



Frequently Asked Questions

What is PWS&D?

PWS&D is the development, relief and refugee agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. We work around the world to help people overcome crippling cycles of poverty and recover from emergency situations. Working through local partnerships, PWS&D provides people in need with food, clean water, education, health care and income generating opportunities. We work to address the root causes of poverty to ensure people have real hope for the future and develop self-sufficiency.

For more than 60 years, PWS&D has been working with partners overseas and Canadians here at home to make positive changes in our global village.

- Communities are learning how to grow new crops and increase yields for more nutrition and food.
- Women are being empowered to start small businesses and improve their families' livelihoods.
- Vulnerable children are receiving an education.
- People living with and affected by HIV and AIDS are being cared for and supported.
- Injustices are being combated through a shared commitment to human rights.
- Communities are accessing clean water through programs that dig wells and teach proper sanitation.
- Healthcare programs ensure children are able to begin life with a strong start.
- Refugees to Canada are rebuilding their lives through support from Canadian congregations.
- Families are overcoming natural disasters and emergencies through relief efforts that meet both physical and emotional needs.

PWS&D is unlike any other development organization. Our unique partnership model, our Presbyterian roots and our commitment to Christ's message make PWS&D an organization to be proud of.

How is PWS&D governed?

PWS&D is led by a committee of dedicated ministers and lay leaders from across Canada and supported by a dynamic staff. In-depth policies and reporting procedures ensure accountability, transparency and sustainability in all our work.

What's the difference between PWS&D and *Presbyterians Sharing*?

Presbyterians Sharing, sometimes called the General Assembly budget, is the name of the national church fund that supports the overall mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada — except for development and relief, which are supported through PWS&D.

PWS&D relies on designated donations from individuals and congregations and does not receive funding from *Presbyterians Sharing*.

What resources are available?

PWS&D has a number of resources and materials to help spread the news about the important, life-saving work that is happening every day thanks to the generosity of Presbyterians across Canada. Individuals and congregations are encouraged to sign up for PWS&D's e-newsletter, the *PWSDevelopments* quarterly newsletter, download the weekly Bulletin Bits to add to church bulletins, and visit the PWS&D website (www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd) for more information. PWS&D also has a variety of videos, photo galleries and updates from overseas.

Every fall, PWS&D distributes a package of resources to all churches that includes a full worship resource and order of service, Advent and Lent liturgies, bulletin cover, offering envelope, children's resource and other helpful materials for order — free of charge.

As well, PWS&D staff and committee frequently travel to churches as guest speakers for fundraisers, WMS events and Sunday worship. To learn more, call 1-800-619-7301 ext. 243 or visit www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd





How can I help?

There are a number of ways to get involved in this important work. Many congregations hold special fundraisers such as dinners or concerts, while others decide to take on fundraising and awareness-raising campaigns to build clean water wells or support agriculture programs. Some congregations add PWS&D as a line item to their budgets and offering envelopes, while others invite a PWS&D speaker to their church to share more about what is taking place. Many churches download the Bulletin Bits from the website as helpful pieces of information to add to their weekly church bulletins.

Through the Gifts of Change catalogue, individuals and congregations can support specific programs to provide families in need with items such as goats and rabbits, mosquito nets, vitamin supplements, skills training and education. When a gift is made in someone's honour, PWS&D sends them a Gift of Hope card.

To learn more, visit
www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd

Additional information about PWS&D can be found in PWS&D's report in *The Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada*.



**Presbyterian World Service
& Development**

The development and relief agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada

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