



2019

AT A GLANCE

5,569 volunteers

from churches across Canada and the U.S.
gave their time, skills and compassion
to build

68 new homes,

complete

313 repairs,

finish

352 cleanups,

and build

5 new bridges

for households who experienced a disaster.

This volunteer labor is a value* of nearly

\$9.8 million USD.

Statistics from Jan. 1, 2019 through Dec. 31, 2019.

* Based on a volunteer rate of \$25.43 USD/hour — www.independentsector.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Seeing Jesus among us

I could try to share how our volunteers are seen by disaster survivors and community leaders when their houses are restored. Instead, I will share in their own words as heard over the past year. These are only a sampling of what comes across my desk.

"I had never felt so lost, then God put you guys in my path to assure me that things were going to be ok. MDS made a believer out of me ... gave us HOPE when we had none." (Danny Garcia, County Commissioner, Victoria County, Texas)

When MDS "showed up to repair my home my burdens were suddenly removed ... I felt I could start to imagine a future again." (Grand Forks, British Columbia, resident as told by Jim Lehman)

"This is the first time I smiled since the hurricane." (Homeowner in the panhandle of Florida struck by Hurricane Michael in 2018 as told by Darin Bontrager)

Throughout this past year we were reminded of God's provision for us despite

not being able to see into the future of what and where the next disaster will be. Despite the uncertainty, our hardworking volunteers and donors responded and demonstrated their trust in God's abundant resources by giving of their time, talent and resources.

As a binational organization, I am grateful for the collaboration we have between Canada and the U.S. visibly demonstrating God's love. For example, 23% of the volunteers came from Canada.

In all of our work this past year in bringing people back home, I am grateful to God for the many volunteers and donors that make this mission possible. May we walk with confidence that all might see Jesus among us. ■

Kevin King
Executive Director

