

Voices OF HOPE

Cuba

When Hurricane Ian made landfall in Cuba in September 2022, 63,000 homes were damaged and crops were destroyed. Cuba imports 80% of its food, and only 48.7% of domestic crops were planted in 2022, quickly leading to food scarcity. Hurricanes and drought are cyclical in Cuba, and the combination of storms with financial restrictions, reduced tourism and COVID-19 have led to a major economic crisis.

In December, PWRDF provided \$10,000 to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center (CMMLK), providing social services to schools, safe water supplies and food distribution. CMMLK is one of many historic and ecumenical PWRDF partnerships in Cuba, beginning in 1997 with training in urban agriculture and community development.

In February 2023, PWRDF allocated an additional \$10,000 to CMMLK to provide food, medicines and psychosocial rehabilitation for the most vulnerable families affected by Hurricane Ian. CMMLK is working strategically with the Episcopal Church of Cuba, through its Integrated Development Program, to distribute medicines among the communities they serve.




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