



Ten years and counting...

Continuing to express our values of care and compassion into the next decade and beyond.

2023 GLOBAL RRT ANNUAL REVIEW

RRT and our volunteers are
inspired by community spirit
and the gift of giving

rrt
RAPID
RELIEF
TEAM



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Global Managing Director's Report

RON ARKCOLL



Volunteering since 2013

Reflecting on the past 10 years, I can say it only seems like yesterday when we established RRT, enabling us to increase our support to emergency services and various government agencies during natural disasters.

The catalyst to formally establishing RRT came in 2011 when a catastrophic earthquake hit Christchurch, New Zealand. Over 100 church volunteers each day for over a week provided up to 2,000 meals a day to over 750 rescue workers leading the recovery effort. Through this experience we recognised the value we could offer agencies and victims of emergencies or natural disasters and that this service had potential for global scale.

The starting point was creating a structure of willing volunteers who could work under a single charitable entity. The framework would allow efficient and timely responses to communities in need. And so, the Rapid Relief Team was inaugurated in Sydney in 2013, with New Zealand officially established in 2014.

Our offer swiftly evolved from reactive responses to engaging with charities, local government, and aid agencies where the Brethren communities live and work. We proactively sought collaborations where we could serve our communities while helping these organisations achieve their own goals.

Consequently, our focus areas expanded from Emergency & Disaster Relief, to include Youth, Health & Disability, as well as Homelessness, Poverty & Hardship. Our offer has also broadened beyond catering to include equipment and products specifically tailored to meet the unique requirements of those in need.

The RRT Food Box, an idea from RRT New Zealand, was created to support victims of domestic violence. It has evolved into a global product that provides emergency food supplies to families in crisis. Another global initiative, first proposed by RRT Sweden, was a nutritious

ration pack. The Frontline Snack Pack has enabled us to increase effective support to first responders. In Australia, our bespoke Rapid Water Systems were developed to increase firefighting efficiency by bringing previously inaccessible water closer to the fire front. These are just a few of the innovative ideas that have come from our volunteers that are now core to our offer.

Over the years our teams have supported a broad range of emergency and disaster efforts. Some of the most notable include the 2017 Grenfell Tower fire in the UK where over 630 man hours, 45 volunteers provided over 5,500 meals to first responders.

From 2017 through to 2019, much of Australia experienced severe drought with the period noted as one of the country's worst. Raising over \$3 million, 12,500 bales of hay were freighted from Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia to thousands of farmers in Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland.

However, our most significant effort has been Operation 322. This campaign has provided support to Ukrainian refugees since March 2022. Globally we raised over AU\$8 million to fund 10.8 million meals via RRT Food Boxes and other essential care items.

The journey of the past decade has been remarkable.

What began as a response to a devastating earthquake has blossomed into a global force of 14,500 volunteers in 14 countries striving to support those in need.

To all those volunteers, who have tenaciously harnessed a humble idea, I say thank you. You have created an enduring foundation ensuring RRT will continue to express our values of care and compassion into the next decade and beyond.

GLOBAL STATISTICS

Global 2023 Statistics

1,407
EVENTS 

TOTAL MEALS SERVED
376,203 

 **61,805**
VOLUNTEER HOURS GIFTED

FOOD BOX
DONATIONS 
43,141

FOOD BOX
MEALS 
1,035,384

37,997 
FRONTLINE SNACK PACKS

 **15,987**
COMFORT SNACK PACKS

SMARRT
COOKIE BARS 
176,150

 **52**
ESSENTIALS BOX

 CARE KITS
15,983

286
EBL KITS 

Our statistics tell a narrative of a dedicated global effort to provide moments of appreciation, hope, or temporary relief to those in need.

ABOUT US

The Rapid Relief Team (RRT) is a global charity offering compassionate support to communities impacted by natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

RRT proactively and reactively expands its support to meet the need at hand. We have a dedicated network of 14,500 volunteers across 14 countries, ready to mobilise rapidly to support communities facing emergencies, disasters, homelessness, hardship or issues related to youth, health or disability.

Established by the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (PBCC) in 2013, RRT is led by the Christian principles of care and compassion.

 **14,500**
VOLUNTEERS

ACROSS COUNTRIES **14** 

OUR MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

Mission

To serve people with care and compassion in their time of need.

Vision

For the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (PBCC) to express Christian principles of care and compassion by way of benevolent relief to people in need.

Values



Global Team



Community Care



Compassion



Consistency



RRT's Global Footprint

Spanning 14 countries and supported by 14,500 volunteers, our actions are as varied as the people we serve. From delivering Food Boxes to displaced Ukrainian refugees to providing meals to frontline crews, we are steadfast in our commitment to giving back to the communities where we live and work.





WHO WE SUPPORT

RRT's aim is to support governments, charities, and emergency services in times of need. We provide benevolent support across four key areas of focus.



01. Emergency and Disaster Relief

RRT provides highly regarded rapid support to emergency services and frontline workers that range from volunteers and equipment to quality food and refreshments.

OUR AIM: *to provide tangible action to agencies in times of crisis with RRT's unique assets and initiatives.*



02. Youth

RRT is aware that our youth is the hope of our future. Therefore, we work with youth-focused charities to achieve their goals, develop unique initiatives, or provide quality catered events.

OUR AIM: *to support and empower young people to excel beyond adversity.*



03. Health and Disability

RRT engages with a selection of government-based organisations and charities to support a diverse range of activities. This includes raising funds and awareness for cancer research and disease cures, supporting the empowerment of those living with a disability or facing health adversities, or providing moments of appreciation for carer support organisations, hospitals, and staff.

OUR AIM: *to collaborate with relevant organisations to support their fundraising efforts, empower the disabled, or appreciate frontline workers.*



04. Homelessness, Poverty, and Hardship

RRT works across the globe with charitable organisations that seek to bridge the gap for the homeless. We support these efforts with catered meals and the donation of essential items.

OUR AIM: *to provide charitable organisations with quality catering and other essential items for distribution to those in need.*

10 YEAR TIMELINE: RRT Highlights

2013

Australia

Just one month after being incorporated, volunteers were called out to support fires in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney. RRT supported emergency services for 10 days, supplying over 8,000 meals, and providing 566 volunteer hours.

Germany

Volunteers mobilised to fill 100,000 sandbags to help residents of Lauenburg when the Elbe River rose to its highest peak since the 1500s resulting in severe flooding in eastern Germany.



2014

Australia

The first of our iconic BBQ trailers was deployed. The creative design remains the same 10 years on.

United Kingdom

When Somerset experienced the worst flooding in decades with many residents displaced, RRT stepped in to provide sandbags and refreshments to affected locals.



2015

Australia

2015 was the first time RRT supported Hutt St in their Walk a Mile in My Boots event in McLaren Vale and Adelaide. Eight years later, RRT continues to support Hutt St in their fight against homelessness.

New Zealand

This year, RRT received their first BBQ trailer and their first collaboration with the Napier Soup Kitchen providing hot food, water and blankets to the homeless.

United Kingdom

When an electrical fault caused a massive fire in the Holborn Underground leading to a mass power outage and the evacuation of 5,000 residents, RRT supported firefighters and residents during the 36 hours it took to control the blaze.

Caribbean

When Tropical Storm Erika hit Dominica, it became the island's deadliest natural disaster since 1979. RRT responded to the call providing humanitarian relief in their first ever reactive event.



France

Within the space of a few months, RRT responded to three emergency and disaster scenarios. The teams were on the ground supporting search and rescue teams in the Provence Alps at the site of the Germanwings plane crash, followed by supporting firefighters battling a large blaze in an industrial warehouse north of Paris, and then when severe storms hit France's south causing major flooding, RRT volunteers assisted the cleanup effort in Nîmes and Alès.

2016

United Kingdom

A large building partially collapsed at Didcot Power Station, Oxfordshire when demolition preparations were occurring. RRT supported emergency services during the 24-hour rescue and recovery mission.

Italy

After a deadly 6.2 magnitude earthquake struck the province of Rieti, RRT volunteers responded to support rescue workers in the hardest hit town of Amatrice, serving 4,000 meals over 4 days.



2017

Australia

Our iconic Coffee Trailer fully fitted with barista-grade machines with capacity to produce 800 coffees per hour was launched.

New Zealand

When the North Island's small town of Edgecumbe was hit by a once in a 500-year flood, 17 volunteers, donated 240 hours over 10 days to serve up 635 meals to emergency services working to support residents.

10 YEAR TIMELINE: RRT Highlights *(continued)*

United Kingdom

When a fire engulfed the residential Grenfell Tower, RRT provided over 630 hours, 45 volunteers provided over 5,500 meals to support first responders as they fought the blaze.

