



Deadly Monsoon Flooding in Kerala, India Displaces over 800,000 people

Food for the Hungry to respond to desperate need for emergency relief following disastrous flooding

PHOENIX (August 20, 2018) – The people of the southwestern state of Kerala, India, are in urgent need of assistance, following the worst destructive flooding that has hit the nation in over a century. Officials have confirmed that the rainfalls during its annual monsoon season were over double that of a typical season in some areas.

“More than 370 people have died and 800,000 residents have been forced out of their homes into various camps following these horrendous floods in Kerala,” said Gary Edmonds, Food for the Hungry president and CEO. “These survivors and families are in critical need of food, water and emergency supplies and we are working to provide the necessary resources through our partners in the area.”

Food for the Hungry’s relief and humanitarian affairs department and India staff are mobilizing resources to determine the best-coordinated response, which will likely involve the prevention and treatment of waterborne illnesses and serving the basic needs of survivors including clean water, food, and shelter through our organization’s partners.

Food for the Hungry’s primary work zone in Indore is approximately 1700 miles away from Kerala, where the flooding is concentrated. The organization has been working there with the Bachanda people since 2015, providing hope, education, and vocational training in efforts to steer new generations away from the age-old livelihood of prostitution.

Last August 2017, when neighboring Bangladesh experienced heavy flooding from torrential rains, Food for the Hungry helped in the distribution of Sawyer water filters and water purification tablets, sheets of tin and concrete pillars for home repair, oral rehydration salt (ORS) packets to help prevent dehydration, and mobilized community volunteers to rebuild homes.

“Not only are supplies and funds paramount in providing these survivors with relief,” says Edmonds, “but extensive thoughts and prayers are always encouraged—prayers for the families, survivors, responders and those suffering loss as a whole.”

Food for the Hungry is urging those overseas to get involved to send funds, food, water and emergency supplies to the areas in need. A donation of \$50, \$125 or \$250 to Food for the Hungry will help provide life-giving necessities to the people of Kerala and to those stranded and without supplies. To get connected on how to help, visit www.fh.org/indiafloods.

About Food for the Hungry

Food for the Hungry is a Christian humanitarian organization ending all forms of human poverty by providing life-changing development programs, disaster relief, and advocacy. Since 1971, Food for the Hungry has been going into the world's hardest places with an exit strategy: to respond to human suffering and graduate communities of extreme poverty into self-sustainability, all within a decade. By creating context-specific solutions in education, agriculture, health, livelihood, clean water, and conflict risk reduction, the nonprofit focuses on transformational development, investing in children as the key to lift entire communities out of poverty. With 98% of staff working in their country of origin, Food for the Hungry works side-by-side with local leaders, churches, and families to implement innovative solutions. The organization currently serves more than 12.7 million people in over 20 countries worldwide. For more information, follow @food4thehungry or visit www.fh.org.

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