

PRESS RELEASE



Hearts with Hands

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Hearts With Hands Disaster Relief Responds to Deadly Earthquakes in Turkey

Swannanoa, NC, February 20, 2023: 7:00 PM EST. || A shipment left the Hearts with Hands warehouse this evening, carrying 26,810 lbs of relief supplies, to aid in relief efforts after devastating earthquake in Turkey. 1,200 Box of Hope, non-perishable food boxes, as well as meal kits, blankets, hygiene kits, tarps, cleaning supplies and soccer balls were transported to Ohio, where they will be added into a cargo shipment, airlifted to Turkey in the next several days. For more information about Hearts with Hands relief efforts in Turkey, please visit our Facebook page, or website heartswithhands.org

Swannanoa, NC, February 18, 2023: 8:00 AM EST. || The tent arrived in Antakya, Turkey and the team began setup, with assistance from Turkish Government, and Turkish Army Commandos. The camp where the team was operating was in the Province of Hatay, and named "Camp Muzette" in honor of the late Muzette Sexton who was instrumental in founding Hearts with Hands. The tent setup was complete and will operate as a hub for the food, water and disaster relief efforts, helping victims and families of those who have lost so much. Live updates from Turkey were provided by Hearts with Hands Director, Greg Lentz, on Facebook, before the team returned to North Carolina. Additional relief supplies are being prepared for shipment at the Hearts with Hands warehouse.

Swannanoa, NC, February 12, 2023: 8:00 AM EST. || Hearts with Hands is partnering with Dr. Ralph Sexton (Ralph Sexton Ministries), Hearts with Hands founder and Pastor Winston Parrish, and Trinity Baptist Church of Asheville, NC, to provide shelter and supply goods to the survivors of the earthquakes in Turkey. Ralph Sexton Ministries (RSM) has donated their 37,000-square-foot ministry tent to provide aid in Turkey. The tent departed the Hearts with Hands warehouse headed for JFK Cargo Terminal for immediate preparation for air freight. Turkish Air has donated the space on their 747 cargo plane to take the tent. The tent will depart in the middle of the night, very early Monday morning.

The tent will be set up in Marash, Turkey, or as it's known in Turkey Kahramanmaraş. The tent will be used for housing at the quake's epicenter. The earthquake has been named for this city.

Pastor Winston of Trinity Baptist and Andrew Winebarger land in Istanbul Monday and will begin logistics operations to find a location for the tent, coordinating with Turkish Military and Emergency Services, known in Turkey as AFDA. They will also assess the damage and visit families who've lost loved ones in the earthquake.

Dr. Greg Lentz, Hearts with Hands Director, and the rest of the team will come to Turkey on Tuesday and take a connecting flight from Istanbul to Adana, Turkey, where they will meet up with Pastor Winston and Andrew. The team will assemble as quickly as possible and work to get the tent in the air while also accomplishing the task of teaching Turkish Emergency Services about the maintenance and operation of the 37,000-square-foot tent.

Hearts With Hands was founded following Hurricane Andrew in 1992 by Dr. Ralph Sexton, Jr. in Asheville, North Carolina. Hearts With Hands is currently directed by Evangelist Greg Lentz (Greg Lentz Ministries) and is a Christian, nondenominational, humanitarian, non-profit 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. Hearts With Hands provides physical, spiritual, medical, economic and other necessary aid to victims of poverty, natural disaster, or famine. "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" I John 3:17