



Send  
Relief



# MEETING NEEDS, CHANGING LIVES

CASE FOR SUPPORT



**MEETING  
NEEDS  
CHANGING  
LIVES**



# Since 2023

Send Relief has been serving some of the most vulnerable individuals and families living in Hamilton since 2023. Send Relief Ministry Centres assess community needs, develop ministry strategies, and care for the marginalized in Jesus' name.

The Ministry Centre in Hamilton is part of a global Send Relief network. Last year, Send Relief served over 2.56 million people worldwide with ongoing projects in 85 countries and 1,680 regions.

We're thrilled to launch a hub for gospel-centered compassion ministry in Hamilton. While there are several Send Relief Ministry Centres in North America, this is the first one in Canada.

## Send Relief by the Numbers:

**2.56**

MILLION PEOPLE  
SERVED LAST YEAR

**85**

COUNTRIES WITH  
ONGOING PROJECTS

**1,680**

REGIONS OPENED TO  
GOSPEL MINISTRY



**Grounded in the gospel, the vision of Send Relief is rooted in Isaiah 61:1-4.**

The Spirit of the Lord God is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of our God's vengeance; to comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who mourn in Zion; to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, festive oil instead of mourning, and splendid clothes instead of despair. And they will be called righteous trees, planted by the Lord to glorify him. They will rebuild the ancient ruins; they will restore the former devastations; they will renew the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations" (CSB).





Send Relief is currently ministering to over 200 refugee claimants in Hamilton. We provide a variety of services:

- Gospel-centered ESL classes for beginner and intermediate students
- A six-month job education and placement program for those interested in computer coding through Veroskills
- Canadian Life Skills Seminars on topics that include banking, taxes, driving in Canada, housing, Canadian culture, and more
- Appeal and Ready Tour webinars once a month in partnership with the Immigration Board of Canada

# The needs in our city can be overwhelming.



- 1 in 4 children in our area live below the poverty line
- 63% of households relying on social assistance are food insecure
- $\frac{1}{3}$  of all low-income households depend on food banks
- In 2023, Hamilton declared a State of Emergency related to homelessness, opioid addiction, and mental health issues.

Send Relief's relief efforts in Canada are focused on serving refugees. According to the Send Relief report from the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton:

- 6% of Hamilton's overall population arrived as refugees
- 11,000 refugees arrived in Hamilton between 2011 and 2021
- $\frac{1}{4}$  of Hamilton emergency shelter beds are occupied by refugees, with over 90 refugees in a shelter each night
- Inflation and rising housing prices have squeezed refugees out of the affordable rental market, causing physical and mental health challenges

**In the first 7 months of 2024, 140 million people were displaced. It takes 20 years for the average refugee to be resettled.**





Refugees are desperate for help. They don't know English. Their education qualifications don't transfer. They aren't prepared for harsh winters in Canada. They have little job training. They are shocked by Canadian prices. They find our country unhospitable.

When an Uber driver, who came as a refugee from Iraq, was asked about his life in Canada he replied, *"It's been hard. We've been here 20 years. I didn't know English for several years. No one would talk to us when we came. My wife and I have three children. We live in a small two-bedroom apartment. We live from cheque to cheque. We have no time for friends. We have no community. Thankfully our children are heading to college and university. It will be better for them. It has only been hard for us."*

**God has raised up Send Relief to step into the gap.**

Refugee claimants in Canada are not eligible for most federally funded settlement services. This means they can't access free English language classes, employment training, housing search assistance, health care, or education for their children. The delay for the Eligibility Interview has increased from several weeks to up to nine months. The Eligibility Interview only allows them eligibility to apply for refugee status to start the process. They are utterly lost in our Canadian system without any support.

**Send Relief is ready to serve these refugees, but we need your partnership to do so.**





# God is calling Send Relief to expand its gospel-centered reach to care for more refugees in Hamilton.

Our goal is to provide supportive and affordable transitional housing for refugees who are living in precarious housing arrangements and encampments.

With your help, we will build Canada's first Send Relief Ministry Centre, which will include opportunities for refugees to gain essential life skills and provide necessary shelter in apartments. In addition, this facility will become a multiplication hub designed and equipped to train church leaders across Canada on effectively engaging refugees in their unique contexts.

But the dream is larger than just Send Relief. The vision includes building a church planting incubator doubling as a theological training centre that will help facilitate the discipleship and missional mobilization of those the Lord is saving through Send Relief's work.

Further, the centre will contain several short-term apartments that will host pastors and mission teams for week-long equipping events, as well as potential church planters as they attend the Send Network's church planting assessment process. In addition, this centre will host administrative flex offices for Send Relief, Send Network, the International Mission Board, the Canadian Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Canadian National Baptist Convention.



**“The Send Relief Centre will become a reaching, equipping and multiplying hub with an incredible potential for global impact.”**

***Jeff Christopherson***



Send Relief works in partnership with CNBC and NAMB Canada. Established in 1954, the CNBC has experienced exponential growth in recent years. The CNBC:

- Grew from 247 churches in 2011 to over 470 churches by August 2024
- Recognized 61 new churches in 2024

The CNBC is the fastest growing denomination in Canada. As many of the churches are newly planted, they are still relying on support and maturing. More than 80% of the pastors in the Greater Toronto-Hamilton area were born outside Canada, and ongoing training and coaching is necessary for these mainly bivocational leaders.

