

## Brief History of Send Relief

Southern Baptist Christians have a long history of conducting ministries of compassion to bring hope and healing during seasons of people's deepest need. Send Relief is the compassion ministry arm of the Southern Baptist Convention, a joint effort of the SBC's two mission boards: the International Mission Board (IMB) and the North American Mission Board (NAMB).

Whether it be those recovering in the aftermath of a natural disaster or other crisis, a family caught in poverty, refugees looking to build a new life, children searching for a loving home, or vulnerable populations at risk for human trafficking — churches, local associations, state conventions and the national entities of the SBC have sought to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those in who seeking material help and, ultimately, eternal hope.

Since its inception in 2016 when Send Relief launched in St. Louis, the organization has been working to become the “one-stop shop” for Southern Baptist compassion ministry efforts. Four years later, just before the COVID-19 pandemic would lead to massive, global shutdowns, NAMB and IMB came together to make those efforts truly international.

Building on the legacy of Southern Baptist's ministries of compassion, NAMB brought its growing network of Ministry Centers and partnerships with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR), one of the nation's largest providers of disaster relief, and combined them with IMB's network of global partners under the banner of Send Relief.

Now, Send Relief serves millions of people each year and sees tens of thousands of people profess faith in the Christ. In areas where it is difficult for Christian missionaries to enter, Send Relief's compassion ministry efforts to serve those in need has opened doors for ministry.

In North America, Send Relief has established Ministry Centers from Boston and Toronto to Las Vegas and Los Angeles, and every year we work with established Southern Baptist compassion ministries who join Send Relief's network as ministry affiliates.

With the help of Southern Baptist churches, partners, and individual believers, Send Relief aims to further the legacy of gospel proclamation and tangible ministry as we meet needs and see lives changed through the love of Christ.