

# EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Members

Ms. Teri Lawver, Chair	New Jersey, II	2024
Ms. Shirley Allen	Texas, VII	2026
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The Rt. Rev. Héctor Monterroso	Texas, VII	2024
The Rev. Steven Paulikas	Long Island, II	2026
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Mr. Matt Silva	West Texas, VII	2024
Mr. John Van De Weert	Washington, III	2025
Mr. N. Kurt Barnes	Ex-Officio	
Ms. Jane Cislucyis	Ex-Officio	
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Honorary Chair	Ex-Officio	
Dr. Robert Radtke	Ex-Officio	

## Changes in Membership

- The Rt. Rev. Wilfrido Ramos Orench – left in 2020
- Mr. John A. “Jock” MacKinnon – left in 2021
- Ms. Sophie Hollingsworth – left in 2021
- The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows – left in 2022
- Canon Rosalie Simmons Ballentine – left in 2022
- Mr. Michael Carscaddon – left in 2022
- The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves – left in 2022
- Ms. Laura Ellen Muglia – left in 2022
- The Rev. Deacon Geoffrey T. Smith – left in 2022

## Representation at General Convention

Dr. Robert Radtke is authorized to receive non-substantive amendments to this report at General Convention.

## Acknowledgements

### Key Staff

Ms. Mary Carr, Manager of the Executive Office & Director of Special Projects

Ms. Esther Cohen, Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Josephine Hicks, Chief Church Relations Officer

Ms. Abigail Nelson, Executive Vice President & Chief Strategy Officer

## Mandate

### Mission Statement

Episcopal Relief & Development is the compassionate response of The Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world. Hearing God's call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being, Episcopal Relief & Development serves to bring together the generosity of Episcopalians and others with the needs of the world.

Episcopal Relief & Development faithfully administers the funds that it receives from the church and raises from other sources. It provides relief in times of disaster and promotes sustainable development by identifying and addressing the root causes of suffering.

Episcopal Relief & Development cherishes its partnerships within the Anglican Communion, with ecumenical bodies and with others who share a common vision for justice and peace among all people.

### Mandate

Our mandate comes from Jesus' words found in Matthew 25:

Lord, when was it that

We saw you hungry and gave you food?

We saw you thirsty and gave you something to drink?

We saw you a stranger and welcomed you?

We saw you sick and took care of you?

We saw you in prison and visited you?

'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

—Matthew 25:37-40 (NRSV)

## Core Values

As part of the Episcopal branch of what our Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, calls The Jesus Movement, seeking and serving Christ in all people near and far, everything we do and the way in which we do it is inspired by five core values:

**Faith** — Faith in Jesus is at the center of our mission as an organization. It gives us the power and the courage to follow Jesus' example by reaching out in compassion to serve the most marginalized and respond to human suffering.

**Dignity** — We respect the dignity of every human being, seeking and serving Christ in all people as they, in turn, empower themselves and transform the communities in which they live and work.

**Relationship** — Our relationships are the foundation upon which all our work is built. As we accompany and serve our partners, we nurture and sustain our relationships, thereby unlocking abundance wherever it may be.

**Leadership** — We lead through learning and collaboration, inspiring creativity and innovation in all aspects of our work, and cherishing the many gifts God has given to our partners and to us.

**Excellence** — Being, doing, and giving our very best is how we are good stewards of God's abundance.

## Our Credo

WE BELIEVE our life-giving, loving, liberating God gives all, gathers all and draws all towards shared wholeness with one another and the concerns of those struggling with poverty, disaster and disease.

WE BELIEVE in faith's power to guide us in honoring the dignity of every human being and in building bridges between and beyond ourselves to the world.

WE BELIEVE bridges built with local presence and assets can transform individuals, communities and systems for better.

WE BELIEVE systemic change requires collaborative, just and reconciling leadership.

WE BELIEVE we are called to right the wrongs and sins of the past, even as we strive to repent of those sins and any we continue to commit.

