Partnering, Giving, Responding: BGAV Joins Baptists Worldwide in Disaster Relief in Nepal

The United Mission to Nepal (UMN) is part of a worldwide Baptist network responding in Nepal, and because of Virginia Baptists’ contributions and faithfulness, Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV) financial support is reaching the group through their hands and feet. The devastating 7.9 earthquake that struck Nepal on April 25 killed more than 8,000 people, injured at least 16,000 more, and left hundreds of thousands of people homeless. The recent 7.3 aftershock on May 12 killed at least 48 more people and left another 1,000+ injured, sending even more people to the streets.

With 20 years of relationships and experience in Nepal, the UMN is hard at work caring for their neighbors and communities throughout Nepal. Money sent through BGAV’s international network (which includes the UMN) has gone to help in emergency medical relief, purchasing tents for temporary housing, and providing for other needs related to temporary shelter, food, and medical issues.

When the rainy season began ahead of schedule, wet weather made the need for shelter even greater. Both the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Baptist Global Response (the development arm of the Southern Baptist Convention) mobilized trained workers to assess needs and direct disaster relief resources by
identifying and using the most efficient and effective means possible.

“In the relief effort, funding is the greatest source of assistance we can provide from halfway around the world,” says Aaron Lee, Disaster Response Coordinator for the Baptist General Association of Virginia. “Our global partners prepare for disasters and have resources that we cannot mobilize and deliver in time to effectively meet needs.” Throughout each organization’s response, the need is the same—support for work on the ground in Nepal.

Virginia Baptists should continue to remember the Nepalese people in their prayers and make every effort to contribute to the response. This will be a long recovery process, and the needs are still great.

To keep updated on how Virginia Baptists are responding to earthquake relief efforts in Nepal, visit Facebook.com/VB.Disaster. You may also mail a donation to Disaster Relief, Virginia Baptist Resource Center, 2828 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294 (make checks payable to “Baptist General Association of Virginia” and write “Disaster Relief” on the memo line).

For more information about how you and your church can be involved with Disaster Relief, contact:
Aaron Lee
Disaster Response Coordinator, Glocal Missions Team
Baptist General Association of Virginia
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BGAV.org/Disaster

Ministries like this one are made possible by the generous Cooperative Missions gifts of Virginia Baptist churches affiliated with the Baptist General Association of Virginia. Read more Kingdom Stories at BGAV.org/blog.

• To donate $10: Text the word “DISASTER” to the number 501501. The donation will appear on your next cell phone statement.
• To donate more than $10: Text the word “DISASTER” and your donation amount (ex: “DISASTER 100”) to 91011. You will be directed to a website to complete your donation.

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