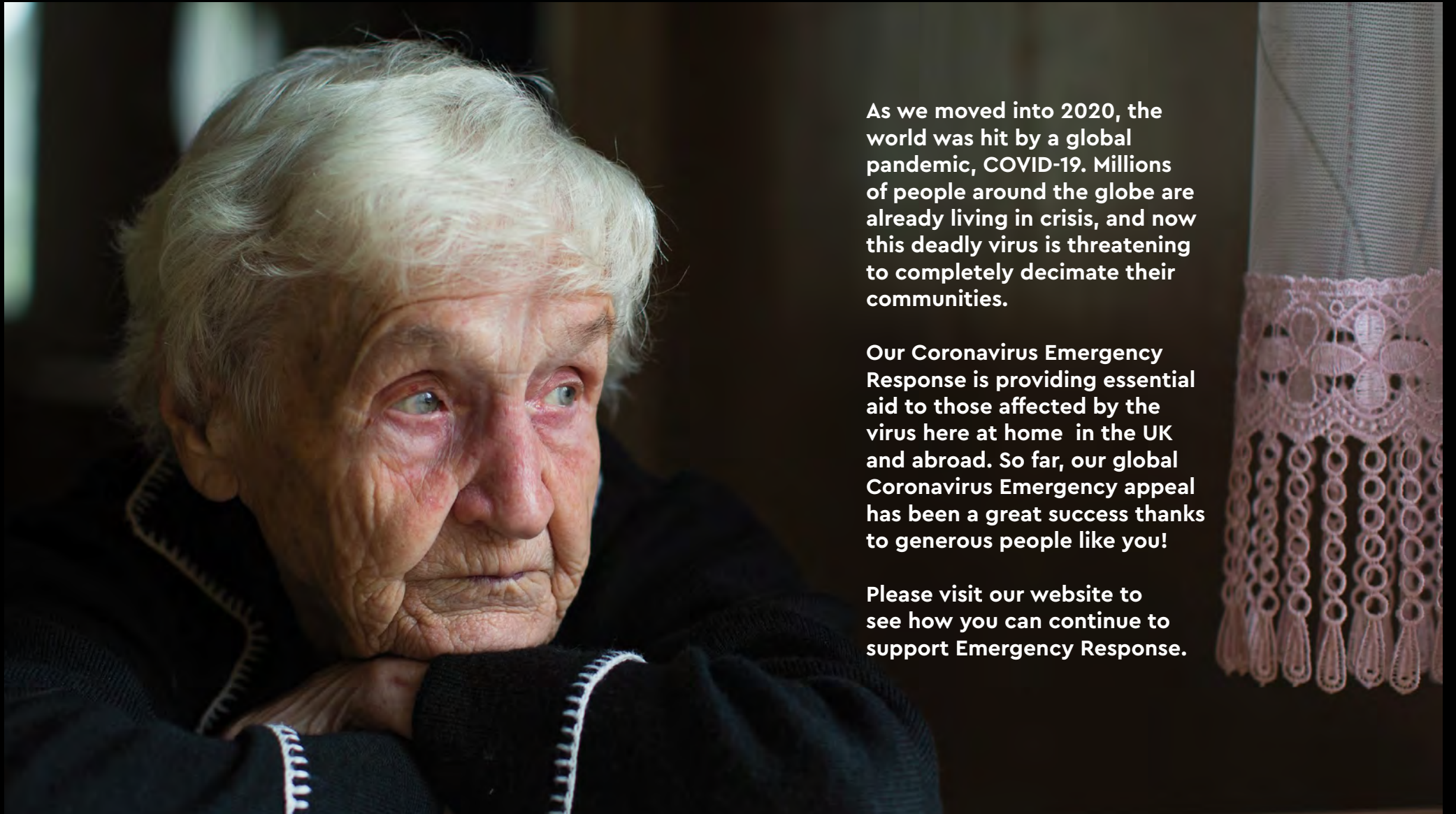
Among the worst areas hit were New South Wales and Victoria. Thousands of firefighters and support staff were deployed to fight the blaze and bravely risked their lives on a daily basis in their efforts to save people, homes and communities. Most local firefighters from the New South Wales Rural Fire Service and the Victoria Country Fire Authority were volunteers, with no guaranteed support or compensation for bravely undertaking such dangerous work.

The sheer scale of this emergency created huge difficulties for regular state services, with limited to no resources or supplies on hand to support the men and women who were battling the fires around the clock for weeks on end.

Penny Appeal provided 1,000 bottles of drinking water, energy bars and fruit to the Lithgow Rural Fire Service distribution Centre. When their logistics staff requested further support in their time of need, we stepped up and put together 1,000 kits for the firefighters, containing essential items such as sunscreen, insect repellent, hydration liquids and salts, throat lozenges and eye drops.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE 2020



As we moved into 2020, the world was hit by a global pandemic, COVID-19. Millions of people around the globe are already living in crisis, and now this deadly virus is threatening to completely decimate their communities.

Our Coronavirus Emergency Response is providing essential aid to those affected by the virus here at home in the UK and abroad. So far, our global Coronavirus Emergency appeal has been a great success thanks to generous people like you!

Please visit our website to see how you can continue to support Emergency Response.

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY

Thanks to the incredible selflessness and generosity of our wonderful donors, we have been able to put together a comprehensive response to the coronavirus.

Our Coronavirus Emergency Response teams are working tirelessly to put together food and hygiene packs for those most in need here at home in the UK and abroad.

Penny Appeal is providing support, to the millions of people around the world who are already living in crisis: refugees, people living in extreme poverty, communities recovering from the effects of natural disasters and people living in conflict zones. **These already devastated communities need a lifeline.** There are millions of people in the world who do not have the luxury of a safe shelter to stay in until the danger has passed. Many of the regions we work in have the disastrous combination of a weakened health sector and a population living in very close confines with one another. Those who are aware of how to practice good hygiene might not necessarily have access to the facilities needed to do so, leaving them with no protection from this devastating virus.

We're working with local partners in Syria, Gaza, Pakistan, Bangladesh, South Africa, Uganda and Mozambique to provide people in need with hygiene kits, food packs, coronavirus testing kits, quarantine areas, and more, all while raising awareness of how to prevent the virus from spreading. Your generous support is making it possible for thousands of at-risk people, such as the elderly, the sick, and the disabled, to stay safe and healthy during this global pandemic.



TAKE ON A CHALLENGE

Fundraise for Emergency Response

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