

World Hope International responds to catastrophic flooding in Central Michigan after two dams fail and 10,000 evacuated



WASHINGTON D.C. (June 9, 2020) — On May 17, 2020 heavy rains poured over Midland County, Michigan provoking flooding and leading to the failure of two local dams. These failures led to disastrous flooding in the region, swelling of the Tittabawassee river, and inundating the city within days. The Governor of Michigan, Gretchen Whitmer, called for the evacuation of 10,000 people in the region in addition to declaring a State of Emergency. The storm led to the destruction of 2,500 structures including 150 homes with another 790 homes damaged.

Within hours of the disaster, [World Hope International](#) collaborated with local community partners on the ground to deliver disaster assistance. Following a community-driven effort to identify immediate needs, WHI partnered with Amazon to provide that much needed relief. Through Amazon's generous donation, WHI was able to send over 550 items to help clean up the flooding damage as well as personal care items for those displaced from their homes. Members of the effected communities were able to use the donated pumps, mops, buckets, towels and sundry items, to drain their homes and damaged areas and begin their journey of rebuilding.

“You folks are an answer to our prayers. This is the worst flooding we have ever seen here. We have 4 feet of water in our basement and our old pumps have failed. This new pump will work so much better and help us clean out the basement. Thank you, World Hope and Amazon.” -Bob & Ethel, local lifelong residents



“We are under water and was just hoping someone would find us a pump. I live next door to her mother and both homes have the basements full of water at least 5 feet high. We were completely caught off guard. This has never happened before. We are so thankful for the pumps and cleaning supplies. This will save our homes.” -Denise, local resident

The local Church and community leaders including First Responders in Michigan received \$25,000 worth of support through this partnership and were in turn able to provide relief to dozens of families. Jake Cole from the Jerome Township Fire Department in Sanford, Michigan stated that, “We really need these pumps as we do house to house surveys to see who is still under water. We are so thankful for these pumps from World Hope International and Amazon.”

More information and assets can be found on the [press page](#).

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Note to Editors: Interviews with internal spokespeople and Get-Support beta users available.

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About World Hope International

World Hope International addresses poverty and injustice through market-based and community-led programming in over 20 countries worldwide through its core focus areas of global health, protection, clean water & energy, and social ventures.

Our vision is to provide those in need with opportunity, dignity, and hope so they can possess the tools for change in themselves, their family, and their community. WHI supports all people regardless of ethnicity, gender, race, or religion. As part of our programming, we respond rapidly and responsibly to disasters including mudslides, floods, earthquakes, volcanoes, disease outbreaks, and more, including COVID-19, Hurricane Dorian, and Cyclone-Idai. For more information, please visit <https://www.worldhope.org>