We are praying the Lord will allow us to build a mobilization hub, where refugees will be cared for, God's people will meet for worship, and church planters will be trained and encouraged.







We are currently looking for land in the Hamilton area. The city of Hamilton has been working on our behalf to find adequate space, as they value Send Relief and our work with refugees.

#### WE ARE PRAYING FOR:

- A space where refugees can be welcomed and receive training
- Housing where the most vulnerable refugees can experience safe and affordable shelter
- A place of worship where God's people can gather and disciple those coming to faith
- A central home for CNBC so we can continue to expand our church planting efforts in Canada
- A training centre for mission teams and pastors

We are praying that the Lord will provide \$5 million in seed money by December 2025 to purchase land, design plans, secure permits, and begin to renovate an existing building or allow for new construction as the first phase of this project.

Our movement, made up of predominately modest income earners as well as many marginalized families, can't do this alone. We're praying the Lord will raise partners like yourself to join us.

**OUR GOAL: \$5 MILLION**

# Charly and Ani's Story

Pastor Francisco forgot to mention one small but critical detail: his friends Charly and Ani didn't speak English.

Francisco is a church planter in Toronto and had called my husband, Jason McGibbon, who is pastor of The Hamilton Fellowships. Francisco asked Jason to meet Charly, Ani, and their two children.

At their meeting, it took Jason a few minutes to realize that Charly was not being aloof as he fumbled with his phone, trying to call Francisco. Charly needed help translating because his family didn't speak English. Jason stumbled his way through planning another time to meet Charly and Ani.

Jason invited me along for the next meeting and we took our son-in-law, who is fluent in Spanish. This time, a beautiful friendship began as Charly and Ani were able to engage with English-speaking Canadians who were not authorities, inquiring about their refugee claim.







We learned much journeying with Charly, Ani, and their family and began understanding how God used this friendship to impact our ministry.

- As we learned about Charly and Ani's needs, we rounded up furniture and provided them with beds and a dining table.
- As we walked alongside them, we learned about refugee settlement requirements, which allowed us to expand our case management support service.
- As we helped them learn and adjust to Canadian culture, we launched Canadian Life Seminars.
- As we worked with them to learn English, we developed our gospel-based ESL ministry.
- As their online refugee hearing approached, we learned about requirements for their hearing, including an acceptable space, sufficient technology, and childcare. We now have a space for hearings.
- As we waited months for a decision from the immigration board after their hearing, we prayed. While serving in Hamilton, a mission team from Alabama had dinner in Charly and Ani's home and prayed specifically for the board's decision. Charly and Ani were granted protection the next day.

Based on their experience with Send Relief, Charly and Ani began introducing friends and family to our ministry. We are now serving over 200 refugees in the city—all through word of mouth.

Charly and Ani also began attending The Hamilton Fellowships the Sunday after we first met them. Despite the language barrier, they found a spiritual family to call home. They have invited their family and friends to the church. God saved Ani's brother and sister-in-law, who were then baptized. A Spanish-speaking member has discipled them, and a Spanish ministry began at The Hamilton Fellowships.

What I love about Charly and Ani's story, aside from the relationships with my new friends, is the confirmation of things God had placed on our hearts at our centre before we knew these individuals. We began with meeting needs that led to discipleship, a beautiful picture of Isaiah 61 coming to life. As people are served and holistic needs are met, the next generation of kingdom servants join God's redemptive work.

**Kim McGibbon**

*Canadian Ministry Centre Director*



# Partnering with us

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

## PRAY

Pray for the vision the Lord has given us and ask Him to provide the necessary funds.

## GIVE

We are praying for gifts between \$100 and \$1 million. We know that God will provide in a variety of ways.

We are asking Him to provide many gifts between \$100 and \$1,000, several gifts between \$1,000 and \$10,000, a few gifts between \$10,000 and \$100,000, a couple of gifts between \$100,000 and \$500,000, as well as couple of gifts between \$500,000 and \$1 million. Equal sacrifice with various amounts.

## INTRODUCE

You may have a friend, family member, or colleague who is passionate about caring for the marginalized and planting churches to reach Canada. We'd be delighted to meet them and share what the Lord is doing through Send Relief.

Thank you for prayerfully considering your partnership with Send Relief and CNBC.





# How to Give to Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Your gift to the Meeting Needs, Changing Lives Campaign will grow the capacity of Send Relief to minister to refugees today and for decades to come.

Each gift will be gratefully received, recorded, and recognized in an appropriate manner. All gifts will receive tax credit to the full extent allowed by law.

## CHEQUES

You can make your cheque out to Send Relief Canada designated for Meeting Needs, Changing Lives.

**Cheques can be mailed to:**

286 Sanford Ave North  
Unit 503-504  
Hamilton, Ontario L8L 6A1

## GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Gifts in this form may be advantageous for you. We request that you speak to your financial advisor about your gift of securities.

Contact Neil Jimenez at [njimenez@namb.net](mailto:njimenez@namb.net) for more information regarding your gift of securities.

## PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

We would be delighted to have you support the Meeting Needs, Changing Lives campaign through pre-authorized giving.

Contact Neil Jimenez at [njimenez@namb.net](mailto:njimenez@namb.net) for more information.

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