

## ADRA Ambassadors Meeting - 25 May 2025

### Agenda

- Welcome and prayer
- 2025 Annual Appeal Update and Check-in
- ADRA Certificates
- Update on Myanmar Earthquake Emergency Appeal
- New Project in Somalia
- ADRA Art Contest Awards Ceremony | World Refugee Sabbath
- DFRO Update and Check-in
- Questions / Comments

### MEETING NOTES

#### 2025 Annual Appeal Update and Check-In

- It was reported that ADRA have received £17,171.74 so far, in donation for the annual appeal. With just over a month to go, the team is aware that most churches' activities are still ongoing with some scheduled to take place over the summer.
- Petrian reminded the Ambassadors that - It is okay they have activities after the official annual appeal period.
- The Ambassadors shared information on their activities so far. Some of what was shared include:
  - Coventry Central SDA Church shared that the children were keen to get coin cards and are excited to be involved. A goal of £50 per member has been given to their members. There is an increase in the number of persons who have collected an envelope this year compared to last year.
  - Torquay SDA Church Ambassador shared that they do a fundraising car boot sale every Sunday (weather permitting) to raise funds on an ongoing basis for ADRA. They also hosted a sing-along at their church for the annual appeal which they have done the year before. She found it a bit more difficult to organise this year. Attendee numbers were less than she expected but it was a joyful atmosphere. The funds raised was matched by a donor, so they were very grateful to donate £2,000 towards the annual appeal as a result. Photos and a video clip were shared from this event.
  - Basildon SDA Church Women Ministry Dept. hosted a fundraising tea party to raise funds for the annual appeal. They had over 50 attendees which included members and persons from the community and local church members of other Christian denominations and religious faiths. A total of £1,400 was raised for ADRA. Photo highlights were shown from this event.
  - Birmingham Yardley SDA representative explained that he was joining the meeting from his hospital bed. He had a lot of ideas including to do a

concert with his Pathfinder club. (Sandra Golding, CEO of ADRA-UK lead out in a season of prayer for him).

- Some Ambassadors shared that they are having **challenges to get the funds raised to ADRA**.
  - One Ambassador said they paid the money to their personal account then transfer online to ADRA's account. – Sandra Golding encouraged the Ambassadors to pay the funds into their church's account and then ask the church's treasurer to transfer the funds to ADRA.
  - Ambassador from Ipswich explained that she used to deposit the funds to her own account then transfer it to ADRA's account too. – Sandra explained that she will arrange a meeting with ADCOM to review the process. She emphasised that the preference would be to work with the church's treasurer and have them put the funds into the church's account and then make an online transfer to ADRA's account.
  - Ambassador from Northampton Central SDA said that the church treasurer could take the donation and write a cheque to ADRA for the amount, which could then be sent to ADRA via post or deposited to ADRA's account.
  - Peterborough Ambassador shared that they are also a Treasurer at their church and their process is to collect all cash donations for ADRA, then send 1 cheque of the total amount to ADRA from the church.
  - Hampstead SDA Church reported that money collected was sent to the ADRA office with someone.

### **ADRA Certificates**

- Two certificates were shared with ambassadors. These will be available on the 'Ambassadors Only' page. Ambassadors can access these certificates and use them as tokens of appreciation to persons supporting ADRA. There is 1 design for adults, and another certificate which can be used for children.

### **Update on Myanmar Earthquake Emergency Appeal**

- ADRA-UK reported that £10,850 has been raised so far for the Myanmar Emergency Earthquake appeal.
- About 2 million people are still in urgent need.
- Please share the link to encourage donations. See the following link on our website for more information or to donate: <https://adra.org.uk/myanmar-earthquake-appeal/> This link can also be shared with others to mobilise support.

### **New ADRA Project in Somalia**

- An overview was provided of a new project to benefit people in need in Somalia. The project is called – **Advancing Circular Technologies for Infrastructure and Value-Chain Enhancement (ACTIVE)** Project. The project has just started and will run from 2025 to 2028. ADRA-UK team recently visited with our partners to conduct training to local partners who are part of the implementation team on the ground.

- The project will contribute to sustainable economic growth by empowering Somali communities to have climate resilient infrastructure.
- 50,000 persons will benefit from improved water access
- 100 small businesses in the renewable energy sector will receive training and support.

#### **ADRA Europe ART Contest Update / World Refugee Sabbath – June 21<sup>st</sup>**

- ADRA Europe ART Contest 2025 Awards ceremony will be aired on World Refugee Sabbath June 21<sup>st</sup> via ADRA Europe YouTube channel. See details on the following link: <https://adra.eu/get-involved/art-contest-2/>
- The Art contest saw a record number of entries (274), which was subsequently shortlisted to 16 finalists across the categories of the competition for the public vote. The winners will be announced during the ceremony.
- All the entries were meant to capture the theme: **Hearts and Hands: Caring for Refugees**. The art contest is one of the ways ADRA builds awareness about Refugees and mobilise support for the Refugee community. Art is a powerful tool which has the power to capture hearts and change minds. So please support by sharing with your churches and communities.
- We encourage ambassadors to do something to help support the cause for Refugees on this day by:
  - Sharing the link to the art pieces and also for the award ceremony.
  - Hosting a watch party with your church / community and art lovers – this could help mobilise support and interest for next year's competition.
  - Do a children's story about Refugees or have a focus spot during your service to share something. (Resources will be provided)
  - Share resources with your Communications and Media Team to do post on social media or during church announcements or Personal Ministry spot.

#### **Disaster and Famine Relief Offering 2025 (DFRO) Resources**

- Resources were shared for the annual DFRO collection. The resources are accessible in the 'Ambassador only' page. These were sent to all Ambassadors as well as all church Pastors across the BUC. The resources include:
  - A poster – with QR code to landing page with more information and to make donation online.
  - DFRO Letter – which explains the DFRO and what to do etc...
  - 2 promotional videos – these were played during the meeting so ambassadors could see them.
- Ambassadors should speak to their Pastors, First Elders and Treasurers to arrange the DFRO collection.
- Ambassadors are to inform ADRA (Petrian) of the date the DFRO collection will be held at their churches.

## Q&A | Comments

### General question

- Ambassador from Kingstanding SDA Church requested assistance / guidance on organising a Bake-Off Competition and Sale for the church's fundraising activity.  
– Petrian will get in touch to assist.

### Actions

- Petrian to send 'Children Story' and resources for World Refugee Sabbath
- Petrian to speak to Ambassador from Kingstanding SDA about her Fundraising activity.
- Sandra to speak to ADCOM to review process of getting money from churches directly into ADRA's account.