WE BELIEVE the present state of the world does not fulfill the dream God intends for us.

WE BELIEVE in urgent, bold and inclusive humanitarian action that reaches the most vulnerable, builds toward tomorrow and fosters and spreads hope and healing.

WE BELIEVE in Working Together for Lasting Change.

~We ask God to bless this work~

## Summary of Work

### Our Approach

At Episcopal Relief & Development, our values drive our work. Together with core Episcopal and Anglican partners, in addition to other faith-based and secular partners, we achieve impact through an approach that is purpose-driven, grounded in compassion and respectful of the dignity of all human beings. Guided by our faith to seek and serve Christ in all people, we collaborate with leaders, communities and locally-led organizations to address the effects of injustice, poverty, disaster and climate change.

We believe no one knows a community better than those who actually live there. We partner with trusted faith leaders and other change agents who have strong community ties and a deep understanding of local context. Our approach, known as Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD), respects the dignity of the communities we serve and builds upon their existing strengths, knowledge and resources to achieve sustainable solutions tailored to the unique challenges they face.

We continually monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our programs. This allows us to learn from, adapt and improve programming, address challenges and identify opportunities as they emerge, and respond rapidly as community needs change and evolve. Together with community leaders and partners, we're able to leverage what's working well to drive impact, learning and sustainability.

Our goal is to achieve impact that will last long after a program or response ends. Through collaboration and shared learning with local faith and community organizations, we strengthen each partner's capacity to effectively deliver and to sustain and grow the impact we achieved together. This includes bolstering partners' internal systems, processes and policies to promote effective, efficient and quality management of programs. We equip partners with the resources, tools and quality assurance needed to operate within highly challenging contexts and provide effective responses and care amidst disaster, crisis and growing instability.

### Our Programs

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere. The 17 Goals were adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which set out a 15-year plan to achieve the Goals.

Reflecting the SDGs, Episcopal Relief & Development partners with locally-led organizations around the world to advance lasting change in communities impacted by injustice, poverty, disaster and climate change. We focus on four interconnected priorities: (1) Early Childhood Development; (2) Women and Girls; (3) Climate Resilience; and (4) Disaster Response.

**Early Childhood Development:** Equipping parents and caregivers so young children can reach their full potential.

The quality of care that children receive during the first 1,000 days of life affects them in ways that last a lifetime. That's why investing in parents, caregivers and young children during the critical 0–3 age is so important. In partnership with local faith leaders and change agents, Episcopal Relief & Development promotes nurturing care that fosters responsive caregiving, good health and nutrition, and early learning and play, while working to reduce unhealthy environmental factors like poverty, malnutrition and exposure to violence.

**Women and Girls:** Forging partnerships to reduce gender-based violence and advance equality.

Episcopal Relief & Development believes everyone deserves to live free from violence in a society where they are treated with dignity and respect. Systems—from cultural to financial—prevent women and girls from achieving equality and fully realizing their goals. Together with our local partners, we equip faith leaders and other trusted change agents to confront harmful social norms and behaviors to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and advance women's empowerment.

**Climate Resilience:** Investing in communities to strengthen resilience to climate change.

Extreme weather events like heat waves, droughts and floods are leaving millions of people without food and water. Often, those most at risk are isolated, rural, subsistence farming households, far from basic support services. Episcopal Relief & Development's extensive faith network allows us to reach these most remote communities and, through our partners, provide the skills training, information and access to finance households need to cope and adapt to rising climate risks and uncertainty.

**Disaster Response:** Providing emergency relief and long-term support in disasters.

Episcopal Relief & Development works through a global network of local faith and community partners to support people impacted by natural disasters and human-made crises like conflict. Our approach is inclusive, comprehensive and forward-looking, building on a community's existing strengths, assets and resources. With our partners, we strengthen community preparedness, provide emergency relief in the wake of a disaster, and support long-term recovery and resilience by investing in communities long after the crisis. We support individuals in shaping their own futures for a full and sustained recovery.