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Cuban Hurricane Victims Not Forgotten Global Aid Network Dispatches Meals to Feed Close to 47,000 Cubans

DALLAS, Texas, Dec. 19, 2016 —While many recent hurricane headlines focused on Haiti, hundreds of families in Cuba are still reeling from the destruction left by Hurricane Matthew. Global Aid Network® (GAIN®), the humanitarian partner of Cru®, is working to provide meals to hurricane victims with the permission of the Cuban government. Two 40-foot containers of food provisions are estimated to arrive at the port of Santiago de Cuba on December 24, and a third container with a variety of requested items will be shipped in early 2017.

“The Baracoa area in Eastern Cuba was the hardest hit,” said Al Goff, president and CEO of GAIN. “Houses were leveled, crops were destroyed, and water sources were polluted. Our partners are already on the ground helping with shelter and food distribution, and trying to find clean water sources. They have asked for our help to provide emergency food.”

Both containers of food were shipped from the GAIN Logistics Center located in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania. The first container carries rice and beans; the second carries rice, beans and lentils. These loads were shipped during the annual fall GAIN packing project involving more than 2,000 volunteers from across the U.S. during the span of four days. GAIN partnered with Baptist Global Response, East-West Ministries, International Mission Board and the disaster relief ministry of Texas Baptist Men to coordinate the shipment.

“The destruction is great. Most of our churches and more than 100 homes have been damaged, many completely destroyed,” said a Cuban leader requesting aid. “Thank you for your love and concern in helping Cuba in these days of destruction.”

“Our goal is to demonstrate the kindness of God in places like Cuba where people are without help and hope,” Goff said. “Our prayer is that this food, care and support will demonstrate kindness to people who are disaster victims, relieve their suffering, and reveal hope.”

In addition to the food sent to Cuba, GAIN previously shipped relief aid including rice and beans, medical supplies, new clothes, blankets, crutches and walkers to help hurricane victims in Haiti.

GAIN is also providing supplies and coaching to Cru campus staff members in North Carolina for the purpose of ministering to domestic flood victims in partnership with North Carolina Baptist Men Disaster Relief.

As the humanitarian partner of Cru, Dallas-based Global Aid Network expresses the love of Jesus Christ in the toughest places on earth by relieving suffering, restoring dignity and revealing hope. GAIN accomplishes its mission, in partnership with international Cru ministries in more than 191 countries, through food, agriculture, clean water and critical aid.

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