



TYPHOON HAIYAN – PHILIPPINES

On November 8, 2013, typhoon Haiyan, struck the Philippines destroying coastal areas with torrential rain and winds over 195mph. Millions have been affected with more than 5, 000 fatalities and hundreds of thousands who have been displaced from their homes. For those who have survived, emergency shelter, food, and clean water have been urgently needed. One of the key roles of a mental health team during an acute phase of an emergency is to provide social interventions that contribute to stabilizing and ensuring that basic needs of individuals and families (i.e. food, shelter, security, water/sanitation, disease control, and access to health care) are met. PGTN has supported the relief effort during this phase through providing funds which have been used to supply individuals and families (located in areas such as the Libacao Province that have been particularly difficult to access) with emergency shelter materials. The effort has been a collaboration between local government officials and community leaders in the affected regions and a community organization in the US (Crossroads Grace Church/ Northern California).