France

RRT mobilised at the Bormes Les Mimosas command post when during a fire which rapidly destroyed 1,600 ha of forest in the Provence region. RRT teams worked in shifts for 3 days and 2 nights to support more than 600 firefighters from all over France.

Italy

On a mountain above the town of Rigopiano, 200 emergency personnel gathered at the site for the first of what was one of Europe's deadliest avalanches. RRT provided all the meals for the teams for the five-day operation.



2018

Australia

49% of agricultural land in SE Australia was experiencing one in 20-year drought conditions. RRT launched Operation Drought Relief providing over \$3 million worth of assistance to impacted farmers, including over 12,000 bales of hay, and over \$170,000 in food coupons for families in need.

New Zealand

Wanting to support families and individuals impacted by domestic violence the RRT volunteers in Papakura launched the Food Box initiative. The Food Box is now a global product, supporting a diverse range of recipients including those experiencing food insecurity through financial hardship or that who have been displaced due to natural disasters or humanitarian crises.

Caribbean

Three days of torrential rains in October saw extensive flooding in parts of Trinidad. Over two days RRT provided 1,000 meals to families and rescue personnel working in St Helena and Kelly Village.



2019

Global

RRT's ambassador, Cookie the Kookaburra was created to act as a global ambassador and help create emotional connections with our beneficiaries. The Kookaburra's infectious laugh is contagious, bright and happy, and reflects what our volunteers bring to each event.

Australia

In 2019 Australia experienced the worst fire season on record. The "Black Summer" fires were compounded by the extreme drought, leaving dry dams and a lack of accessible water for firefighters. In response, RRT developed the Rapid Water Systems, which enabled previously inaccessible water to be pumped to a central staging area near the front line.

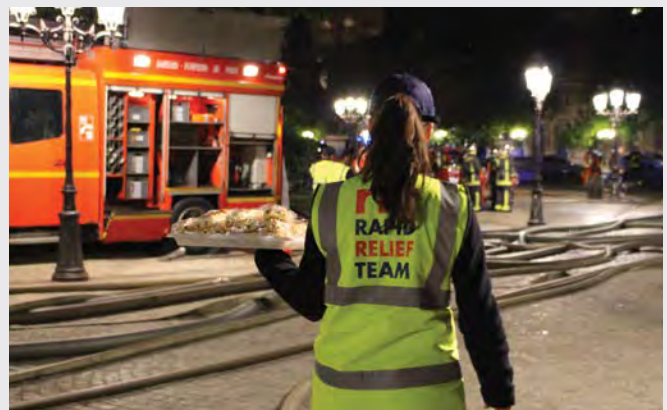
The success of Operation Drought Relief led to the delivery of what is now branded as Farmers Community Connect (FCC). Three FCC events provided 2,036 tonnes of livestock pellets helping 2,330 farmers through the worst drought in living memory.

France

The world watched as one of the most recognisable landmarks, Notre Dame, was engulfed by fire. RRT supported more than 400 firefighters with 700 meals and refreshments to help sustain their 15-hour long battle with the blaze.

North America

When the US government partially shut down, thousands of Federal Transport Security Administration (TSA) staff were left working without pay. RRT implemented their single largest national campaign to support furloughed staff donating 1,420 hours and 5,149 meals.



2020

Global

Using the latest technology available, RRT launched a refreshed website, creating an interactive site to update donors and individuals on RRT's global impact.

Sweden

Snack Packs were an initiative that was born out of a desire to increase our ability to provide support to emergency services or temporary relief to those facing financial hardship. These vacuum-packed, Frontline Snack Packs act as ration packs to provide fuel on the run for high-pressure emergencies. Comfort Snack Packs's goal was to bring temporary relief to people facing financial hardship.

10 YEAR TIMELINE: RRT Highlights *(continued)*



Caribbean

RRT worked with the Prime Minister's Wife, the Honourable Juliet Holness to provide over 4,500 Food Boxes to families facing food insecurity. This also marked the official launch of our Food Box initiative in the Caribbean.

North America

When for the first time in three years, the strongest-rated tornado hit the town of Cookeville in Putnam County, 80 miles north of Nashville, RRT volunteers were on the ground providing victims and volunteers with hot meals and refreshments during the clean up effort.

New Zealand

Super Saturday Vaxathon saw RRT support the Ministry of Health in encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations. Setting a record, 201 volunteers delivered 19 events over 1,051 hours and provided 11,723 meals.

Germany

Torrential rain in western Germany resulted in the Ahr River bursting its banks, causing dramatic flooding. In just 72 hours RRT volunteers served over 5,000 hot meals and provided 2,000 Frontline Snack Packs to the army who led rescue operations across 10 provinces.

Caribbean

In an event that lasted two weeks, La Soufriere Volcano erupted on the island of St. Vincent, displacing over 20,000 individuals across the eastern Caribbean. RRT St Vincent joined forces with neighbouring localities Jamaica and Barbados to deliver over 40,000 Food Boxes over four weeks in the Caribbean's largest operation.

2021

Global

RRT's core range of products expanded from Food Boxes, and Care Kits to include our Smarrt Cookie nutritional bars, Frontline and Comfort Snack Packs, and Baby Care Kits becoming a core part of our approach to providing relief to people in need.

Australia

In response to support severe flooding, RRT's new asset the Rapid Sandbagger was deployed, filling 1,500 sandbags per hour.





2022

Global

In response to the unfolding crisis in Ukraine, RRT launched Operation 322 just one week after the invasion to deliver humanitarian aid. 75 volunteers across Europe came together to pack as many as 5,000 meals a night. A global fundraising effort raised over GBP1 million in one week.

New Zealand

RRT responded to Christchurch Women's Hospital's shortage of newborn cots within the neonatal intensive care unit by donating 20 cots to meet growing demand.

United Kingdom

Throughout September, RRT supported the police services in London at the Queen's funeral and mourning period.

2023

Global

RRT acknowledged 10 years of helping people in need in September. To set the stage for the future, regional teams gathered and collaborated on ideas and shared experiences at 5 Ignite events around the globe. A bespoke RRT Lego-style set was created to commemorate the occasion.

RRT's support for Ukraine continued. At the end of 2023 449,801 Food Boxes equating to 10.8 million meals had been delivered, along with other essential items. RRT transitioned their support working with a local charity, Save UA.

New Zealand

New Zealand was devastated by Cyclone Gabrielle. RRT responded quickly, providing meals and resources to those in need. The teams served over 17,000 meals to emergency services and communities impacted, and donated 3,400 Food Boxes and 1,600 Care Kits to help those displaced.

Sweden

When a 7.8 magnitude earthquake levelled vast areas of Turkey, RRT teams in Sweden, sent 33 pallets of aid including 21,120 Frontline Snack Packs, and 3,276 Food Boxes.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

01. Emergency & Disaster Relief



Australia

2023 saw more frequent rather than large-scale natural disasters compared to previous years. However, fires were prevalent across most states, particularly Queensland where volunteers supported eight different fire events within 22 days. Our Rapid Water System (RWS) was deployed during Queensland's Millmerran fires. The RWS brings bulk water closer to the front line increasing the efficiency of firetruck's resupply.

The year closed out with a series of severe storms impacting SE Queensland. Over seven days, 55 volunteers from Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria served meals to emergency crews, or operated excavators, bobcats and trucks to help clear 3,000 cubic metres of debris.

New Zealand

Extreme weather events significantly impacted various regions which required coordinated response efforts. Unprecedented rain in the Auckland region resulted in widespread flooding, even impacting the international airport. Cyclone Gabrielle exacerbated the situation in Hawkes Bay and the East Coast. Local RRT NZ teams played a crucial role in providing meals, bottled water, Food Boxes, and Care Kits for evacuees and first responders.

The Farmers Community Connect (FCC) initiative ran later in the year, which sought to provide relief to those still experiencing the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle. Five events donated over \$1.9 million in fencing materials to 1,301 farmers to help them rebuild.



North America / Caribbean

In March an explosion ripped through the R.M. Palmer Company's Chocolate Factory in Pennsylvania. RRT NA were on site early Saturday morning serving meals to first responders until late Sunday as they worked to bring the situation under control.

When a massive fire started aboard the Grande Costa d'Avorio cargo ship in the Port of Newark, New Jersey RRT NA teams responded. Volunteers from Stamford, New York and Westfield covered breakfast, lunch and dinner shifts to serve over 1,300 meals to emergency personnel during the four days it took to contain the blaze.

