

TYPHOON HAIYAN

TWO-YEAR UPDATE | NOVEMBER 2015



**American
Red Cross**

Helping Typhoon Survivors Recover

In November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan brought heartbreak and devastation across the central Philippines, taking more than 6,000 lives and causing extensive damage to homes and crops. The Philippine Red Cross, American Red Cross, and the global Red Cross network responded swiftly with vital relief supplies, health care, water and shelter materials for families left reeling by this historic storm—the strongest ever recorded in the Philippines.

Thanks to our generous supporters, the American Red Cross was able to provide emergency relief items, such as food, blankets, shelter kits, hygiene kits and mosquito nets. We also worked alongside our Red Cross partners to offer cash grants to thousands of families so they could meet

pressing needs. American Red Cross disaster specialists assisted with logistics and relief distributions, water and sanitation, mapping, emergency communications and information management.

Once the need for emergency relief ended, the American Red Cross focused on helping survivors recover and resume normal lives. Over the last two years, we have helped support safer shelter for approximately 10,000 families, and over 10,000 households received cash grants to help them restart businesses or create new income opportunities. In all, American Red Cross support will improve living conditions for more than 80,000 men, women and children in the affected area.

Catching Up With Ricky and Michelle Sister

When we shared Ricky and Michelle Sister's story with donors in November 2014, the couple—who lost nearly everything when Typhoon Haiyan made landfall in Alangalang, on the island of Leyte—had rebuilt their home with help from a Red Cross cash grant.

Now, nearly two years after Typhoon Haiyan, the house remains sturdy—withstanding Typhoon Ruby in late 2014 and many other storms. But the cash grant for housing wasn't the end of Ricky and Michelle's involvement with the Red Cross; they've received additional assistance as they rebuilt from the storm.

The American Red Cross paid to repair the water tank in the neighborhood, along with a water pump, which makes it easier and safer to retrieve water. In addition, we gave the couple seed money to buy two pigs. They then earned more money selling piglets, which are always in high demand. With these funds, the couple has started a small store from the front window of their home, selling items like pig feed, dried fish and snacks.

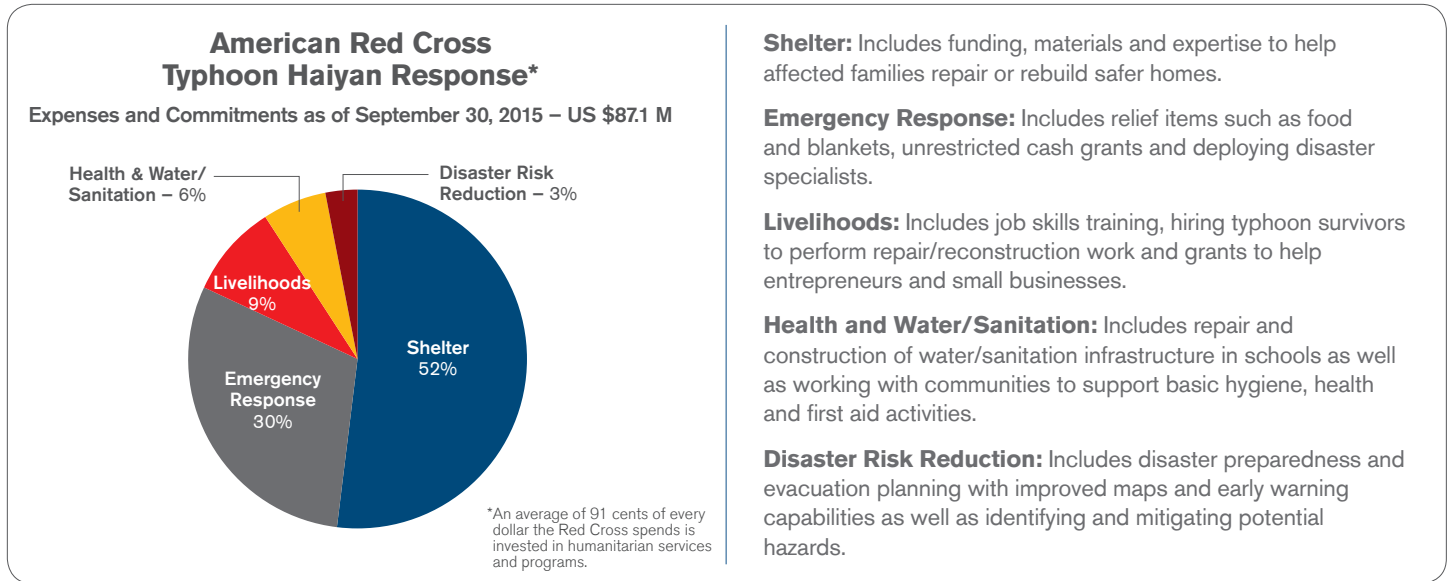
Michelle will soon start a vocational course—funded by the American Red Cross—where she will learn how to cook professionally. She hopes to own a restaurant someday. Ricky is just glad that the Red Cross made it all the way to their village, which must be entered by foot.



Ricky and Michelle Sister with their daughter outside the family's home in Alangalang—rebuilt with the help of a cash grant from the Red Cross. Nearly two years after Haiyan, the house has safely withstood Typhoon Ruby in late 2014 and many other storms.

