



Fela and Her Family

No matter the distance ... your heart finds a way

Fela is the mother of all mothers. She is strong and hardworking, taking pride in caring for her family's home and garden. She loves seeing her children learn and thrive in school.

Then, one day everything changed when violence threatened her family's doorstep and Fela faced a mother's worst nightmare.

Her husband was killed when bullets started raining down on her village, leaving her to protect her children and grandchildren. **Despite this heartbreak, her maternal instincts went into overdrive.**

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A MESSAGE FROM DANIEL

Your support goes beyond quick fixes. It's a lasting commitment.

Each program, partnership and training we provide is thoughtfully designed to bring lasting progress, so families can feed, clothe, shelter and educate their children and build happy, flourishing communities for generations.

Your generosity powers both emergency responses and long-term solutions, from providing critically needed food, quilts and kits to neighbors devastated by conflict and natural disaster ... to training and tools for farmers to cultivate the land throughout all kinds of weather ... to education for girls to break the cycle of poverty and build a strong future ... and so much more.

Near or far, through emergencies and the trials of daily life, your love is always there and remains until it reaches every neighbor.

God bless you,

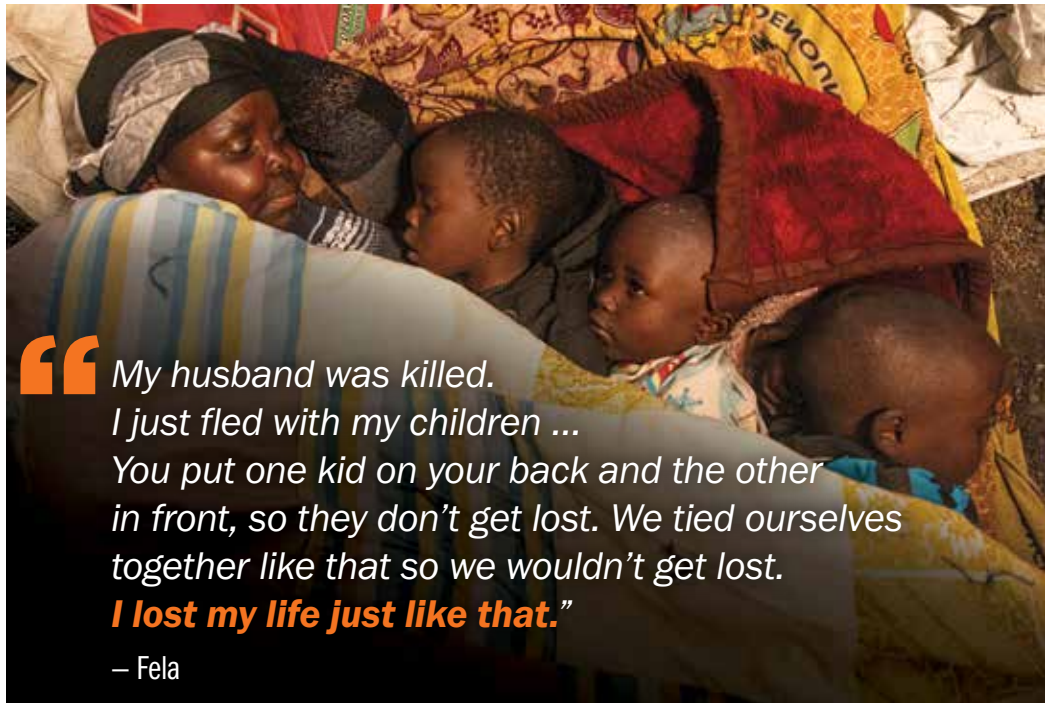
Ambassador Daniel Speckhard
President and CEO

Called to Love
Our Neighbors



"The LORD is my rock, my fortress,
and my deliverer."

— Psalm 18:2 (NRSV)



“ My husband was killed.
I just fled with my children ...
You put one kid on your back and the other
in front, so they don't get lost. We tied ourselves
together like that so we wouldn't get lost.
I lost my life just like that.”

— Fela

Fela and Her Family

No matter the distance ... your heart finds a way (continued)

The situation was dire when they reached the displacement camp. Thousands of people had fled their homes, seeking refuge with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

Fela remembers those first horrible nights of camp, still grieving her husband and the life she had before the violence. “When we arrived here, we didn't have anything, no blankets, no utensils, no food,” she said. “We slept outside. We got rained on.”

