MaranathaKids®
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF, INC.

BRINGING HOPE | SHARING JESUS | TRANSFORMING LIVES

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— THE COMPLETE —

MARANATHA VOICE Newsletter

News & Stories of Hope, Faith & Transformation

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David Allen A.
PRESIDENT & FOUNDER

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



A Message of Gratitude from the President

Honoring the Heart and Hands of Our Volunteers

Dear Maranatha Kids Volunteers,

On behalf of Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc., I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to every volunteer who has generously given their time, energy, talents, and love to our mission.

Your service is far more than an act of kindness. It is a reflection of compassion, faith, and a genuine commitment to making a difference in the lives of vulnerable children, struggling families, and widows in the communities we serve.

Every hour you give, every task you undertake, every child you encourage, and every family you support helps bring hope where it is needed most. Whether you serve behind the scenes, participate in community outreach, support our educational programs, assist with distributions, or share our mission with others, please know that your contribution matters.

At Maranatha Kids, we believe that transforming lives is not the work of one person or one organization alone. It takes people with willing hearts, helping hands, and a shared vision. You are an essential part of that vision, and your dedication strengthens our ability to serve with dignity, compassion, and faith.

The Bible reminds us in Galatians 6:9:

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

— Galatians 6:9 (ESV)

May this promise encourage you to continue serving with joy, knowing that even the smallest act of love can make an eternal difference. You may not always see the full impact of your efforts, but the seeds of hope you plant today can bear fruit for generations to come.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for standing with Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc. Thank you for believing in our mission, for sharing our vision, and for helping us bring hope to those who need it most.

May God bless you abundantly, renew your strength, and reward your faithful service.

With sincere appreciation and prayers,

David Allen A.
President & Founder
Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc.

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FIVE VOLUNTEERS, ONE MISSION

From California to Maui: A Journey of Hope After Lahaina

When tragedy leaves a community wounded, compassion can travel thousands of miles to help it begin again.

In August 2023, devastating wildfires swept through Lahaina, on the island of Maui, Hawaii, leaving a profound mark on the community, its families, and the surrounding landscape. Homes and historic places were lost, lives were changed forever, and the road to recovery would require courage, perseverance, and the support of people who cared.

In the aftermath of such devastation, the need to rebuild extended beyond homes and buildings. The land itself needed care. Trees and vegetation play an important role in the health of an ecosystem, helping restore habitats, protect soil, and contribute to the renewal of a landscape.

It was in this spirit of restoration that five volunteers—Aiko, Mei, Kai, Hiroshi, and John—made a decision that would become a meaningful part of their own story of service.

They were the first five people to sign up on our volunteer list for the reforestation effort in Hawaii following the Lahaina fires. Their names represented more than an expression of interest. They represented a willingness to step forward when help was needed and to contribute their time and energy to a cause greater than themselves.

Their journey began in Los Angeles, California. They boarded a flight of more than five hours to reach Maui, leaving behind their familiar surroundings to participate in an effort to help the island's landscape recover.

Traveling that distance required a commitment. Yet the purpose waiting for them on the other side of the journey made every mile meaningful. They were not traveling simply to visit an island. They were traveling to serve.

For Aiko, Mei, Kai, Hiroshi, and John, volunteering meant turning concern into action. Rather than standing at a distance and watching the recovery unfold, they chose to become part of the work.

Their commitment reminds us of something important: the desire to make a difference does not have to begin with a large organization, a significant budget, or a perfect plan. Sometimes, it begins with five people who are willing to say, "We can help.'

Their arrival in Maui marked the beginning of a week dedicated to a simple but meaningful purpose: planting trees and contributing to the renewal of a place that had endured extraordinary loss.

The work ahead would require patience, teamwork, and a shared belief that even after devastation, new life can take root.

And so, five volunteers from California became part of a larger story—one in which service crossed geographical boundaries, compassion became action, and hope was expressed not only in words, but in the soil beneath their hands.

Their journey was a reminder that when people choose to serve, distance becomes a bridge rather than a barrier.





2,000 Trees, A Future of Hope

How Six Volunteers Helped Plant the Seeds of Renewal

A week may seem like a short amount of time, but a week spent serving others can become part of a story that lasts far beyond those seven days.

During their time in Maui, Aiko, Mei, Haru, Hiroshi, John, and Kai helped plant approximately 2,000 trees collectively, contributing their effort to the island's reforestation initiative following the devastating Lahaina fires.

Every tree planted represented a practical step toward renewal. Trees can help support wildlife habitats, protect soil, and contribute to healthier ecosystems. Although restoring a landscape after a wildfire takes years of careful work, reforestation can play an important role in helping damaged areas recover.

The six volunteers gave their time to a task that required patience, teamwork, and a shared commitment. Their work was a powerful illustration of what can happen when people unite around a common goal.

A young tree may look small when it is first placed in the ground. It cannot immediately provide the shade, shelter, or beauty of a mature tree. It needs suitable conditions, protection, and time to grow. Yet its potential is already there.



In many ways, this is also true of the work carried out by humanitarian and community organizations. A new program begins with an idea. A struggling community needs support. A child needs an opportunity. A family needs encouragement. Turning those needs into meaningful action requires people who are willing to invest their time and talents.

Volunteers help make that possible.

Their contribution is not measured only by the number of trees planted or the hours spent working. It is also reflected in the example they set: that people can come together across distances, backgrounds, and communities to contribute to something greater than themselves.

At Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc., we understand that lasting change depends on people who are willing to serve. Volunteers help transform ideas into action, strengthen outreach efforts, and bring energy to missions that seek to improve lives.

Not everyone can travel to Maui, but everyone has something they can offer. Some can volunteer their time, others can share professional skills, organize fundraising efforts, provide supplies, or encourage more people to participate. Each contribution can become part of a larger story of hope.

The experience of Aiko, Mei, Haru, Hiroshi, John, and Kai reminds us that compassion becomes especially powerful when it moves beyond words and becomes action.

Their week in Maui was one contribution to an ongoing recovery effort. The trees they helped plant will need time and appropriate care to grow, but their work represents an investment in the possibility of a greener future.

To our six volunteers, thank you for answering the call, making the journey from Los Angeles to Maui, and giving your time to this meaningful effort. Your example reminds us that even when a challenge is great, people working together can take important steps toward a better tomorrow.

Six volunteers. One week. Approximately 2,000 trees. A lasting message of hope.

"And let us not grow weary of doing good,
for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."
— Galatians 6:9 (ESV)

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

A Message from the Editorial Team



Dear Volunteers,

On behalf of the entire editorial team of *The Maranatha Voice Newsletter*, we extend our deepest gratitude to every volunteer who has given their time, energy, talents, and compassion to make a difference in the lives of others.

Your dedication reminds us that meaningful change begins when ordinary people choose to do extraordinary things for others. Whether you are planting trees in communities recovering from disaster, supporting children in need, assisting families, encouraging widows, or helping bring our programs to life, your service is an essential part of the story we are honored to share.

The story of Aiko, Mei, Haru, Hiroshi, John, and Kai, who traveled from Los Angeles to Maui to participate in reforestation efforts following the Lahaina fires, is a beautiful reminder of what volunteers can accomplish when they unite around a common purpose. Their commitment represents the spirit of service that inspires our mission: compassion in action, hope in difficult circumstances, and a willingness to serve wherever help is needed.

Every volunteer has a story worth telling. Behind every successful outreach effort are people who give generously, work faithfully, and believe that every child, every family, and every community deserves an opportunity for a brighter future.

> ***You do not have to change the whole world by yourself. You only have to be willing to make a difference where you are.***



With sincere appreciation,

The Editorial Team

The Maranatha Voice Newsletter
Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc.

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How Can You Become a Volunteer?

You can become part of the Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc. family of volunteers. Whether you have a few hours to give, professional skills to share, a passion for serving children, or a heart for helping communities in need, there may be an opportunity for you to contribute.

Join us in bringing hope to vulnerable children, supporting families, strengthening communities, and sharing the love of Jesus through practical acts of service.

To learn more about volunteering and how you can get involved, please contact us through any of the following channels:

Toll-Free:
1-800-201-1045

Email:
Volunteers@MaranathaKids.org

By Mail:
Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc.
Att: Volunteers Department
P.O. Box 1011
Riverview, Florida 33578
United States of America

To every volunteer who has served, supported, encouraged, and believed in this mission: **thank you.** Your generosity strengthens our work, your compassion inspires others, and your willingness to serve helps turn dreams into opportunities and hope into action.

We look forward to **welcoming more** caring hearts and willing hands to this mission. Together, we can reach farther, serve more faithfully, and make a lasting difference in the lives of those who need us most.

You Make Our Dreams Possible

The Power of Volunteers in Transforming Lives



Every great mission begins with a dream. A dream of a child receiving an education, a family finding hope, a widow discovering that she is not forgotten, and a community gaining the opportunity to build a brighter future. But dreams of this kind rarely become reality through the efforts of one person alone. They become possible when people come together with compassion, dedication, and a shared purpose.

At Maranatha Kids International Relief, Inc., our volunteers are an essential part of that journey. They are the hands that help prepare and distribute supplies, the voices that encourage children, the hearts that comfort families, and the willing servants who give their time and talents to make a difference.

Some volunteers travel long distances to serve. Others contribute their professional skills, organize fundraising activities, support educational programs, or encourage others to join the mission. Their contributions may look different, but they share one beautiful purpose: helping bring hope to those who need it most.

Behind every successful program is someone who chose to care. Behind every child who receives support is a network of people who believe that the child's future matters. And behind every milestone an organization reaches are countless acts of generosity that often happen quietly, away from the spotlight.

Volunteers turn vision into action. They help organizations reach more people, overcome challenges, and continue serving even when resources are limited. Their willingness to give makes it possible to transform plans into programs, ideas into opportunities, and compassion into meaningful action.

The true impact of volunteering cannot always be measured in hours served or tasks completed. Sometimes it is seen in a child's smile, a family's renewed confidence, a student returning to school, or a community discovering that it has not been forgotten.

At Maranatha Kids, we are deeply grateful for every volunteer who stands with us. Your service reminds us that we are not alone in this mission. Together, we can reach farther, serve more faithfully, and create opportunities that might otherwise remain only dreams.

As Galatians 6:9 reminds us, we must not grow weary of doing good. Every act of service matters, and every seed of kindness has the potential to produce a lasting harvest.

To all our volunteers: thank you for believing in the dream, embracing the mission, and helping make the impossible possible. Your time is a gift, your compassion is a blessing, and your service is part of a story of hope that continues to unfold.

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