As the year closed out, RRT volunteers from Oxbow braved freezing temperatures to support fire fighters battling a house fire.

RRT CAR supported the Barbados emergency management sectors with meals during a training session to prepare for the impending hurricane season. And when Trinidad experienced heavy rains displacing multiple families, RRT CAR provided immediate relief through the donation of multiple Food Boxes.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

01. Emergency & Disaster Relief



United Kingdom

RRT UK responded to 67 Emergency & Disaster Relief callouts including 42 fire-related incidents. The most significant incident was the Luton Airport car park explosion, which required a multi-agency response. Within 2 ½ hours of the incident occurring, RRT volunteers from Luton and Watford were on site, and worked to provide 650 meals throughout the evening and the next morning.

Argentina

In December, the city of Bahia Blanca was struck by a severe tropical storm which saw over 14,000 trees fall and left the city without power for a whole month. Gathering volunteers and an assortment of equipment, the teams, alongside local authorities, focused their clean-up efforts on Plaza Rivadavia in the town's main square.



Europe DE/SE/FR/NL/IT/DK/CH

RRT's support for those displaced by the Ukraine war continued. In 2023 this evolved to include a partnership with a local charity, Save UA. This organisation employs displaced Ukrainians to pack the RRT Food Boxes using locally sourced produce, helping support the livelihoods of local farmers.

Additional efforts to help others impacted by war were provided by RRT FR. Volunteers packed 2,600 Food Boxes which were delivered to Armenian refugees fleeing the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, located in the southwestern region of Azerbaijan.

When a fire broke out in a car workshop in Hohenahr-Erda, RRT DE volunteers were on site and served 180 meals to firefighters working to extinguish the blaze.

RRT DK collaborated with five fire stations across Denmark's capital city, Copenhagen. Danish volunteers supported their annual open days providing more than 3,000 meals across the different events, feeding firefighters and the local community who attended.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

02. Youth



Australia

RRT AU teams supported events and distributed products to various partners including multiple primary schools and high schools, including our Early Bird Leaning (EBL) kit and Smarrt Cookie bars. 777 Marathon events were held across multiple states which saw us support participants who raised money for Braveheart's child protection efforts. We also continued our collaboration with the Daniel Morcombe and Starlight Children's Foundations as well as Mission Australia.

Multiple events were delivered for organisations such as Create Foundation, One Culture Football Club, Headspace, Mission Australia, and the Special Children's Christmas Party, whose efforts are all focused on improving the circumstances of our youth.

New Zealand

RRT NZ's commitment to the Blue Light Youth Driver Training Program continued with the sponsoring of a fifth new vehicle. The program assists disadvantaged youth to obtain their driver's licence helping to overcome barriers to jobs, education, and training.

Other charities supported included Heartkids, Box on Boxing Competition, the Oamaru Multi Colour Dash and Little People of NZ. Over 4,200 FreshStart Care Kits were also distributed to low-decile schools throughout New Zealand to support the hygiene and empowerment of underprivileged youth.

We also served 9,250 meals to disadvantaged kids and their families during six Special Children's Christmas Party events.



North America / Caribbean

RRT NA collaborated with numerous youth-focused charities. Some highlights included providing a barbeque meal for kids at Rochester's Centre for Youth Services and supporting a community event for The Children's Aid Society of Oxford County.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

02. Youth



United Kingdom

RRT UK continued supporting education needs delivering 775 Early Bird Learning kits to 214 schools.

A highlight was supporting Portsmouth Down Syndrome Association which champions inclusion. They strive to provide equal opportunities for all youth and teach children the skills they need to succeed at school and become valued and productive members of their communities.

Argentina

In Buenos Aires, RRT ARG donated Food Boxes to Fundación Llegando a Vos, which works to improve the health and education of children and their families who live below the poverty line.



Europe DE/SE/FR/NL/IT/DK/CH

The Gardoise Child Rights Week held at the Pont du Gard in November recognises Universal Children's Rights Day. RRT FR was present to provide 450 snacks in support of children facing difficulties and precarious situations.

RRT DK supported "Natteravnene" (The Night Owls) for the first time. Night Owl volunteers roam the city streets in groups of three dressed in highly visible yellow jackets helping youths when they need an adult to talk to or may feel vulnerable and need help.

While RRT SE supported Monika Lindström with Snack Packs for her 'One Step' program which helps vulnerable youth. RRT SE also continued to provide Prison Packs to incarcerated parents. The gift packs are sent from the parents to their children, allowing to connect with their family during the Christmas period.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

03. Health & Disability



Australia

Often our activities in this area are focused on providing nursing and medical staff with appreciation events which lift staff spirit and morale. A highlight was recognising International Nurses Day at 7 different hospitals serving over 6,000 meals.

2023 was our 8th year of assisting Bike4Burns, which raises money for research into burn treatment for kids, and Convoy 4 Kids Goulburn where truckers raise money for local children experiencing health or disability issues.

Supporting organisations raising money to fight cancer including the Cancer Council, and the Harry Perkins Institute for Medical Research also featured strongly, as did various events for Heartkids.

New Zealand

Over 5,200 meals were served at 5 different events to recognise International Nurses Day. These were just a few of the many appreciation events we ran during the year to acknowledge the dedication of nurses and medical teams to serving our communities.

RRT NZ also supported 13 Tough Guy & Gal Challenge events which helped raise \$10,326 for the Child Cancer Foundation. RRT provided over 7,000 meals and 3,700 water bottles to attendees. Then to close the year RRT NZ provided over 800 meals at five StarJam concerts, which enables disabled children to display their performance talents.



North America / Caribbean

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. RRT NA volunteers from Philadelphia supported this inspiring event and its participants who represented all ages and abilities.

RRT NA volunteers provided refreshments and Comfort Snack Packs when supporting the Lupus Walk at the Intrepid Museum in New York City. The Lupus Research Alliance created this event to raise money for over 1.5 million Americans who suffer from the disease.

In Canada, 900 nurses and medical staff at Cambridge Memorial Hospital received an RRT appreciation meal as part of International Nurses Day to recognise their service to our communities.

RRT CAR teams in Barbados and Jamaica also recognised International Nurses Day to appreciate the work they do as the backbone of our health system. While in St Vincent, our volunteers supported the Dyslexia Run, a government program established to bring awareness and knowledge to this growing issue.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

03. Health & Disability



United Kingdom

From Food Box donations to serving burgers, volunteers extended their support to empower people living with disabilities and health issues. RRT UK donated 2,400 RRT Care Kits, containing personal care products such as hand cream and lip balm, to the medical staff in appreciation of their commitment to serving our communities.

Bournemouth volunteers supported University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust in their Walk for Wards. Participants walked routes of 3k, 5k, or 10k and helped raise over £18,000 which will fund new equipment and improved facilities for hospital wards.

Argentina

RRT ARG was delighted to be involved with National Blood Donor Day in two different events. Held in Santa Fe and the other in Cruz Roja we provided 230 breakfasts and 130 lunches for nurses, doctors and donors.



Europe DE/SE/FR/NL/IT/DK/CH

RRT FR provided 130 meals during Olympic and Paralympic Week in April at The University of Nîmes. The event was designed to promote the importance of sport and physical activity, particularly among young people. The program also raises awareness of the Olympic and Paralympic Games values.

RRT SE was delighted to support Ronald McDonald Hus in Lund in celebrating its 20th year of operation. The Hus in Lund provides a home away from home for children and their families who travel from all over Sweden, Norway and Iceland to attend Skåne University Hospital so their children can receive specialist care.

Operation Hydrate was implemented in Germany, Switzerland, Denmark and Sweden which saw volunteers hand out thousands of bottled waters to help locals quench their thirst during the summer heatwaves.

Highlights included Gothenburg, Helsingborg, and Halmstad in Sweden where volunteers gave away over 3,000 bottles of water at each of the town's railway stations. RRT FR participated in two Pyramide des Chausseurs events run by Handicap International. The events aim to make a statement against the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

04. Homelessness, Poverty, & Hardship



Australia

St Vincent de Paul is another charity where our association extends back to RRT AU's beginning. Their well-recognised CEO Sleepout saw volunteers from 10 localities serve 2,000 hot breakfasts to those helping raise funds to break the cycle of homelessness. Local councils, Homeless Connect and Keep the Faith were some of the charities able to provide hot meals through our support to many experiencing homelessness.

We also worked closely with local community organisations to provide temporary relief for those experiencing a range of hardship issues through the delivery of Food Boxes, Care Kits and Comfort Snack Packs.

