



September 15, 2020

Dear UMCOR Partner,

Greetings from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and its parent organization, the General Board of Global Ministries. In this age of COVID-19, a time of startling human need and great global economic uncertainty, the work of UMCOR continues to be critical. I write in part to introduce myself as the new general secretary of Global Ministries and, therefore, UMCOR's chief executive. Actually, I know many partners, and you know me, through my many years as treasurer and chief operating officer of Global Ministries/UMCOR and having served as UMCOR director for several periods of time.

I want to assure you that the change of administrations here means no change in the goals of UMCOR. We continue, as has been the case for 80 years, to be devoted to the alleviation of human suffering without regard to race, religion, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation. Emphases remain on disaster relief and development, and on engagement with partners. The value of collaboration has been recognized by UMCOR and its predecessor organizations since the first grants were made in the early 1940s.

We do face the necessity of strategically focusing our work in keeping with needs and capacity. Difficult facts are clear: contributions are down and opportunities for service are up. We must immediately **narrow our focus, work even more collaboratively with greater transparency and accountability, measure impact thoroughly and communicate effectively. These measures will be key touchstones for our way forward.** You can expect more attention on our part to health and economic challenges related to the coronavirus pandemic, rapid climate change and promotion of racial equality. To update yourself on staff changes, please see the list of contacts below. In many cases, your UMCOR program manager or liaison may have already communicated this information to you. Thank you for the important work you do and for being our partner.

In Service Together,

Roland Fernandes
General Secretary of Global Ministries and UMCOR

Following are the email addresses of the senior programmatic contacts at UMCOR:

Roland Fernandes, General Secretary, Global Ministries and UMCOR, rfernandes@umcmmission.org

Lara Martin, interim Director, U.S. Disaster Response, lmartin@umcor.org

Jack Amick, Director of Global Migration & Special Assignments, jamick@umcor.org

Katie Hills Uzoka, Senior Manager, International Disaster Response, khillsuzoka@umcor.org

Jenny Phillips, Senior Technical Advisor for Environmental Sustainability, jphillips@umcmmission.org

UMCOR is the relief and development agency of The United Methodist Church

458 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30308 / +1.404.460.7575 / umcmmission.org