Dear Partners,

Thank you for your prayers and support for my 3 week trip in April 2019 to Bangui, Central African Republic. How I wish I could have brought you along with me! Although that was not possible, you were with me in your prayers, encouraging words as well as your sacrificial giving.

Because of your many prayers and support, I was able to make this journey safely and assess the needs of families who have reached safety. Supplies were distributed and on-going support will be provided.

Julie's Heart Cry is coming along side of these families in prayer and action to help with resettlement. The gospel is crucial as these families attempt to have some sort of normalcy again. Our goal is to help them rebuild their lives, both monetarily and spiritually.

As we already know, the goal of the enemy is to steal, kill and destroy. As a result, this war has shattered the trust among entire communities in Africa. Yet we also know that during the dark hours, the light of the gospel will shine brighter. Therefore, we have hope in the power of the gospel that can re-unite!

We have been encouraged to see the many efforts being made by the local churches in Bangui and around Central African Republic. However, they are unable to carry a burden of this magnitude alone. We need both the local and global churches to play a role also.

God has given us this amazing opportunity to join Him in restoring lives of these families. May we not let it pass us by or the enemy will continue to destroy.

Because of your generosity, seven families representing 48 people were blessed with an Emergency Kit.

Go to <u>iuliesheartcry.org</u> to make a donation for future aid.

All donations are tax deductible.



## A Look Into Their Lives

The effects of this ongoing war have destroyed many lives, homes, churches, crops and livestock. The devastation is hard to understand, but here is a small picture of what these families have experienced.

Imagine being brutally awakened at 3am by gunshots and screaming people. Your house is on fire and you must gather your family and run for your life with whatever you went to bed with. Do you sleep with your wallet? The majority of families on the run or who have made it to safety are without any identification.

As they run, families often get separated. Children lost in the chaos are captured by the rebels, crammed in a hut and are burned alive. Such are the horrors that our brothers and sisters in Christ are going through as well as non-believers.

Life on the run has badly damaged the health of the displaced people. Imagine the impact of having to drink swamp water, being bitten by more mosquitoes and bugs than you and I could possibly imagine, or finding a hiding spot under some thick grass for you and your children, only to notice a corpse next to you.

The war didn't leave them simply because they left the location. The effects of what they have seen, heard and experienced during the war has left them with traumatic memories that will have a long term effect if the light of the gospel is not shined on the many shattered hearts and minds.



Picture:
people
from the
Internally
Displaced
People
(IDP) camp
in Satéma

## **Next Steps**

We have purchased land and are looking to buy more with plans to build transitional homes. Families will be able to stay in these homes up to 5 years and farm 1 acre lots to support themselves. While the funds are being raised to purchase land and build the homes, the families are staying at Irene's Home for Hope in Bangui.

I'm planning on traveling back in September after having a major fundraising in August.

Would you please consider joining me in prayer and financial support as we continue to provide for our brothers and sisters in Christ? Letting them know that they are loved, welcome and we are here as the body of Christ to come along their side in their time of need.

Thank you for your support! I could not have accomplished or had such an impact in the lives of so many families without you.

Julie Mad-Bondo