

MISSION STORIES



"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give... for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). Through One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), that cheerful giving becomes our love offering to the world.

IN FLORIDA: OUR **LOVE** OFFERING TO THE WORLD

When Hurricane Helene tore through the Southeast, it left behind destruction. The deadliest hurricane to strike the mainland U.S. since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, it damaged homes and public buildings and shattered transportation infrastructure. The region experienced flash floods and power outages.

Once Helene passed, devastated communities began to piece their lives together. It has been a long and arduous journey. Among the organizations that provided relief to survivors was Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO), a church-based nonprofit in Fort Lauderdale, FL, dedicated to revitalizing urban communities. It immediately stepped in, providing hot meals, water, groceries, cleaning and hygiene products, transportation assistance, and clothing.

"The Gospel moved from pulpit to the pavement," said Rev. Dr. Rosalind Osgood, president and CEO of MODCO about the relief the organization provided to the community. "Helping people impacted by the flood helped our church shape its identity, purpose, and relationship with the broader community.



MODCO delivering aid

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MODCO delivering aid



MODCO preparing relief supplies

It renewed our sense of service, creating a deeper connection between faith and action.”

One of the people who received help from MODCO was Cheryl Lewis. She lost her van in the massive flood in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., but the \$2,500 she received enabled her to get another vehicle. Without MODCO supplementing her insurance payout to replace her vehicle, Cheryl would have experienced a major financial setback, lost her job, and been unable to meet her family's basic needs. MODCO also assisted her with minor home repairs and towing fees.

Thanks to the \$15,000 OGHHS grant, MODCO was also able to provide temporary hotel accommodation for twenty families until their homes were repaired. They provided relocation assistance to six families that had to move due to extreme mold and water damage in their living quarters. Finally, they distributed grocery store gift cards to families to help purchase food and cleaning supplies. This assistance helped relieve the survivors' stress, minimize the negative financial impact on their households, and prevent homelessness.

In the wake of Hurricane Helene, Mount Olive Development Corporation once again demonstrated that disaster relief is an expression of love, as hot meals, shelter, and cleaning supplies become instruments of hope. Thank you for joining OGHHS in making this faithful action a concrete reality.



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