LAMB HOSPITAL, BANGLADESH

LAMB Hospital works with those most in danger from natural disasters in Bangladesh. Families who cannot grow crops because of flooding or drought, and communities who are so vulnerable that every time a storm hits, they must flee for their lives.

Supporting LAMB through Connected Church means that families will know what to do when disaster strikes.
WHY WE’RE WORKING THERE

Bangladesh has a huge population, and many people depend on farming small plots of land to survive.

In the north-west of the country, where LAMB works, over half of the population live in poverty.

LAMB started as a healthcare organisation and currently runs a hospital, providing medical assistance to the very poor. But they knew they couldn't stop there.

As LAMB has developed over the years it has always responded directly to the needs of the community.

Bangladesh has long been prone to natural disasters like earthquakes, cyclones and tsunamis, but in the last ten years they have experienced increased amounts of these catastrophes, with consequences like flash floods, droughts, and thunderstorms.

DISASTERS DON’T END IMMEDIATELY

Although they may be be short lived in themselves, these events mean many families have been unable to cultivate their crops: either flooding washes their plants away, or drought leaves them without enough water to flourish.

Disasters also make it impossible for the population to develop, as the flooding can destroy homes and livelihoods and kill their livestock.

We work with LAMB because they are helping communities adapt. Paying particular attention to women and children, those most vulnerable to natural disasters, they show them how to work around their changing climate.

We support LAMB because they work through the local church, helping them to be leaders in their communities, and because they show Christ's love indiscriminately to the diverse religious and ethnic mix of Bangladesh.
THE AIMS OF THE PROJECT

LAMB gives churches and communities training on how to prepare for disasters; that could include learning how to do first aid, or setting up an early warning system so they know when a storm will strike.

These simple interventions can - and do - save lives by building resilience to natural disasters.

The project is building the leadership of local churches, using them as the key means of driving disaster preparation.

A VILLAGE LEADER

Robin Marandy, a school teacher and a preacher who lives in Nawabganj, is one example. Robin is disabled, and he is part of a minority ethnic group. Most of his community are poor day labourers, an uncertain way of living that does not provide a regular income.

Robin participated in a workshop on Disaster and Local Churches that LAMB had organised for church leaders. Afterwards, he asked if they would come and work in his village.

LAMB agreed and started their Disaster Risk Reduction project with Robin’s community.

EDUCATION IS PREPARATION

First, LAMB helped leaders to develop a Risk Reduction Action Plan for the area. Through this action plan community leaders came to know about their local risks. They identified lack of clean water and access to sanitary latrines, as well as an inability to grow their own crops as their biggest problems. They also came up with some activities to reduce these risks.

One activity was training. The villagers received agricultural training from LAMB in how to plant and look after a kitchen garden and how to keep livestock. Now they can grow their own vegetables and keep animals - no more foraging in the jungle for food!

To help with the sanitation problems, as a community they installed 2 tube-wells and repaired or cemented 12 tube-well platforms. They put in 9 latrines for very poor families.

As a way to produce energy, they have also installed a solar panel in their church. Thanks to all of these interventions the community will be better prepared for any instability in the future.
I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING BETTER FOR THE COMMUNITY SO THAT WE WOULD SEE A POSITIVE CHANGE BUT I COULD NOT DO THIS ALONE.

I ALWAYS PRAYED TO JESUS FOR THE COMMUNITY. I DO BELIEVE THAT JESUS ACCEPTED MY PRAYER REQUEST AND SUPPORTED US THROUGH LAMB.

ROBIN MARANDY
PROJECT IMPACT

What we will do:

- LAMB are working in 37 different communities in this area of Bangladesh. They will engage 140 churches, enabling them to protect themselves from climate change and be leaders in their communities.
- 16,458 families living in disaster prone areas of northwest Bangladesh will learn how to adapt to the effects of climate change.
- Approximately one million people will receive information on reducing the risk of disasters through posters, leaflets, and community theatre.

What it will cost:

- £1200 will pay for six mock drills or awareness raising dramas that will teach hundreds of people what to do in case of a disaster.
- £1000 will pay for training and equipment for 40 people on how to make sustainable and efficient stoves.
- £290 will pay for 300 children to be taught how to swim, a lifesaving skill when flooding hits.
- £97 will pay to install a tube well, giving a community access to clean water.
- It costs just £5.50 per person to change lives through this project.

JOIN US

Families in Bangladesh are suffering more and more because of natural disasters. Through this three year project, LAMB will help 38,368 people become more able to deal with natural disasters, as well as giving them the means to support themselves.

Join us today and help LAMB to save lives through the local church.

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