New Zealand

RRT NZ's commitment to the Blue Light Youth Driver Training Program continued with the sponsoring of six new vehicles. Now disadvantaged youth in areas of the North Island have access to the assistance they need to obtain their driver's licence. The lack of a licence can limit access to jobs, education and training.

We also supported charities such as Heartkids, Box on Boxing Competition, the Oamaru Multi Colour Dash and Little People of NZ. 4,231 FreshStart Care Kits were also distributed to low-decile schools throughout New Zealand to support the hygiene and empowerment of underprivileged youth.



North America / Caribbean

RRT NA volunteers from Philadelphia were delighted to partner with Philly House and support their efforts in empowering those experiencing homelessness and hardship.

RRT NA teams in Kingston provided fuel for the Kingston community who attended an open day at the local Fire & Rescue Training Centre. The event was held to raise funds for programs that address local, social issues.

In Barbados, RRT CAR supported a Police Community Outreach Program which was setup to assist families facing financial hardship as they wait to qualify for housing and other government benefits.



GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS: Our Four Areas of Focus

04. Homelessness, Poverty, & Hardship



United Kingdom

A highlight for RRT UK was the continuation of a decade-long commitment to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk communities, which organised an event distributing unwanted clothes to those in need. Donated items were sold at a nominal price of ten pence per item, helping preserve the dignity of those facing financial hardship. The event also raised funds for the local community Food Bank.

RRT UK provided Snack Packs and Care Kits during the event to give an extra boost to those experiencing challenging times.

Argentina

Following the violent hurricane that swept through Bahia Blanca RRT ARG delivered numerous Food Boxes to the DOW Shelter and Donation Center to help those whose homes had been destroyed.



Europe DE/SE/FR/NL/IT/DK/CH

RRT DE supported Oberbergische Tafel, a food bank organisation that helps provide food for those who lack the financial means to access regular meals. So, providing 120 hot meals and coffees was a small gesture, but one that was greatly appreciated. The teams also served 900 meals in collaboration with Siegen Food Bank to provide hampers, gifts and other items in the lead-up to Christmas.

A significant event for RRT FR was supporting the Hunger Challenge in Paris La Défense in June. They provided 2,000 snacks to the participants. Action Against Hunger is a French international humanitarian NGO that combats hunger worldwide. Their mission is to fight hunger, especially those experiencing hardship resulting from conflicts and natural disasters.

RRT FR also supported the Tamaris Nursing Home, delivering a hundred hot meals to the underprivileged in the city of La Valette.

Ballerup Social Rådgivning (Ballerup Social Counsellors) was just one of the organisations to receive donated products from RRT DK, receiving around 250 donations. The charity organises local volunteers to pack the Food Boxes and another set of volunteers to make the deliveries.





2020 Farmers Community Connect Gobarr, NSW



RRT Australia:

Regardless of scale, our volunteers deliver the same enthusiasm and energy and derive the same sense of satisfaction from being able to give back to their local community.



RRT Australia Operations Manager

MICHAEL DUNN



Volunteering since 2018

While there were numerous reactive events that kept volunteers on their toes, it was a year that saw fewer catastrophic natural disasters. When a natural disaster occurs, there is a much-needed flurry of activity to address the immediate crisis, after which, the mental, physical, and financial recovery begins. The slight reprieve 2023 provided allowed us to revisit some regions that were still in the recovery stage.

Towns such as Eugowra and Condobolin, located in Central West, New South Wales had suffered enormously after years of drought which was then followed by unprecedented flooding in late 2022. Knowing this, RRT put a plan in place to support their recovery with two Farmers Community Connect Events. Apart from providing 2,600 A-grade hay bales to more than 200 farmers, the event presented an opportunity for those doing it tough to connect. Over a BBQ lunch and a cup of coffee, farmers were able to chat with others in their community experiencing similar circumstances. Local services such as Rural Financial Counsellors were also on hand to provide information and answer questions. Farmers tend to be quite a stoic bunch, so providing them with the opportunity to get together and share their experiences provides a lift to their spirits and ensures they know they are not alone.

Multi-day efforts supporting fires were still a feature of the year with teams attending 37 different events. Our Rapid Water System was deployed to provide accessibility to bulk water as well as rapid water resupply to fire trucks battling blazes in Tambaroora and Curraweela, in New South Wales' Central Tablelands, Millmerran in Queensland's Darling Downs, and Toodyay in Western Australia's Wheatbelt. The Bulk Water Tank, which carries 24,000 litres, is around eight times the capacity of a standard fire truck. In comparison, our Frac Tank holds 70,000 litres and can fill four large fire trucks in less than three minutes. Both assets are deployed during serious outbreaks and contribute to increasing efficiencies for on-the-ground crews.

Much of our work in disaster support centres around our catering offer. We aim to enhance their break with high-quality food fresh from the barbeque. Our teams can get pretty creative with the menu which typically features our Signature Burger but has even included nachos. We know how much this is valued from the feedback we receive. One of the most resounding comments was when one fire claimed, 'I'd light a fire, just to be able to eat your food'.

While reactive events are at the foundation of RRT's purpose, the proactive events that we run across our 82 localities throughout the year are our mainstay. These may be as large as serving 4,000 families at a Special Children's Christmas Party or as few as 20 when assisting The Salvation Army in Sunbury to provide a meal to those who might be homeless. Regardless of scale, our volunteers deliver the same enthusiasm and energy and derive the same sense of satisfaction from being able to give back to their local community.

We are fortunate to have around 4,500 volunteers in Australia, 82 of whom take on the extra responsibility of leading and organising their local teams, coordinating with our beneficiaries, and reporting back when an event concludes. This is all outside their full-time jobs. Their desire to serve is inspiring. The continued growth of our reputation and ability to deliver is artfully guided by our highly dedicated Australian board, many of whom are out on the frontline supporting the effort in times of disaster relief. Many were fundamental to RRT's inception, and yet, ten years on their enthusiasm shows no sign of waning, providing a source of motivation for us all.

As we lead into 2024, there are some areas we will continue to be steadfastly committed to, the most important, delivering our services with the highest level of care and compassion. Living these values daily is at our core and is the essence of the RRT brand. And while time generally heralds change, this has been a constant for the past ten years and is guaranteed to be a constant well into the future.

RRT AUSTRALIA

2023 Snapshot

375
TOTAL EVENTS 

121,378
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

 **19,258**
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

 TOTAL RRT
FOOD BOX MEALS
286,584

TOTAL RRT FOOD
BOXES DONATED 
11,941

 EMERGENCY
SERVICES

164 EVENTS SUPPORTED
40,131 MEALS SERVED
9,631 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 YOUTH

58 EVENTS SUPPORTED
20,175 MEALS SERVED
2,081 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HOMELESSNESS,
POVERTY AND
HARDSHIP

49 EVENTS SUPPORTED
14,207 MEALS SERVED
2,027 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HEALTH AND
DISABILITY

95 EVENTS SUPPORTED
46,865 MEALS SERVED
5,519 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Other products statistics

8,136 FRONTLINE SNACK PACKS
85,130 SMARRT COOKIE BARS

4,931 COMFORT SNACK PACKS
2,602 CARE KITS

BENEFICIARY SPOTLIGHT: Our hero beneficiary

Fortem Australia

“It’s important we see first responders as the humans they are. They’re the people we hold up on a pedestal, as brave, strong and unbreakable. We like to think of them as different from us: superheroes who run into situations that the rest of us run away from.”

– John Bale, Managing Director, Co-Founder, Fortem Australia

This quote from John Bale is a stark reminder that we, the ordinary folk, don’t often consider the consequences of a first responder’s day-to-day duties. Their jobs, by their very nature, expose them to occupational stressors such as traumatic or life-threatening situations which can manifest into wellbeing challenges. These challenges may include anxiety, depression, or even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Unfortunately, the ramifications don’t necessarily end there. The effects of these challenges often extend beyond the individual, impacting the quality of their family life.

Fortem Australia was established to support first responders in navigating their unique set of issues while also working to remove the stigma often associated with reaching out for help.

With its inaugural launch in June 2019, Fortem’s ‘Thank a First Responder Day’ (TAFRD) has become an annual event aimed at recognising the 370,000 first responders and national security personnel who play a critical role in keeping our communities safe. The day is designed to provide a boost to their wellbeing through a united display of gratitude.

For TAFRD, RRT supported Fortem with 15 different events across New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, and Victoria.

Given the alignment between Fortem’s objectives and our areas of focus, our partnership extended beyond this single day of recognition, to include 30 different events during which we served over 7,000 meals.

The lure of one of our delicious burgers served over lunchtime is a great reason to bring first responders together in a casual environment, providing Fortem with an opportunity to engage with attendees and raise awareness of their available services. Ultimately, it also affords RRT volunteers the chance to give back to those whose selflessness and bravery are often overlooked.



