

# Building HOPE



MDS volunteers served  
**52,027 days**  
helping  
**513 households**  
recover from disaster.

**"If my mother could see me now."**

MDS volunteers built Betty Holloway (pictured left) a new home in Moss Point, Mississippi, after a tornado ripped through the town in June 2023. When Betty moved in a year later, she was remembering her mother, who passed away before the storm.

"If she could see me now—my mother would be 109 years old," said Betty. Many of the damaged homes, like Betty's had been in families for generations.

Speaking of generations, many young people volunteered not only in Moss Point but across the U.S. and Canada. As Kari Weaver, 20, from Apple Creek, Ohio, volunteered in Moss Point, she said she simply really enjoyed serving others. "I had more fun here than I did on vacation," she said.

The impact MDS has on disaster survivors is often indescribable. After MDS helped Jade Shamen from British Columbia build a new home in the wake of a wildfire, Jade said: "It is a tremendous thing to have this happen. To have a house built for you, it's beyond words."

**For all the volunteers who swung hammers, prayed, crafted wall hangings, cooked, or lended a listening ear,  
THANK YOU!**



**6,486 volunteers**  
from across Canada and the U.S.  
gave their time, skills  
and compassion to build  
**135 new homes,**  
complete  
**287 repairs,**  
finish  
**49 cleanups,**  
and build  
**9 new bridges**  
for households who  
experienced a disaster.

This volunteer labor is a value\* of  
**\$13.94 million USD/  
\$19.23 million CAD**

All statistics from 8/1/2023 through 7/31/2024.  
\*Labor value based on a volunteer rate of \$33.49 USD/hour. (www.independentsector.org)



## Respond. Rebuild. Restore.



**Mennonite  
Disaster  
Service**

[www.mds.org](http://www.mds.org)

**MDS U.S. Office**  
583 Airport Lititz  
PA 17543 USA  
tel: 717-735-3536  
fax: 717-735-0809  
toll-free: 800-241-8111  
[mdsus@mds.org](mailto:mdsus@mds.org)

**MDS Canada Office**  
200-600 Shaftesbury Blvd.  
Winnipeg, MB R3P 2J1 Canada  
tel: 204-261-1274  
fax: 204-261-1279  
toll-free: 866-261-1274  
[mdscanada@mds.org](mailto:mdscanada@mds.org)