

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE SUDAN, DIOCESE OF AWEIL.

REF: FOOD RELIEF REPORT 2012

The Diocese of Aweil is one the Anglican Communion worldwide partnership in Christian faith and missionary work of Christ. Diocese of Aweil was recently created out of Diocese of Wau and trying its best to reach many people's lives with service as one of its divine goal. It is Diocese of Aweil's mission is to improve community life spiritually, socially and physically to take care and provide pastoral care, counseling to those who are been challenged in life.

After South Sudan's recent self government as a result of Comprehensive Peace Agreement which ended a World's longest civil war in year 2005. There has been a high influx of returnees back to South Sudan even before independence on 9th July 2011.

Diocese of Aweil is one of most affected Diocese by this great and enormous influx of huge number of returnees and internally displaced persons especially from Northern Sudan. Diocese of Aweil is more than just a welcoming partner to her, returnees, scattered community members and internally displaced persons especially from Abyei disputed area after the evasion of Sudan Army Forces (SAF).

Northern Bhar el Ghazal State where the Diocese of Aweil is has greatly suffered under Khartoum based Regime due to its geographical location as it borders Sudan and South Sudan. Therefore, Diocese of Aweil has faced many challenges including serious flooding which has seriously displaced many people and destroyed their belongings leaving them helpless.

Furthermore, one of the Episcopal Church of Sudan is a holistic ministry, to alleviate hunger and improve food supply and to rebuilding communities that are severely hit by disasters and other natural misfortune.

The Diocese of Aweil in partnership has partners with Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF), St. James Anglican Church in New Port Beach, California, and Bringing the Good News to delivered relief food to seriously hit returnees and displaced people in the Diocese of Aweil, Northern Bhar el Ghazal State, and South Sudan. The above mentioned donors donated funds towards Aweil Returnees and IDPs through the Diocese of Aweil under the leadership of Rt. Rev. Abraham Yel Nhial who managed through the funds donated and delivered the food to the needy. We bought **70** bags of sorghums to Returnees and IDP **210** households

(beneficiaries) in three Camps of Maduany, Apada and Mathiang center to mention just few. But there are thousands of returnees and IDP and many camps in Aweil North Bahr El Gazal Sate but the Diocese of Aweil has chosen to deliver food to a less populated and nearby town camps to avoid any food shortage embarrassment.

One household is estimated to compose of 5 family members and one bag was shared by 3 households because food was not enough to all needy returnees and IDPs. So we select those who are real malnourished and in need to receive this little food like the woman you will see below with Joseph Mamer.



23rd/July 2012

This old woman being issued a bag of sorghum by the Diocesan Development and Mission Coordinator Rev. Joseph Mamer .She is called Mary Abuk, Abukdit said when she was interviewed by the Diocesan secretary Rev.Peter Dut, this she had to say. I had nothing in my house, I and my children, grandchildren were just there, but just to collect wild grass and leaves of trees for survival and even getting wild grass and leaves of trees become difficult due to the fact that many returnees collect them” Now I’ am more than happy with the people of the Diocese of Aweil and those who donated them food” this food will push me and my children for at least two weeks or more even if it gets finish I hope that another good Samaritan shall come my way” This is same happiness to those women standing behind Mary Abukdit, they are happy for have been given food which they did not expect that the Church could deliver them food. Their minds were set to receive food from WFP only or in most cases.



Relief Food in Apada Returnees Camps on 24/July/2012

In Apada Rebecca was interviewed by the Diocesan secretary Rev.Peter. Rebecca is seated on her bag of sorghum comfortably. She said that many children here in Apanda died because of hunger, and poor health of no good treatment or medicines or clean water. As well as sleeping in the dirty places that cause many children to get sick on daily basis. She continues, “Today we are very, very happy, to receive relief food, the first time like this. Rebecca is overwhelmed for this great help given by the Episcopal Church of Sudan, Diocese of Aweil”.



Relief Food Distribution in Maluil (Maduany) Returnees Camps on 25/7/2012

Maluil/Maduany is one of the returnees' camps targeted by the Episcopal Church of Sudan, Diocese of Aweil team. The team traveled to Maluil (Maduany) where they also delivered relief foods to returnees and above are the photos taken during food relief distribution. This woman

who is carrying a bag of sorghums is overwhelmed for this assistance of food. You can see most the children in the camps came out because they were more than happy to receive such a food at their camps. Here in Maluil/Maduany the team distributed 25 bags of sorghums to Returnees and the whole camp was overwhelmed and appreciative for the food.



Relief Food Distribution in Maper on 26-7-2012

This is another day of Relief food distribution in Maper Returnees Camps, many people came to the center even young ones are also looking at the relief food.



Relief Food distribution in Apada on 27/7/2012

In Apanda, the whole camp was happy to receive relief food because according to the stories that we gathered, there had been a record of many people who starved in Apanda hence when they received this little food they were happy and were willing to share with those who did not get food due to the fact that there were more returnees than the food we delivered to them. These women with their children were shocked and amazed to have received food from the church that they never expect at all.



Relief Food distribution in Mathiang on 28/7/2012

As mention in the introduction that one bag of sorghum was shared by 3 households, hence this old man was being joined with another two households, he is dividing food using Malwa which they used for measurement so each member takes equal portion of ratio.

Challenges:

While appreciating the Anglican Relief and Development Funds, St. James Anglican Church, Brining Good News and others for their continuous support to the nascent Diocese of Aweil, we would like to point out some challenges encountered during Relief Food distributions. South Sudan's commodities inflation has caused a rise up of prices in local market, food in particular. It was very difficult in the first place to get food locally and our little money could

not afford to purchase food outside South Sudan hence we were forced to buy food locally which was very expensive. One bag of sorghum was costing **250SSP** which is around **\$70** and many logistical issues were involved too. Many returnees did not received food because of shortages of food, hence it became difficult for team to decide who should and who should not received food even though they lastly succeeded to give food ration to a few individuals. Also, we hired a care **\$1500** for 6 days and allowances for the team who was involved in preparation and food delivery **\$1000**.

Their needs were more than food only; many returnees did not have tents or tukul, blackest or mosquito nets to protect them from rain, wind, mosquitoes, etc. Most of them sleep in open places despites those things mentioned above. This was a great challenges and serious problems we found facing returnees.

The Diocese of Aweil is happy and grateful to partners for their generous donation of funds which enable us to share the love of Christ with these vulnerable returnees and internally displaced persons in Aweil. If it were not your donation this relief food distributed wouldn't have happened, we are very thankful to you all. May Almighty God continue His blessings upon you all as you alleviate hunger and uplift those who are suffering in our world today.

Also, Rt.Rev.Abraham Yel Nhial, the Diocesan Bishop extends his sincere appreciations and gratitude for this fruitful partnership between the Diocese of Aweil and Anglican Relief and Development Funds, St. James Anglican, Bringing Good News and others. May our loving God extend His gracious blessings and favour to you all so that your blessed services shall reach and help many lives especially in the disadvantaged nations. God is indeed good to His people all the times.

This brief report was compiled and written by Diocesan Development, mission Coordinator Rev.Joseph Mamer and Diocesan acting Secretary Rev.Peter Dut Bol.

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