Hero beneficiary stats

30 EVENTS SUPPORTED

7,711 MEALS SERVED

19 LOCALITIES



The lure of a delicious burger brings first responders together affording Fortem the opportunity to raise awareness of the support services they provide.





Our 82 volunteer local team leaders are always active, reaching out to charities and agencies to understand who needs support, and how RRT might deliver relief to those in need.

BENEFICIARY HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023, we worked with 603 different emergency service organisations, government agencies, charities, and schools. A large proportion of our support went to emergency and disaster relief, where we assisted the Country Fire Association of Victoria, the New South Wales Rural Fire Service, the Western Australian and Queensland Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services as well as the Tasmanian Fire Service and State Emergency Services as they battled fire threats or helped communities recover from severe storm damage.

RRT also worked closely with local councils and other organisations to offer hunger relief to the homeless or raise awareness around mental health and suicide prevention. Some highlights included Brisbane Council and the Homeless Connect event, Wollondilly Council and their R U Ok? Day, and Campbelltown Council's NAIDOC event, celebrating the culture and contribution of the region's Indigenous population.

Supporting charitable efforts on a larger scale and across multiple locations continues to be a feature. Pollie Pedal's multi-day bike rides, Variety Bash's multi-state car rallies or St Vincent de Paul's multi-city, CEO Sleepouts are as equally enjoyable for our volunteers as delivering bespoke events for Ronald McDonald House, or local schools like Leeton High in New South Wales, or Cunderdin High in Western Australia.

While we are well known for our event support, our donated products bolster a diverse range of organisations' ability to provide relief to their audiences. The RRT Food Box is one of our key donations. Full of non-perishable items it can provide a family of four, three meals a day, for up to 48 hours. 2023 saw 444 different organisations receive one or more of RRT's donated products. Some of the charities we worked with on our Food Box program included Community Action Gympie, Harcourts Foundation, Mowanjum Aboriginal Corporation, and the Shires of Derby and West Kimberly.

Often our beneficiaries have diverse needs. In this case, Comfort Snack Packs, Care Kits, Smartt Cookie nutritional bars or blankets are donated. Some of the recipients during the year included AC Care, who provide support services to Aboriginal communities in South Australia, the Mara Project who support women in custody, Geelong Correctional Services, and various branches of Headspace, which provide mental well-being services nationally.

Some of Our Beneficiaries



A man with grey hair, wearing sunglasses, a green plaid shirt, blue jeans, and brown boots, stands in a grassy field next to a silver metal trailer. The trailer is filled with stacks of light-colored wooden posts. A white bag with a red logo is visible among the wood. The background shows trees and a clear sky.

"They haven't only given us
a trailer load of posts but
a trailer load of hope!"



RRT New Zealand

The impact we have been able to achieve, thanks to our volunteers, is not only eye-opening, but also immensely rewarding, constantly inspiring us to do more.



RRT New Zealand General Manager

PAUL SIMMONS



Volunteering since 2021

2023 could easily be hailed as RRT New Zealand's most vibrant year of action! Facing a barrage of severe weather in the early months, our teams leapt into action, displaying unwavering care and compassion.

Our volunteers were at the forefront, offering crucial support to emergency services, as well as those caught in the turmoil - from flash flooding in the Greater Auckland region to the catastrophic impact of Cyclone Gabrielle around Hawkes Bay. The introduction of RRT's sandbagging machines was timely, increasing the efficiency of the assistance we could provide.

As our immediate support for those impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle waned, we realised the real recovery effort was yet to begin. The impact of the cyclone extended well beyond the physical damage to farms. The financial implication of restoring lost infrastructure was just one of the many considerations which weighed heavily on those in the community.

Recognising this, RRT proposed hosting a series of Farmer Community Connect events to be held across five North Island locations. Born from our commitment to support communities in need, these events offered a much-needed lift to those impacted by the cyclone. Farmers from across the region were invited to collect fencing materials that would aid their recovery efforts. Along with the donation, attendees had the opportunity to take time out and enjoy a complimentary breakfast or lunch. A range of service organisations such as mental well-being, farm management advisory, and veterinary services were on hand to provide support. The response from recipients was humbling, with many personal experiences and stories being shared. The simple

opportunity of connecting with others, experiencing a warm smile, or a kind word, had a profound effect on the many that came. A memorable sentiment from the Wellsford event encapsulates the atmosphere at these events: "They haven't only given us a trailer load of posts but a trailer load of hope!"

RRT's core products have once again proven to be immensely successful. The Food Box program, distributed in collaboration with New Zealand Police, has continued to thrive, receiving numerous expressions of gratitude. Additionally, our Care Kits have been well-received by schools and are now being provided to Ronald McDonald Houses nationwide. Our efforts around International Nurses Day, saw us support five different hospitals via appreciation events, designed to thank and acknowledge the dedication of our medical community.

The commitment of our countless volunteers, who generously donate their time to help those in need, is truly remarkable. They enable us to offer support and compassion to a diverse group of individuals, including farmers, disaster-stricken communities, disabled youth, the homeless, refugees, cancer survivors, and emergency crews, providing each a consistent level of care and kindness. The impact we have been able to achieve, thanks to our volunteers, is not only eye-opening, but also immensely rewarding, constantly inspiring us to do more. RRT NZ has experienced significant growth over the last few years, and is poised to expand its humanitarian outreach even further in the coming years.

RRT NEW ZEALAND

2023 Snapshot

277
TOTAL EVENTS 

78,420
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

 **10,940**
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

 TOTAL RRT
FOOD BOX MEALS
461,520

TOTAL RRT FOOD
BOXES DONATED 
19,230

 EMERGENCY
SERVICES

158 EVENTS SUPPORTED
28,345 MEALS SERVED
6,431 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 YOUTH

23 EVENTS SUPPORTED
9,774 MEALS SERVED
1,071 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HOMELESSNESS,
POVERTY AND
HARDSHIP

13 EVENTS SUPPORTED
6,260 MEALS SERVED
430 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HEALTH AND
DISABILITY

83 EVENTS SUPPORTED
34,041 MEALS SERVED
3,008 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Other products statistics

11,143 CARE KITS
488 BABY CARE KITS
1,096 DRIVER TRAINING – STUDENTS
229 DRIVER TRAINING – LICENCES

548 MASCOTS
1,301 FENCING PACKS
1,399 DRIVER TRAINING – LESSONS/TESTS
\$114,634 SPONSORSHIPS

MAJOR INITIATIVE REPORT:

RRT New Zealand gives a boost to over 3,000 farmers impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle

In February 2023, Cyclone Gabrielle hit the northern and eastern regions of New Zealand. The impact was so severe, that a national state of emergency was declared as catastrophic flooding destroyed homes and properties, and displaced thousands.

RRT volunteers from 17 localities mobilised, providing meals and resources to emergency services, families and communities who had been displaced. RRT Food Boxes and Care Kits along with bottled water were also distributed.

While supporting those in need with immediate relief is critical, once the flooding recedes and the emergency is over, the road to recovery is often long, financially challenging, and mentally taxing.

So, the team set about implementing a series of Farmers Community Connect (FCC) events, replicating an Australian model, to support farmers in replacing some of the hundreds of thousand kilometres of fencing the cyclone destroyed.

Kicking off the events in Hawke's Bay, then moving through to Gisborne, Wairoa, Waipukurau, and finishing up in Wellsford, RRT's dedicated volunteers donated fencing packs to 1,301 farmers, valued at \$1,500 each, ultimately totalling \$1.9 million.

Convoys of trucks laden with fencing posts travelled across the north island to each event location, delivering a total of 104,080 posts. Weighing a total of 1,900 tonnes, equivalent to 64 full truck and trailer

loads, the posts were deposited on the farmers' utes with a large digger and grapple.

470 tonnes of fencing accessories including 130,000 battens, 2,600 rolls of wire, and boxes of staples, strainers and crimps were all loaded onto the trucks by hand by RRT's army of volunteers.

One might think their herculean effort ended there. Instead, each event hosted breakfast and lunch, serving 3,330 meals to the farmers and their families. RRT also organised for up to 20 service providers such as mental well-being, veterinary support, and rural financial counsellors to attend each event to help make them aware of the assistance available.

Enhancing the donations with a bacon and egg roll, or one of RRT's signature burgers, the events provided the opportunity for the typically stoic farmers, to connect with their community. Many found comfort in knowing they were not alone.

These events could not have been delivered without the government's assistance through the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), and the generous support from The Evergreen Foundation, Eastern & Central Community Trust, and Rural Support Trust in helping to deliver this initiative.

