

# AMAZON RELIEF

*Changing Lives  
Today, Tomorrow, and with God's graces, Eternally*

## SUMMARY OF 2024 PROGRAMS

### TODAY — *Taking care of immediate needs*

This year your donations provided:

**Daily meals** for more than 1,000 “at risk” children in our schools and other programs

**Weekly meals** for the poor at three Franciscan soup kitchens

**Support for a home for struggling mothers and children** that provides temporary shelter, daycare, food baskets and basic necessities.

**Health and hygiene** programs for the poor.

**Orphanages** for abandoned boys and girls within deeply impoverished urban areas.

**Emergency clean drinking water systems and aid** for remote indigenous communities suffering through severe drought.

**Water cistern construction** in impoverished indigenous communities.



### TOMORROW — *Developing a better future*



This year your donations funded:

**Schools and programs to educate and assist more than 500 “at risk” children** (from pre-school through university level). With an education, jobs are available to these children and their lives are forever changed — not only for the students but also for their future spouses and children.

**A program for over 200 high school students in the leper colony to help them prepare for employment.** These students attend high school and then come to us after school for tutoring and other programs designed to develop computer, vocational, and workplace skills. At the same time we work with employers who make apprenticeships available to these students — apprenticeships that lead to full-time employment.

**Scholarships for low-income college students.**

**Extra-curricular activities for “at risk” children** including music and arts programs, sports, library and computer facilities, computer training, tutoring, and help in preparing for placement exams for college.

**Adult education and vocational skill training**, including operation of a trade school for indigenous young adults to learn skills, such as carpentry, useful for employment and to help their communities.

## **ETERNALLY — *Seeking the eternal salvation of those we serve***

This year your donations:

Funded costs for priests and lay **missionaries** to minister to indigenous tribes in isolated areas of the jungle.

Continued support of a **Catholic radio station**.

Provided **religious education** in the leper colony and in all of our schools and programs.

Funded formation costs for **seminarians** and candidates to the **permanent diaconate**, as well as for the **training of lay leaders** who serve in communities where priests cannot be present on a regular basis (these lay leaders then oversee sacramental preparation and religious education programs in their communities).

Funded **costs for priests and religious sisters** to live and serve in remote areas of the Amazon.

**Funded scholarships for the Catholic Church’s Institute of Theology** (Faculdade Católica do Amazonas) **in the Amazon**.

Made **materials of the Augustine Institute** (which has the FORMED platform in the United States) available to parishes in the Amazon.

Funded the renovation / expansion of **three churches** in impoverished areas.

Funded the **“Olympics” and festivals for indigenous tribes** to come together for athletic competitions. These were overseen by OFM Capuchin priests who used the time to minister to the people.

Your donations also funded the cost of **adult spiritual education programs, diocesan evangelization programs, Bible studies, and retreats**.

