

WHITE CROSS INFORMATION PACKAGE 2018-2019



HISTORY OF WHITE CROSS

For generations, American Baptists' "helping hands" have been reaching out to people in need. During World War I, women in the church assisted the American Red Cross by providing surgical dressings, bandages and other medical supplies for U.S. service personnel. As they met these needs, the women became convinced that similar methods would be of great help in the work of Christian mission. In 1919, following the end of the war, two American Baptist women from Cleveland, Ohio, organized the White Cross Service League, "channeling the war effort into support for Baptist mission."

Through the years, American Baptist women have provided leadership to this ministry. Men, youth, children and entire church congregations have embraced White Cross. They are eager to participate in this ministry by filling specific requests from global servants and international partners. Your gifts received throughout the year provide the needed supplies that cannot be purchased with limited mission budgets.

FUTURE OF WHITE CROSS-CONTINUES!

The importance of White Cross is immeasurable and in 2019, IM will be celebrating 100 years of your labor and generosity! Thank you for your loving commitment to meeting the needs for ministries around the world. You will notice however, the volume and variety has been simplified to those most useful in the Congo. Through God's grace, this crucial ministry continues to bless those who give, those who serve and those who receive.

Watch IM's website for more information in commemoration and celebration of 100 years of White Cross in 2019. Today, just as it has for the past century, White Cross needs your helping hands!



Your White Cross gifts provide assistance to ministries in the following countries:

Africa

Democratic Republic of the Congo,
Liberia, South Africa

East Asia and Southeast Asia

China, India, Myanmar (Burma),
Nepal, Philippines, Thailand

Central and South America, Caribbean

Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic,
El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama

Europe and Middle East

Bulgaria, Lebanon, Palestine

For further information about White Cross, please visit: www.internationalministries.org

WORKING WITH YOUR HANDS FOR WHITE CROSS

There are many opportunities to use our hands for God. One way is by making items for the Congo. The following items are needed for 10 hospitals. Your gifts make it possible to care for patients who arrive for treatment. The most needed items are listed below for partner hospitals in the Congo. These are the preferred amounts needed and sizes. Thank you for what you or your group decides to send.

Roller Bandages	3" x 5 yards	15,000
Roller Bandages	4" x 5 yards	15,000
Baby Receiving Blankets	40" x 40"	5,000
Surgical Caps and Surgical Masks (each)		5,000



Drawstring bottom baby gowns, no feet and long sleeve are needed for newborns. Purchased baby gowns can be shipped with your handwork.

Baby Gowns 0-3 mos	5,000
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Please send handwork or purchased baby gowns directly to the Brethren Service Center.



WAYS TO BE INVOLVED IN WHITE CROSS

Those who benefit from your kindness, affirm that White Cross is a lifeline. Remember these prayer requests when you gather in your White Cross groups.

PRAY

- For International Ministries [IM] global servants and partners.
- For medical needs to be met and the sick to receive care regardless of their means.
- For the health and well-being of those preparing meals, that they provide to children, so that they can grow up healthy and study in school.
- For ministries to have a long-term impact on the families they serve.
- For young people learning to live drug free and for the staff who help them.
- For caretakers caring for children and ministering to children's pain and equipping them in constructive ways to manage their hurt or anger.
- For children to receive an education, bypass abuse and grow whole and healthy in mind and spirit.
- For the calm and stability of all countries in which we have ministries.



GIVE

Without your generosity, many of the White Cross projects would not be possible. You continue to transform lives through the ministry IM provides in health services, education and recovery and restoration to wholeness. Give to White Cross, as you feel led.

1 John 3:17–18, reminds us that “If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? ... let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”

To give online, go to www.internationalministries.org click GIVE and select a project

Please send financial gifts to:

International Ministries
1003 W 9th Ave, Ste A
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1210

Ship your handwork to:

Brethren Service Center
IM American Baptist/White Cross
601 Main Street, PO Box 188
New Windsor, MD 21776-0188

Note the new address for IM above



Financial gifts are the most flexible and allow IM global servants to purchase needed White Cross items in country at affordable prices. Hard-to-get supplies are also purchased with your financial contributions and included in the shipping container that carries bandages and baby items.

Congo shipping cost: \$1.50 per pound, this now offsets shipping costs for purchased medical supplies.

Philippines: Christian Centers and Philippine Baptist Convention:

Hygiene Kits \$2.00	School Kits: \$4.00
Sewing Kits \$4.00	Baby Layettes \$8.00

Dominican Republic: Hygiene Kits, School Kits and Baby Layettes - \$10.00

GO

Join an IM short-term mission opportunity and see what God is already doing to change the world. Teams engage in an incredible range of activities from learning how White Cross is helping in each of those countries you support to doing hands-on service projects. Please contact IM's short-term mission office for further information on volunteering: 610-768-2164.

LEARN

Read more about White Cross projects online

<https://www.internationalministries.org/category/projects/> and click on "Find a Project."

IM global servants and staff can also share with you about White Cross and global mission. We would be happy to participate in conferences, association meetings, local church groups and morning worship. There are many ways to tell the stories and we would love to come and visit.

If you have any questions, please contact

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