

Congo Helping Hands, Group 32
Missionary Cooperation Plan 2020 Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Greetings in name of the risen Christ,

My name is Jeff Mullins. I'm a Catholic missionary to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I operate out of the Mother of Perpetual Help Parish in West Allis. I hope and pray that you, your family, and the people in your parish are well and healthy. Please keep your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ because His grace is sufficient!

Congo Helping Hands (CHH) is a US nonprofit and humanitarian organization operating out of Wisconsin and Indiana. CHH has been working in Congo since 2007. Over the years, we have supported schools with supplies, books, scholarships, generators, water systems and medical assistance. Also, we have worked with other Catholic organizations to install solar power systems at rural Congolese hospitals.

In the early fall of 2017, a violent conflict between the government and militia forces developed over delayed elections and the assassination of a tribal leader which resulted in over 5,000 children and adults killed, and millions were displaced. As a result, mass starvation was widespread and imminent. CHH responded with assistance to reopen two orphanages. Also, we provided emergency food for 539 families in 4 small villages serving over 5,000 people.

During this Corona virus pandemic, we provided face masks and hand washing stations for village health centers. In addition, we provided masks to the vulnerable older populations in the community. Since schools were closed for the Coronavirus pandemic, we started a large ongoing project to renovate an elementary school. This elementary school was so dangerous that most of the rooms as well as the latrines could not be used by any of the 850 students.

We are seeking funds from this mission appeal to complete renovation activities. And, in light of the current Coronavirus pandemic, we plan to supply masks and hand washing stations to 13 schools to protect teachers and students. At these 13 schools we provided school supplies at the beginning of the school year.

The Catholic Church is truly the world's church. We have a great opportunity to come together as a Catholic community and to make a real difference for our brothers and sisters. Individually, you will never know them or you will never meet but know, you are walking with them as one within Christ.

Please give generously to Congo Helping Hands. We are your eyes, hands, and feet to serve these poor and marginalized people. Thank you for your time and consideration.