Samoa and Fiji: Help Needed for Clean Up and Recovery

In December Cyclone Evan made landfall in Samoa and then Fiji. It left behind mountains of mud, piles of debris, destroyed crops and an uncertain future for people living on the flood plains. The clean up continues and people need resources to rebuild their lives.

CWS sent an initial grant of NZ\$20,000 to Samoa before Christmas. This helped meet the immediate needs for blankets, food, water, shelter, and tools to clear up the fallen trees and other debris. Working with the Family Centre, CWS was able to assist people who needed extra help.

The recovery work is continuing. Homes are being cleaned and need repair. Family Centre teams are visiting each home to offer pastoral and practical support. They have organised reconstruction teams based in Fa'atoia to work in the most severely affected zone between Lelata and Magiagi, Apia, including builders experienced with both western and traditional styles of housing.

A small team of builders is working in the Falealili district on the south eastern coast where damaged housing is older and less visible away from the urban centre of Apia. Families living in the southern regions of Upolu were reliant on agricultural livelihoods supplemented with remittances. Family are sending funds but many are finding it harder to send as much with the more difficult financial situation in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Land is being cleared to replant crops but there will be a gap before new banana and breadfruit trees produce the food on which many Samoans have traditionally relied. Fijians living in the informal settlements also need assistance to meet their daily needs.

Can you help the recovery effort?

Support the Pacific Cyclone Appeal



Donate NOW

- donate by credit card: 0800 74 73 72 or http://www.cws.org.nz/donate
- make a deposit into the Christian World Service Account: ANZ
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Or send this form to: CWS PO Box 22652 Christchurch 8140

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