

**CADIS USA**  
**Disaster and International Relief Services**  
**Mission Co-Op Appeal**

We are a Catholic disaster relief organization based in Milwaukee, WI and we are part of an international relief network called **CA**millian **D**isaster and **I**nternational **S**upport **S**ervices. CADIS USA, and CADIS International, is a ministry of the Ministers of the Infirm, the Order started by St. Camillus de Lellis in Italy in 1590. The Order has approximately 1,200 priests and brothers that serve the poor and the sick in 35 countries. Worldwide they are known as the Camillians.

In 2001, the Order recognized the need to establish an international disaster relief effort with a mission:

*“To witness to the merciful love of Christ for the poor and the sick in word, deed, and sacrament, through serving the medical, pastoral, and humanitarian needs of people affected by man-made and natural disasters – regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity.”*

We provide medical and surgical care, food and clothing, prayers, counseling, and the sacraments (particularly the Eucharist) for people after man-made tragedies (such as refugee and internal displacement camps, slums, and areas of armed conflict), and natural disasters (earthquakes, hurricanes, & tsunamis). CADIS is composed of laymen and women, priests, sisters, and brothers who are committed to living their faith as doctors, nurses, counselors, and support staff.

CADIS has served in the wake of more than 15 disasters. For example, in January of 2005, CADIS went to Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Aceh was the area worst hit by the December 2004 Tsunami. Together with the local archdiocese, a community of sisters, and lay volunteers, a free clinic was started at the school of the only Catholic Church in Aceh. When choosing a site from which to operate, we chose the nearest Catholic Church. We work with and through the local church. We want the people we are helping to know that we are Catholic and to show people of other faiths that we are a religion of peace and that our God is a God of love and mercy.

CADIS has also served in Uganda, Sudan, Thailand, India, the Philippines, Peru, Chile, Italy, Pakistan, Kenya, and Haiti. Today, we are helping in Nepal and Sierra Leone.

Recently, CADIS has supported the regular operation at Grandma’s House (Refugee Center), a project in the Country of Georgia for children war refugees. The primary objective of the project is to provide psychological support and counseling to refugee children and adolescents to help them overcome war-related stress, trauma, emotional and behavioral problems as well as assist them in their psychological and social adaptation to the new environment.

Donations to CADIS USA will support ongoing projects:

1. In Kenya, we have a project called **“Sustaining Food Security and Health Care Programs of the Somalian Refugee Communities in the District of Wajir, Northeast Kenya”**.
2. In the Philippines, we have two projects: **“Disaster Rehabilitation And Restoration Intervention Through Agro-Forestation And Livelihood Development Program”** and **“Rebuilding Community Networks”**.
3. And in Sierra Leone, we have a project called: **“Strengthening Health Care Facility and Community Mobilization and Building Psychosocial – Pastoral Support in the Diocese of Makeni”**.

Through baptism, we are all called to be missionaries – to carry on Christ’s mission of proclaiming the kingdom of God. His love and His mercy. To carry out this mission we rely on the goodwill of committed team members, volunteers, and benefactors.

We receive no financial aid from the US government so we have been able to do this work almost entirely upon the generosity of Catholics like you through Missionary Cooperation Plan.