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Honoring Quilters and Helping Refugees Worldwide

Mount Joy, PA, March 18 — Since 1991 the art form of quilting has been honored on the third Saturday in March. In fact, all of March is Quilting Month. This ancient art form has kept families warm and connected through the generations. Now local quilters, and even non-quilters, can connect to and keep refugees warm as well.

To help meet refugee needs, a team of volunteers sews quilts every Wednesday morning at the Global Aid Network® (GAiN®) Logistics Center in Mount Joy. But more quilters, blankets, and supplies are needed.

“Blankets are one of the most requested items we ship,” Rosalie Welsh, GAiN blanket volunteer coordinator, said. “For many people it is one of the last things they will purchase because food and medicine come first. ... We want to send them a good, sturdy, beautiful blanket. ... A blanket or quilt says that the giver has thought beyond the basic needs of food and water — giving a gift that is useful and conveys the message of love.”

More than 65 million people worldwide are now forcibly displaced as a result of conflict and persecution within their countries. Because of natural and man-made disasters, GAiN receives requests from trusted partners around the world for aid such as food, medical supplies, and especially blankets.

“Currently we are in great need of backing for quilt tops we have already made,” Welsh said. “The gift of a five-yard length of 100 percent cotton quilting fabric would match up with these quilt tops and finish this gift of love and warmth.”

Donations can be mailed to or dropped off at the GAiN Logistics Center. GAiN also needs help assembling the quilts. Join the volunteers from 8:30 a.m. to noon every Wednesday. No sewing experience is necessary.

“Quilts have been a family tradition for centuries,” Welsh said. “We adopt the refugees into our proverbial family by sharing the gift of a quilt.”

About Global Aid Network (GAiN):

As the humanitarian partner of Cru®, GAiN expresses the love of Jesus Christ in the toughest places on earth by relieving suffering, restoring dignity, and revealing hope. We accomplish our mission, in partnership with international Cru ministries, through food and agriculture, clean water, and critical aid. Our partners at Cru work in more than 191 countries in the world.

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RELIEVE SUFFERING | RESTORE DIGNITY | REVEAL HOPE

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