Restoring Lives, Livelihoods and Communities

As of September 30, 2015, the American Red Cross has received \$88.7 million in donations and pledges from our compassionate supporters, and we have spent or committed \$87.1 million for Typhoon Haiyan response and recovery efforts.



Two years later, the American Red Cross continues its recovery work in the Philippines. The American Red Cross is engaged in multiyear partnerships with the Philippine Red Cross and other Red Cross teams in the hardest-hit provinces of Leyte and Cebu, where the storm not only damaged or destroyed more than 1 million homes, but took away livelihoods when it devastated businesses, valuable farm land and coconut trees.

Our goal is to sustainably rebuild lives and livelihoods, helping make communities safer, more resilient and better prepared for disaster- and climate-related risks. Ongoing recovery efforts include cash grant distribution, shelter repair or retrofitting, job training in marketable livelihoods, water supply systems for villages, water and sanitation at community facilities—such as schools—and capacity building of the Philippine Red Cross to respond to future disasters.

Renewing Hope: Stories of Recovery

Susan Odevilas – Palanog, Leyte

Susan Odevilas, 36, is a mother of five—including a 12-year-old daughter with cerebral palsy—and a volunteer with the Philippine Red Cross. Her home was completely destroyed by Typhoon Haiyan.

She received a grant from the American Red Cross to replace supplies she used as a hairdresser that were swept away by the storm. And her oldest daughter is now learning to be a pastry chef at a local technical school, paid for by a scholarship from the American Red Cross.

In addition, thanks to the American Red Cross shelter program, she and her family will be moving into a new, safer home. “Red Cross is a big help to our community,” Susan said. “People that lost hope during the storm are getting it back because Red Cross is giving it to them.”



Melanie Abantao – Peñalosa, Leyte

When Typhoon Haiyan destroyed the well near her home, Melanie Abantao and her neighbors in Peñalosa on the island of Leyte had to walk more than a quarter of a mile to collect clean water in buckets. The American Red Cross has since installed five water pumps in Peñalosa—these pumps are less likely to be contaminated than wells and are easier to use.

Local Red Cross volunteers work with the community water committee to ensure that the pumps continue to function. They also teach community members about hand washing as well as other water and sanitation skills to keep families healthy. Melanie has noticed that children in her neighborhood are getting sick less often. She and her neighbors spend a lot of time near the new water pump, which is surrounded by colorful flowers and plants.

Melanie also received money and materials to rebuild her house, which was heavily damaged by Typhoon Haiyan. The American Red Cross gave her family cash, 10 corrugated galvanized iron sheets and technical assistance so they could repair their home in a way that made it more resistant to future storms and other natural disasters. Recipients of this type of shelter assistance also receive specialized training on safe-building practices that they use to maintain their homes and help their neighbors.



Melanie Abantao washes laundry near a newly installed water pump in Peñalosa on the island of Leyte.

Astorga Community Farmers Association – Astorga, Leyte

West of Tacloban city, past coconut water vendors and women selling colorful potted plants; past buildings still showing the scars of Typhoon Haiyan; and past the paved highways; you'll find a community garden brimming with sweet peppers, cucumbers, lettuce, beans and seedlings of other high-value crops. This is a picture of a plot of the Astorga Community Farmers Association, an agricultural co-op where more than 20 people adversely affected by Typhoon Haiyan are learning a new way to earn much-needed income.

To help people recover financially, the American Red Cross has partnered with the Philippines Department of Agriculture to help these typhoon survivors rebuild their livelihoods. The American Red Cross provided money for the group to buy seeds, fencing, tools and materials for a seedling nursery, and the Department of Agriculture is teaching the typhoon survivors—only some of whom were agricultural workers before the storm—about best growing practices and mentoring them on which crops have the highest value in the marketplace.

The majority of participants are women—many of whom told us they feel healthier and more empowered since the project began.



Francisca Pido, 70, is part of the Astorga agricultural cooperative project. She also acts as Astorga's resident nutritionist and provides her neighbors with medicine and first aid, assists pregnant women, and helps with vaccinations.

Myrna Cinco – Peñalosa, Leyte

Myrna Cinco and her husband were working in the rice fields when Typhoon Haiyan blew in. They waited out the storm with neighbors at a local school, hungry and scared. When they returned to the spot where their home once stood, all that was left was scattered debris.

The family lived in the school for a few months, until Myrna's husband was able to build them a small, makeshift shelter. Compounding their misfortune, Myrna's husband soon passed away. But in May 2015, Myrna and her two daughters moved into a new home, which is designed to better withstand storms, floods and other natural disasters.



Myrna Cinco, 50, stands in front of the original house her now-deceased husband built in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan.



Judy Ann Cinco (right), 12, and a friend at the Cinco family's new home, built with funds from the American Red Cross.

This home was built by local workers hired and trained by the American Red Cross. Myrna received training on how to maintain the house so the family can stay safe in future disasters. She and her daughters have truly made it a home, planting flowers that surround the new structure. "My kids can feel safe and secure and can sleep well again," she said of the new residence.

Thank you!

The American Red Cross responds to disasters around the world by mobilizing financial support, providing pre-positioned relief supplies, deploying disaster response experts and, in some cases, implementing recovery and preparedness programs. The remarkable generosity of our supporters—individuals, corporations and foundations—drives our ability to provide relief and assist our partners in the global Red Cross network. We are grateful for your trust.