

What Can I Do?

We can lead the way by putting faith into action through two concrete actions that are distinct yet complementary: **advocacy and fundraising**.

WHY ADVOCATE?

Part of leading the way means looking at the bigger picture and imagining what can—and should—be. In this, **we are challenged to address structural issues in our world that prevent individuals and communities from thriving**. Advocacy is one important way to do this.

Advocacy is the act or process of supporting a cause or proposal. It includes various strategies that influence decision making at local, national and international levels. Advocacy is generally organized around the resolution of a problem. It can include using multimedia to form public opinion, educate decision makers, organize public events, research issues and create coalitions.

Effective advocacy requires an understanding of the problem, analysis of the political environment and a proposal for its solution. Advocacy encompasses the education and mobilization of citizens so they can become involved in developing and promoting policies.

Advocacy is one of the most effective ways to ease human suffering and confront global poverty for the long term. When an unjust policy or system is changed because of our advocacy efforts, millions of people win.

WHY DONATE OR FUNDRAISE?

Our efforts to build the world we believe God desires requires bold, imaginative thinking about the future and a clear, empathetic understanding of the present. That means we are called to meet the needs of people right now.

Charitable works are the ways in which we provide support for emergencies and immediate assistance for those in need. We are called to provide immediate relief to migrants and refugees, including shelter, food and other basic necessities. We must also help those experiencing hunger. Through food, education, job training and agricultural support, we can provide families with the tools they need to thrive and have sustainable livelihoods. All of these meet immediate needs through charitable works.

Your financial support—through a direct donation or by joining us in one of our community fundraising opportunities—helps us meet the needs of those who are most vulnerable. You are also helping build a world where communities everywhere have what they need to thrive. We actively work for systemic changes through advocacy, and support the needs of those trapped by the systems we are working to change through charitable works.

Join us at crs.org/leadtheway

and by texting LEAD
NOW to 306-44