These FCC events were at the core of a defining year. It was a truly rewarding year, working with, and within our communities, to support so many.



**Farmers
Community
Connect**

Initiative stats

1,301 FENCING PACKS DONATED
104,080 FENCING POSTS DONATED
3,330 MEALS SERVED
NZ\$1.9m TOTAL DONATION



"We are overwhelmed with gratitude at the kindness, generosity and support we received at the RRT event in Hastings... While the fencing supplies are an immense help that we are beyond thankful for, those smiles and the open and willing moral support really has filled our souls."

– Simon Franklin & Alice Beamish, Hawke's Bay Farmers



BENEFICIARY HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023, RRT NZ supported 280 different organisations, charities, and schools between 41 volunteer teams. This included the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) during disaster responses. RRT provided meals to the emergency service personnel and members of the public in evacuation centres fires and cyclones.

Throughout the year, we assisted many organisations nationwide that support those with disabilities. These included Relay for Life, Special Children Christmas Parties, and StarJam Concerts all enjoying RRT signature meals served from our iconic red tent. We also collaborated with the Cancer Society and the Tough Guy & Gal events, where we sold RRT meals with all proceeds going to the Child Cancer Foundation.

The donation of RRT products to various organisations was another key activity. RRT's Care Kits and blankets were distributed to Te Whare Korowai Taangata o Kirikiriroa (HCNT), an organisation providing emergency, transitional housing and support to the homeless. New Zealand Police continued to receive regular allocations of RRT Food Boxes, allowing them to help those in need within their jurisdictions. Baby Care Kits continued to be gratefully received, with the Family Success Matters' social workers providing them to young families in need.

Designed to bring confidence to Kiwi kids, our RRT FreshStart Care Kits were distributed to 65 schools. This program helps those families that are unable to afford essentials such as toothpaste, shampoo, and soap. Many students also received their driver's licence through Blue Light, Rule Education and Kainga Pasifika Services. Using RRT-sponsored driver training cars, this program supports disadvantaged youths to get their full driver's licence, ensuring transport is not a barrier to further education, training or employment.

Some of Our Beneficiaries



RRT United Kingdom:

Feedback from officers supports the notion that supplying a delicious and nourishing meal, enthusiasm is buoyed, enhancing their ability to focus on the demands of their role.





RRT United Kingdom General Manager

SAM BLACKLEDGE



Volunteering since 2019

2023 was a defining year for RRT UK, marked by compassion in action. We have consistently demonstrated our core values of care, compassion, and community spirit through partnerships and dedicated initiatives.

A highlight is our continuous support for those impacted by the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. As the conflict escalated, 2023 saw us advance our Food Box operation by partnering with SaveUA, a Ukrainian-based charity. SaveUA employs internally displaced Ukrainian refugees to pack and deliver our RRT Food Boxes to 11 different regions, helping to alleviate food insecurity issues many are experiencing.

Our partnership with SaveUA has provided a sustainable solution to our support, enabling us to make a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals, offering hope and relief in this time of adversity. The RRT Food Boxes are filled with products from national producers and suppliers, providing an avenue to sell their goods, thus supporting the Ukrainian economy with revenue and employment.

Closer to home, RRT extended its support to the Merseyside Police Service through various operations and initiatives. Significant events such as October's Labour Conference, attended by over 16,000 delegates, raised additional challenges to the policing and security operation. RRT provided meals and refreshments to the Force over the four days, ensuring quality sustenance for all police officers. Our catering also contributes to positive morale for those who worked tirelessly to ensure the event went smoothly for all attendees.

Similarly, during the Eurovision event, which demanded considerable resources from the police force, our volunteers ensured the well-being of Merseyside's

officers, which was taken care of whilst they were in action. It was paramount that the police officers were supported adequately as they interacted with attendees. Feedback from the officers supports the notion that by providing a delicious and nourishing meal, the enthusiasm of those on duty is buoyed, enhancing their ability to effectively focus on the demands of their role.

Once again, RRT lent its assistance to the My Name's Doddie Charity, which supported their bike ride from Cardiff to Scotland to raise funds for Motor Neurone Disease (MND) research. This endeavour not only showcased our commitment to charitable causes but also highlighted the importance of solidarity in addressing pressing health challenges.

Throughout 2023, RRT remained committed to its mission to make a positive impact - one small act of kindness at a time. Whether it was the smiles on the faces of those we helped or the small successes we achieved along the way, every action is motivated by our desire to provide care and compassion.

We are confident working collectively as a team, will continue to extend a helping hand to provide support to those during the greatest challenges.

RRT UNITED KINGDOM

2023 Snapshot

439
TOTAL EVENTS 

133,082
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

 **18,866**
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

 TOTAL RRT
FOOD BOX MEALS
256,512

TOTAL RRT FOOD
BOXES DONATED 
10,688



EMERGENCY
SERVICES

180 EVENTS SUPPORTED
49,164 MEALS SERVED
7,736 VOLUNTEER HOURS



YOUTH

24 EVENTS SUPPORTED
9,834 MEALS SERVED
1,031 VOLUNTEER HOURS



HOMELESSNESS,
POVERTY AND
HARDSHIP

147 EVENTS SUPPORTED
54,009 MEALS SERVED
6,317 VOLUNTEER HOURS



HEALTH AND
DISABILITY

88 EVENTS SUPPORTED
20,075 MEALS SERVED
3,782 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Other products statistics

449,801 UKRAINE FOOD BOXES

91,000 SMARTT BARS

MAJOR INITIATIVE REPORT:

Collaborative action delivers access to 24-hour food bank.

The RRT Peterhead team has worked for many years with Scotland Fire and Rescue Service's Community Station. However, in 2023, this support was elevated through two specific initiatives designed to help families struggling with food insecurity.

In August, with the support of RRT, the Peterhead Community Fire Station launched an 'Out of Hours' Foodbank providing 24-hour access to emergency food supplies to those in crisis. Unlike many food bank operations, this new initiative does not require a referral or completed forms to receive food relief.

RRT's iconic Food Boxes are core to the program, providing two to three days' worth of provisions. The program complements the North Aberdeenshire Foodbank, which has a limited schedule, thus ensuring that anyone in need will always be able to access essential food items.

The food bank program swiftly demonstrated tangible outcomes.

One example lies with a recently immigrated Afghan family who arrived in Peterhead to seek refuge from their war-torn home with only one bag between them. The children were provided with RRT Food Boxes through the Peterhead 'Out of Hours' Foodbank program.

Despite confronting numerous hurdles, this resilient family generously helped other refugee families as they arrived in Peterhead. By sharing information about the program, they ensured others would also have access to essential food items.

To date, the program has supported 50 local families.

The team at the fire station also identified another opportunity to support the Peterhead community, proposing a Breakfast Club. The Warm Space Children's Breakfast Club, a collaboration including Police Scotland and local charity Men United, provided free breakfast to children who may miss out on a meal while schools are closed during the holidays. Open to children aged from three to 16, the program ran during the October and December school break. 160 children enjoyed a burger meal, which RRT provided to support the initiative.

Peterhead is a tight-knit community that exemplifies how working together can benefit those experiencing hardship in our communities. It has been encouraging to see the Central School, the Aberdeenshire Council, Scotland Fire and Rescue Service as well as Scotland Police and local charities united in their efforts of support. RRT volunteers feel humbled to play a small part in a story that is a testament to the power of shared support.



Initiative stats

1,000 WARM BREAKFAST CLUB MEALS

214 FOOD BOXES

50 FAMILIES SUPPORTED

Peterhead, Scotland, is a tight knit community that exemplifies how working together can benefit those experiencing hardship in our communities.





Our partnerships have not only provided immediate relief but also fostered long-term resilience and community support, making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

BENEFICIARY HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout 2023, RRT UK partnered with over 400 beneficiaries, including schools, charities, government bodies, and emergency services.

Each of our beneficiaries has a unique focus, delivering a positive impact across diverse groups and people in need. For example, our collaboration with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) has supported this charitable entity and its volunteers in delivering on their efforts to save lives at sea. Alternatively, supporting the YMCA with assistance and resources helps to achieve its goal of empowering young people to achieve a better quality of life within the community. Alder Hey Children's Charity aims to raise funds to provide medical equipment and facilities to enhance the healthcare and well-being of those hospitalised at the Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

RRT continued our collaboration with CEO Sleepout UK, which raises funds to fight homelessness. Our volunteers attended 25 sleepout events, cooking a hot breakfast for participants, who spent a cold winter's night sleeping rough.

