



September 2024

S. Ohio/KY Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) continues to have many opportunities to serve those in need. Our early support of survivors is in the form of Church World Service kits or childcare provided by Children's Disaster Services. Later many survivors need help with rebuilding their home due to having no insurance or being under insured. We are blessed with the organization and leadership at the national level of BDM and Church World Service. We work with them and have strong support from within the S. Ohio/Kentucky District. Together we serve Christ as we work to meet the needs of disaster survivors.

Since District Conference last October, 104 **volunteers** have been on 13 trips to rebuild homes damaged by floods and tornados. They served in three locations in Kentucky: Dawson Springs, Jackson, and Letcher County. These rebuilding trips cost S. Ohio/KY BDM about \$3,700. We received donations of 28 comforters from Salem and Olivet congregations. These will be taken to eastern KY to help survivors of the flooding of July 2022. With Children's Disaster Services (CDS), there have been three deployments, with eight workers. These were to Oak Park, IL, Russell's Point/Lakeview, OH, and Little Rock, AR. Locally, five BDM volunteers helped the East Dayton Fellowship prepare a garage to be used as a food pantry.

As we **partner with Church World Service (CWS)**, 116 workers attended Sewing Bees, held monthly from February through October at Greenville COB and Eaton Community Church. The workers have sewn school bags and prepped supplies for the CWS kits. Since last District Conference, we have sent to the Brethren Service Center 528 cleanup buckets, 2,950 school kits, and 1,370 hygiene kits. These were assembled by 225 workers who attended the assemblies. About \$44,000 was spent by S. Ohio/KY BDM for these kits, buckets, and the shipping to help the kits get from the Brethren Service Center to the point of need.

Many people have worked very hard **raising funds**, holding an annual Ice Cream Social, Golf Scramble, and parking cars at the Darke County Fair. These, along with Kroger Community Rewards, total about \$16,600. Many individuals and churches have also donated to S. Ohio/KY BDM, blessing the ministry through their faithful giving of resources. These funds make it possible for volunteers to go on trips at no cost to themselves. It also enables us to provide kits/buckets to Church World Service. We appreciate the prayer, encouragement, and financial support of our District, which makes this ministry possible.

For more information and involvement in BDM, you are invited to our **monthly meetings** held on the first Thursday of the month (except Aug. & Dec.) at Mill Ridge Village Community Center, 1000 Mill Ridge Circle, Union, OH. Fellowship time is at 6:30 PM, and the meeting begins at 7:00 PM. Please join us!