

ENDING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

There are no easy answers or quick fixes when it comes to addressing the cycle of poverty. But that's no reason to ignore it. The complex economic, social and spiritual issues related to poverty demand a comprehensive and multi-pronged response.

Through its agencies and partners, the Christian Reformed Church is walking with the poor, seeking to fulfill God's call to defend the cause of the weak and fatherless and stand up for the rights of the oppressed (Psalm 82).

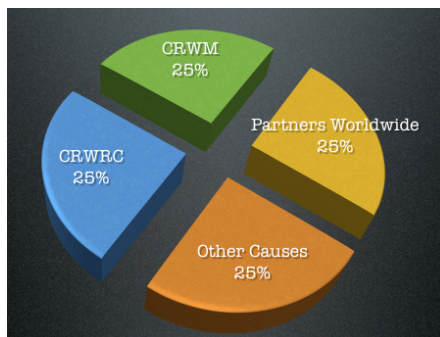
The Sea to Sea 2008 Bike Tour serves as a way to further enable the church and society to respond to that call. Individuals, groups and congregations are encouraged to get active in serving the poor in some new way, whether in their own community or half a world away.

Funds generated through the tour will be used to support new or ongoing initiatives in at least three areas of development (see right)—each one ending the cycle of poverty for individuals, families and communities in places all over the world. The primary agencies through which these projects are carried out are:

- *The Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC)*
- *Christian Reformed World Missions*
- *Partners Worldwide*

One quarter of tour proceeds will be available as grants to churches and para-church organizations involved in ministry with and for the poor.

For questions on fund-raising or corporate sponsorship, please call Al Vander Hart, 616-437-7522.



1-888-CRC-BIKE
www.SeatoSea.org

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (job creation)



through access to capital and a revolving loan fund.

- Building a network of successful Christian business people who, through direct involvement, share skills, resources and entrepreneurial acumen for mutual learning and benefit.
- Offering community-based loans so people can invest in their small business to generate income.
- Creating and maintaining quality employment

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (health services)



- Helping local recovery organizations move from emergency response following a disaster to addressing the long-term needs of their community.

- Working with poor farmers to help them improve their agriculture techniques, create greater crop yields, and protect the environment.
- Mitigating the spread and impact of HIV/AIDS in more than 13 countries where, because the income-generating population is all but wiped out, many villages are trapped in a cycle of poverty.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (education)



meet the physical and spiritual needs of those in poverty.

- Teaching leaders the fundamentals of good business practice and challenging people to understand that business is ministry.
- Discipling believers to be radical followers of Jesus who live with sensitivity to their culture but not in subjection to it.

- Addressing negative patterns of leadership that enrich a few at the expense of many and perpetuate systemic injustice.
- Advocating for the oppressed and offering training in civil rights, human rights, peace-building, and biblical justice.
- Ensuring a strong, Christian leadership at the community level so that outreach programs