We also assisted the Environment Agency, a government department that helps protect and improve the environment.

Additionally, RRT worked with various police services, firefighters, coast guards, and emergency services crews across the UK to provide support during significant events such as the Luton Airport Fire, the Labour Conference in Liverpool, as well as various Open and Training Days.

A new initiative was launched with The Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity. Our Construction Community Connect campaign is designed to encourage construction workers to attend stand-up days on construction sites, where they can talk about mental health to dispel associated stigmas, but they can also gain access to support services. The Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity is the only entity of its type that provides emotional, physical, and financial well-being support to construction workers and their families.

These partnerships have not only provided immediate relief but also fostered long-term resilience and community support, making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

Some of Our Beneficiaries



RRT Europe:

As we look towards 2024, our capacity to both proactively and reactively across Europe will continue to grow, as we continue to plan for additional assets, and our volunteers identify the issues facing our communities and determine who, where, and how RRT Europe is best able to support those in need.





RRT Europe Director

GREG CALDER



Volunteering since 2023

Over the past 10 years, our volunteer base has continued to expand. This year Switzerland and Denmark have expanded their operations. While Italy, Sweden, Germany and France continue to work with a consistent group of established and new beneficiaries.

Between each of the countries, we cover a broad spectrum of charities, agencies, and emergency services, each one unique in its execution and the cohort whom they support. From Handicap International in France to “Natteravnene” (The Night Owls) in Denmark, or Tafel in Germany, each organisation has their focus and RRT EU aims to help them achieve their goals.

There was less requirement in 2023 to respond reactively to emergencies or disasters, which allowed our teams more opportunity to support our communities proactively. Supporting emergency services organisations is at the core of what we do, so our teams completed open days for a multitude of firefighters, particularly in Germany and Sweden, helping ensure the success of these days. Handing out snacks, burgers and refreshments meant that the emergency services teams could engage with attendees to share information on fire safety and how they keep their communities safe.

March 2023 saw 12 months of providing support to those who had been displaced by the war in Ukraine via Operation 322. As 2023 closed out, globally, donations to

support this initiative reached over AU\$8 million. These funds have been directed to supplying RRT Food Boxes, providing those displaced with food items.

Our French team also worked with a local charity, ‘Un toit pour l’Ukraine’, to support a clothing drive that resulted in 300kg of clothing being distributed to Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city.

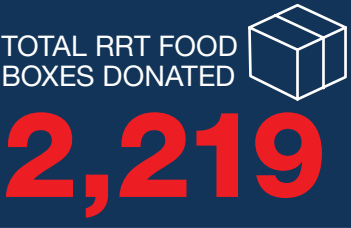
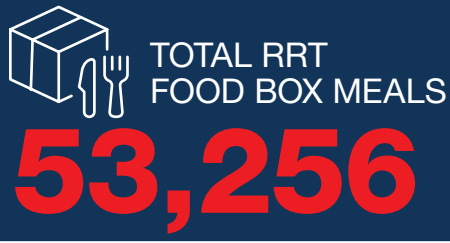
Sadly, the Ukraine wasn’t the only country impacted by conflict. When Nagorno-Karabakh, an Armenian enclave was re-controlled by Azerbaijan, over 100,000 refugees flooded across the border into Armenia. RRT France responded to the need. Working in collaboration with the Armenian General Benevolent Union, April saw an initial delivery of 2,650 Food Boxes to those who had been displaced. In times of crisis, the RRT Food Boxes provide those in need with non-perishable grocery items that can feed a family of four, three meals a day, over two days.

During the height of summer, when temperatures soared, many of our volunteers including Sweden, Switzerland and Denmark, hit the streets to activate Operation Hydrate, where we handed out thousands of bottles of water to thirsty locals.

As we look towards 2024, our capacity to both proactively and reactively across Europe will continue to grow, as we continue to plan for additional assets, and our volunteers identify the issues facing our communities and determine who, where, and how RRT Europe is best able to support those in need.

RRT EUROPE

2023 Snapshot



Other products statistics

2,538 COMFORT SNACK PACKS

1,618 CARE KITS

21,509 FRONT LINE SNACK PACKS





RRT Germany:

Though we are a small team, our desire to create an impact is boundless. As we look ahead to 2024, we will continue to respond to the needs of the communities where we live and work.



RRT Germany Country Team Leader

TONY BURK



Volunteering since 2016

In 2023, we shifted our focus towards collaborating with organisations working in the realm of poverty. With the poverty rate in Germany widely being reported as sitting at over 16%, there is increasing pressure on charitable organisations working in this area.

As the number of people these charities support rise, it is appropriate for RRT to be responsive and support their needs. With the influx of many refugees arriving in Germany, the number of active food banks during 2023 was at its highest level for almost 10 years.

We were delighted to work with organisations such as the Oberbergische Tafel, the Tafel Gummersbach and Siegen, just three of their 1,000 food bank centres across Germany. As one of the largest volunteer-based organisations in Germany, they distribute food and other necessities that have been donated. They were grateful for every offered assistance and the warm meals we served.

The Caritas Association is another organisation we were pleased to partner with during 2023. Caritas in Germany has more than 25,000 centres which support socially disadvantaged people. Their centres offer a range of services for youth and those with disabilities, shelters for those suffering domestic violence, and advice for women and families as well as new immigrants. There is

also support for those experiencing debt, addiction, or those experiencing financial hardship. Our teams were able to provide assistance to the centres in Mettmann and Düsseldorf.

As always, our teams are available to help those who work in emergency services, particularly the fire department. Our teams supported various outposts including Hohenahr, Bischoffen, Bad Endbach, Gladenbach, and Dillenburg.

As we witnessed the struggles faced by those affected by issues such as poverty, displacement, and food insecurity, our commitment to give back has grown stronger. Working alongside these organisations, our aim is to help alleviate some of the hardships experienced by vulnerable communities.

Though we are a small team, our desire to create an impact is boundless. As we look ahead to 2024, we will continue to respond to the needs of the communities where we live and work. Working collaboratively with a range of charities, we hope to provide sustenance, a sense of comfort, but also a sense of dignity to those in need.

Some of Our Beneficiaries



TAFEL



RRT GERMANY

2023 Snapshot

12
TOTAL EVENTS

1,924
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

849
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

360
TOTAL RRT
FOOD BOX MEALS

15
TOTAL RRT FOOD
BOXES DONATED

EMERGENCY
SERVICES

5 EVENTS SUPPORTED
860 MEALS SERVED
330 VOLUNTEER HOURS

YOUTH

1 EVENTS SUPPORTED
180 MEALS SERVED
75 VOLUNTEER HOURS

HOMELESSNESS,
POVERTY AND
HARDSHIP

1 EVENTS SUPPORTED
900 MEALS SERVED
324 VOLUNTEER HOURS

HEALTH AND
DISABILITY

1 EVENTS SUPPORTED
120 MEALS SERVED
105 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Other products statistics

750 WATER BOTTLES
72 BLANKETS

20 HYGIENE PACKS
66 SNACKPACKS

RRT France:

In 2023, France was fortunate enough to avoid any devastating natural disasters, however, we supported various humanitarian issues, while continuing to assist organisations working in the health, disability, and hardship sectors.



2019 Notre Dame Fire, Paris





RRT France Director

DAVID ARGAUD



Volunteering since 2022

2023 was a year full of new initiatives within the region, including expanding our staff in different localities and the arrival of five BBQ trailers, which has proved to bring a lot of enthusiasm from our teams.

Our county was fortunate enough to avoid any devastating natural disasters, however, we supported various humanitarian issues, while continuing our support of organisations working in the health, disability, and hardship sectors.

However, in June, when the South of France experienced a potable water crisis resulting from below-average rainfalls in the lead-up to summer, our volunteers were on hand to support, delivering 2,600 bottles of water in Rognac, Provence.

RRT France participated in a unique initiative to provide clothing to Ukrainian refugees in the country's second-biggest city, Kharkiv, which is still very much part of the front line of the current conflict. Collaborating with 'Un Toit pour l'Ukraine', we provided 23 pallets, equivalent to 300kgs of clothing to support the appeal. While in an event closer to home, we supported this organisation with meals at a picnic event for local Ukrainian refugees,

In our continued support of those displaced by war, RRT France banded together to provide over 2,600 Food Boxes to those impacted by the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh, located in the southwestern region of Azerbaijan. This was achieved by collaborating with the Union Générale Arménienne Bienfaisance (UGAB / Armenian General Benevolent Union), the largest non-profit organisation dedicated to providing the country with educational, cultural and humanitarian programs.

