

## National Philoptochos Society 2014-2016 Committee Report



### Humanitarian and Disaster Relief International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)

*Chair: Dee Nicolaou*

*IOCC Coordinators: Patricia Aleck, Athanasia Ward*

*Liaison: Evangeline Scurtis*

*Members: Marian Catechis, Elaine Cladis, Jennifer Constantin,  
Sophie Mastor, Anne Michals, Laura Nixon, Carol Stamas,  
Joanne Stavrakas, Peggy Vranas*

### *Humanitarian and Disaster Relief*

- The National Philoptochos Emergency Fund was established to help those who are affected by various forms of natural disasters and unforeseen tragedies in the United States and throughout the world.
- The National Philoptochos Emergency Fund helps those individuals, families, and communities who are affected by various forms of natural disasters, such as the blizzards, hurricanes, tropical storms, tornados, floods, and wild fires.
- The primary mission of the Emergency Fund is to provide aid, compassion and ministry with dignity and hope by assisting the most vulnerable populations during natural disasters.
- This discretionary commitment in October enables Philoptochos to respond expeditiously and efficiently to those in need.
- The United States experiences an average of more than three disasters each year with damages of \$1 billion or greater that affect wide areas of the country.
- In addition, smaller disasters affect communities across the country on a far more frequent basis.
- While the frequency and severity of disasters cannot be predicted, they will continue to occur.
- Please encourage your Chapter to support their October National Philoptochos Emergency Fund Commitment. All donations are greatly needed and appreciated.

### *International Orthodox Christian Charities*

- IOCC is the official international humanitarian agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the United States
- IOCC is a member of the ACT Alliance, a global coalition of more than 140 churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian assistance and advocacy, as well as a member of InterAction, the largest alliance of U.S. based secular and faith-based organizations working to improve the lives of the world's most poor and vulnerable populations

- Since its inception in 1992, IOCC has distributed more than \$580 million in emergency relief and development assistance to families and communities in more than 50 countries
- All funds collected by the agency (minus administrative expenses) or approximately 92% of all money donated is used for humanitarian aid
- Every dollar given helps IOCC secure \$7.00 in support from various sources
- IOCC helps communities in need by establishing health care centers, providing medical treatment, creating access to clean water and promoting health through sanitation programs
- IOCC helps communities in need by supporting agricultural development and promoting food safety
- IOCC helps families and communities create lasting change through economic and educational opportunities around the world
- All assistance is provided solely on the basis of need and benefits families, refugees and displaced persons, the elderly, school children, orphans, and people with disabilities
- The mission and focus of IOCC, of helping those in great need, is deeply aligned with the work that Philoptochos also seeks to do. Philoptochos chapters support IOCC with a discretionary contribution in April.