



CRW UPDATE: Covid-19 Crisis - Friday, March 25, 2020

We are living in very interesting times. These are days of challenge for all of us personally; for our communities; our nation; and around the world. There is fear, panic, and uncertainty and there is also genuine concern for our friends, neighbours and communities.

CRW is so grateful that we were able to celebrate and complete our 500th container to Jordan. We were celebrating while we were loading. Such good days. This container was filled with items, equipment and supplies to assist those who are working with Iranian and Syrian refugees who cannot go back home. Many of these are living on the streets or in camps. Our CRW team took the time to pack useful boxes that are easily distributed to those in need. We have sent supplies for a carpentry and mechanical shop; we sent chairs and supplies for a beauty salon; we set up a sewing centre; plus preschool, kindergarten and school equipment and supplies; maternity packs and bikes were also added. It was packed full. Arrival date (at this time) is early May.

CRW was also able to send out a container to assist with educational and skills development in rural Malawi. We were able to send supplies to furnish a training centre and dorm plus dried soup mix from Fraser Valley Gleaners.

CRW has now closed its warehouse and we are not accepting donated goods at this time. We have asked our volunteers to stay home until further notice. This is to ensure the safety of our team and the safety of our very generous donors. While we recognize that CRW is not an essential service here in Canada. We do know that we are sending life giving, life-changing resources and supplies to our overseas consignees. Our CRW Board was prudent enough to put funds aside for crisis times, for which I am very grateful. Our expenses will be considerably less than normal times. However, we still require on-going donation of funds to assist us with future shipping needs.

While we are closed right now- we are more than ready to respond as soon as the green light is given. We are well stocked and poised for immediate response. While at home, I am working towards future loads, completing paperwork and ensuring that funding is going ahead. Right now, we are looking at a busy season ahead of us! I know our team will be more than happy to start sending their well prepared boxes.

Let us consider what we can do for someone else- who needs a touch of kindness and caring during these days. Look for ways to reach out and care for someone- either locally or "away from home". We see people rising up in our own communities and assisting. We are seeing how other parts of the world are "sharing their little" with those who have less. So much amazing kindness being shared.

Thank you again for your past support. Please continue to keep yourself, your family and friends as safe as possible. We look forward to all of us "getting through this time of crisis" and again being able to respond to overseas needs.

Very grateful,
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