This caring family went from having all they needed in life to starving with nowhere to sleep and no one to look out for them ...

... until your love reached your neighbors in their darkest hour.

Your thoughtful gifts made the camp feel more like a home! By sharing your blessings, you helped provide nourishment with food and clean water, gave comfort and warmth with blankets and bedding, ensured privacy and sanitation by building latrines with washrooms and fostered community by delivering firewood with kitchen spaces to cook.

You also provided essential items, like kitchen utensils, soap, cleaning products and so much more.

Once Fela began to recover, your love showed her she had the strength to rebuild her life. She took advantage of the tools, trainings and programs funded through your generosity and was eventually able to open a roadside stall selling food to provide for her children and grandchildren.

Fela is grateful for the love and support of friends in faith like you ... and the fact that you'll remain until your love reaches every neighbor suffering from this horrific violence. “Keep following us. Don't let us go while we are in this war. In this misery of war. Just help us, remember us, don't let us go,” she says. ○

Floods in Indonesia

*When the Rains Wouldn't Stop ...
Your Love Poured Down*

When relentless storms swept across Indonesia, families faced devastation almost overnight. Strong floodwaters surged through homes, mudslides closed roads and more than 1 million of God's children were forced to flee to higher, safer ground.

Cut off from vital services and all they knew, families were left scared and unsure if they would ever get help.

Thanks to your faithful support, we were ready to respond. With a longstanding partnership already planted in the area, we quickly mobilized to assess urgent needs and provide lifesaving assistance for your most vulnerable neighbors.

Right now, we are focused on protecting the health and dignity of children and their families. By sharing your blessings, you're providing critically needed sanitation support as well as fueling mobile health clinics with essential medical care, including maternal and child health services. Your caring heart is also providing mental health care for those coping with unthinkable trauma and loss.

And you're helping farmers restore their farms, which remain covered in mud months after the waters receded.

In the dredges of disaster, your generosity brings hope. Because of you, help arrives faster, hope remains longer and love reaches deeper than a disaster ever could. Thank you. ○



Your loving gifts help children living in Indonesia, like Sendilonna, get the support they need to grow and thrive.



You help farmers like Rut Yanti Ginting maintain their land.



YOUR LOVE IN ACTION AROUND THE WORLD

Ukraine

Your love provides comfort. The ongoing war in Ukraine has created a humanitarian emergency. Families have lost their homes, health care is hard to find and conflict-related domestic violence is on the rise. Your love supports women and families with mobile medical units and safe spaces to heal and find support after violence and trauma.

Guatemala

Your kindness is growing lasting solutions. You are helping cocoa-growing families in Guatemala take better care of their land and earn more money for their families. Your kindness helps farmers learn new skills, diversify their crops and work together to run community plant nurseries. By growing healthier, more productive cocoa plants, families can earn more income and protect the forests around them for future generations of growers.

Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Your compassion heals. Your gifts rushed to respond to the mpox outbreak that hit Sierra Leone, in West Africa, and the DRC, in central Africa, the hardest. Since the terrifying outbreak, we have reached thousands of your vulnerable neighbors, including hundreds of children, with medical care and urgent messages to prevent the spread of this highly contagious disease.

Your caring heart is making a real difference.



A mother, shop owner and community leader, Marta can now help her neighbors prepare before a disaster strikes, thanks to your generous support.

Spanish



English

¡Hola, Vecino!

Hello, Neighbor!

You can see from her big smile how much Marta loves providing for her family. She rises before dawn to do so, tending to the chickens in her yard and preparing to open her shoe shop from her porch.

She also makes sure her husband, a farmer and local pastor, is ready to start his day.

The community of Condadillo revolves around agriculture and the land, but intense heat, prolonged drought, sudden storms and rising rivers have posed mounting challenges to their livelihood.

“Some years, the cornfields look very nice,” Marta says, “but suddenly the drought comes, and then the farmers lose everything. Another problem we have is the river rising. There’s no way through. People can’t cross from here to there.”

By sharing your blessings, this loving community now has the tools, training and education to better prepare for severe weather.

Marta, after taking part in these trainings, is now a first-aid coordinator and leads sessions on how to respond quickly and effectively to disasters — recently helping alert her community to a forest fire right near her home.

“It feels good to work with everyone and support whatever they need,” she says. “That’s what we’re here for — to help the community.”

Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of U.S. Lutherans, serving communities living in poverty overseas.



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