



National Council of Churches of Singapore

新加坡基督教會協會

சிங்கப்பூர் திருச்சபைகளின் தேசிய மன்றம்

12 September 2014

LETTER TO MEMBER CHURCHES

We have read and seen with horror the atrocities committed by ISIS in Syria and Iraq. The situation is even more disconcerting when some of their brutality seemed directed at innocent Christians. Concern has been expressed by some members about what we can do regarding the matter.

The most important thing we can do is to pray. This item should be our prayer focus with our congregations on a regular basis. Pray for the persecuted Christians there, that they be strengthened so as resist attempts to make them denounce their faith. Pray for God's protection over those who have been able to survive the attacks. Pray for the organisations that are taking care of refugees who have fled to neighbouring countries. Pray for governments of the countries affected as well as those from other parts of the world that they may be able to find solutions to deal with the situation so that more lives can be preserved.

Let us also pray for the leaders of the international community led by the United States as they consider appropriate action against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

With regard to providing humanitarian aid, we strongly advise against organising any visits to the conflict areas. It is best that we channel aid through organisations that have extensive experience and supply connections on the ground. Some of the organisations are listed in the attached.

Shalom.

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List of Organisations in Singapore providing humanitarian aid to Syria and Iraq conflict areas

1. Singapore Red Cross
2. World Vision International

1. Singapore Red Cross

Singapore Red Cross has launched a public appeal from 20 July to 16 September 2014 to raise funds in support of the humanitarian operations in the Gaza strip, Iraq and Syria in light of recent conflicts in the region.

Singapore Red Cross has worked with their Movement partners, the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) and the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) on providing immediate relief aid to the above mentioned regions, including food parcels, emergency medical services and basic health care items and services, hygiene kits and water and sanitation.

Please contact:

Ms Lim Pei Shan, Manager for Fund Raising at

Singapore Red Cross

15 Penang Lane Red Cross House

Singapore 238486

Telephone: 65 6664 0500 (Main), 6664 0548 (Direct) / Fax : 65 6336 0776

2. World Vision International

Alleviating suffering of Middle East children caught in conflict

Since the last ceasefire, it is estimated that over 1965 people have died in the Gaza conflict, at least 23% of whom are children, while 9,986 people have been injured, out of which 30% are children. Currently 370,000 children in Gaza have been displaced, living in schools, informal shelters or with host families. Many of them are living with their extended families in excruciatingly cramped conditions with few or no resources- no food, no water.

World Vision helped about 10,000 people through distributions of food parcels and hygiene kits, and by providing fuel, medical supplies and bed sheets for hospitals. Teams are on the ground to assess the full scale of the needs as well as the damage to World Vision projects in place prior the conflict.

World Vision provided 1,000 children with psychosocial support, Child-Friendly Spaces, Food Assistance, Health and Sanitation etc.

Please contact:

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World Vision International

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