In the focus areas of health and disability, the French team supported a diverse range of events that spanned the country. This included supporting small, local charities that help individuals battling unique health issues. Examples included the Sachange Association in Nimes, organisers of the 'Run for Sach Angel, Nimes, and the "Foulée du Bord du Rhône" in the Ardèche, which raised money for a young boy suffering from Cornelia de Lange Syndrome. Our support ranged from providing meals and refreshments to Snack Packs to participants.

During the October Rose campaign, RRT supported the 'Ligue Contre le Cancer' in three events in different locations across France. October Rose is a global, breast cancer awareness campaign, run annually, established in 1985.

Donations of products such as essential food items contained in our Food Boxes and Care Kits continued throughout the year. RRT worked closely with municipal services and La Caisse Centrale des Activités Sociales (Centre of Communal Social Action) to facilitate product distribution to those in need. We also supported the RRT's global 'Season of Giving' campaign, which sees our volunteers deliver Food Boxes to charities to disperse to those most in need during the holiday period. Additionally, RRT provided 22 pallets of food and 15 pallets of water bottles to Restaurants du Coeur in various locations, including Nimes, Saint Etienne, and La Garde. Commonly known as Restos du Coeur, this charity was founded by French comedian Coluche in 1985. The organisation supports the homeless and low-income families with meals and housing support.

2023 was a busy year for RRT France, and the above only skims the surface of the organisations we worked with and the people we were able to serve. We look forward to the future, working alongside our current beneficiaries, and expanding our effort to include more.

RRT FRANCE

2023 Snapshot

23
TOTAL EVENTS 

3,751
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

 **1,684**
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

 **43,296**
TOTAL RRT FOOD BOX MEALS

1,804
TOTAL RRT FOOD BOXES DONATED 

 EMERGENCY SERVICES

1 EVENTS SUPPORTED
300 MEALS SERVED
3 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 YOUTH

2 EVENTS SUPPORTED
114 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HOMELESSNESS, POVERTY AND HARDSHIP

2 EVENTS SUPPORTED
126 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HEALTH AND DISABILITY

18 EVENTS SUPPORTED
1,434 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Other products statistics

744 CARE KITS **1,320** SNACK PACK

MAJOR INITIATIVE REPORT:

A collaborative clothing drive for displaced ukrainians

In September 2023, RRT France launched a clothing collection in partnership with the "Un Toit pour l'Ukraine" (A Roof for Ukraine) based in Ardèche, in southeast France, to provide humanitarian assistance to those impacted by the Ukrainian war.

The campaign commenced in October, with the goal to support Ukrainians who have lost almost everything and were about to face difficult winter conditions, where temperatures can drop as low as -20C.

A call went out to Community members to collect unwanted clothes. 23 pallets, each weighing an average of 300 kg, were collected from our nine localities. The pallets were then transported to the town of Privas, where 'Un toit pour l'Ukraine' volunteers sorted the donations before being loaded and delivered by truck to Kharkiv in Ukraine.

Kharkiv is Ukraine's second-largest city, located in the country's northeast, it was one of the first cities targeted during the initial invasion and has continued to experience heavy fighting and attacks since that time.

The goods were delivered to a warehouse provided by the Regional Council of Kharkiv. The Head of the Regional Council of Kharkiv and President of all Ukrainian Associations, Tetyana Yehorova-Lutsenko, expressed appreciation on behalf of the region's residents, "This is significant support for our region near the front, and I hope it will continue and expand to new areas in the future.



"This is significant support for our region near the front (line), and I hope it will endure and extend to new areas in the future,"





RRT France worked with a diverse range of organisations and charities to support their goals.

BENEFICIARY HIGHLIGHTS

Some of the 2023 highlights included our collaboration with Handicap International (HI). Once again, RRT FR participated in the 'Pyramide des Chaussures' (Pyramid of Shoes) events held in Paris and Lyon. HI is a global, non-governmental organisation that assists vulnerable populations, especially people living with disabilities, living in situations of conflict, experiencing natural disasters, and, or poverty. For 29 years, 'Pyramide des Chaussures' has invited local communities to make a statement against the use of explosive weapons in populated areas. Sadly, indiscriminate military practices which include the use of landmines, and cluster bombs in conflict zones, maim and kill innocent civilians. The Shoe Pyramid symbolises the foot, leg, or life of thousands of innocent civilians impacted by the explosion of a landmine or submunition. RRT FR served meals and refreshments across the two cities, over multiple days. This represents the 6th year our team have supported these events in Paris and Lyon.

Additionally, in December, RRT FR supported the AFM Téléthon association in multiple events held across France including, Lyon, Saint-Etienne, La Voulte and Livron. RRT volunteers sold meals, donating the proceeds back to AFM Téléthon. AFM Téléthon brings together over 50,000 associations to raise funds for innovative medical research, particularly for rare diseases.

RRT FR also collaborated with charities supporting those impacted by cancer. RRT participated in Octobre Rose (Pink October) and the Ligue Contre le Cancer events, each held across multiple locations. These events are well recognised for their continued support for those dealing with breast cancer. In Lilas and Romainville, our teams provided refreshments for participants in the Lors de la Course Contre la Leucémie (The Race Against Leukemia). The event raised funds to provide specialised clothing for patients of St Louis Hospital.

In a bid to help those experiencing food insecurity, we worked closely with Restos du Coeur (Restaurants of the Heart) and with La Caisse Centrale des Activités Sociales (Centre of Communal Social Action) to provide food relief through our Food Box donation program.

Our local team leaders remain vigilant in their support of charities and organisations that need assistance in their efforts to help those in our community who are most in need.

Some of Our Beneficiaries



RRT North America

Our teams across Canada and the US delivered relief to victims of natural disasters, supported emergency services personnel with meals and Frontline Snack Packs, donated Food Boxes to a wide variety of organisations to distribute, and helped enhance the events of multiple charities as well as hosting appreciation meals to nursing medical teams.





RRT North America General Manager

LANCE HOLMES



Volunteering since 2013

2023 was another excellent year of compassion in action! Our teams across Canada and the US delivered relief to victims of natural disasters, supported emergency services personnel with meals and Frontline Snack Packs, donated Food Boxes to a wide variety of organisations to distribute, and helped enhance the events of multiple charities as well as hosting appreciation meals to nursing medical teams.

There was plenty for our volunteers to do to support emergency services personnel throughout the year. As the year opened, our teams from Chicago were called out to support Bloomingdale Fire Department with lunch when fighting a gas fire at Chase Bank. While RRT Cleveland volunteers were called out to support emergency services when 50 cars of a freight train derailed in Ohio. The disaster attracted support from 68 agencies from three states and a number of counties. Another major reactive event teams attended was the RM Palmer Factory Explosion in West Reading. RRT Philadelphia volunteers arrived on the scene Saturday morning and provided nourishment to help them in their search and rescue efforts through to Sunday evening.

An event that required a sustained volunteer effort was when RRT teams from Stamford, New York and Westfield were involved in supporting emergency services when the Grande Costa d'Avorio cargo ship caught fire. The ship, docked at Port Newark in New York, took six days to get under control. RRT NA volunteers took turns in serving emergency personnel, three meals a day over four days.

In August, when Maui, Hawaii experienced what was described as the deadliest wildfire in modern US history, RRT NA responded to the disaster. RRT NA volunteers arrived on the ground bringing some preliminary aid in the form of Food Boxes and Snack Packs to help support the people of Lahaina devastated by the event.

We were delighted to be able to participate in International Nurses Day in Woodstock and recognise the often-underappreciated efforts of those who serve our community. There is no doubt this small gesture brings a grateful response from our recipients. We continued to deliver appreciation events in Portland, Knoxville, Montreal, Oxbow, Cambridge, and Columbus. We also ran several of these events and supported training days for local fire, police and emergency service personnel.

And when the summer kicked in, and heatwaves hit, RRT volunteers stepped out across 11 cities in Canada and the US, handing out over 2,500 bottles of cold water to ensure residents stayed hydrated.

RRT NA continues to build its base of beneficiaries, as we continue to grow awareness of how we can help provide support to those in need.

With two new Food Trailers scheduled to come on board for 2024, I have no doubt that the diversity of those we serve will continue to grow as will our ability to respond to emergencies, disasters or humanitarian crises as they arise.

RRT NORTH AMERICA

2023 Snapshot

258
TOTAL EVENTS



41,517
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

15,190
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS



13,176
TOTAL RRT
FOOD BOX MEALS

549

TOTAL RRT FOOD
BOXES DONATED



EMERGENCY
SERVICES

126 EVENTS SUPPORTED
18,323 MEALS SERVED
9,283 VOLUNTEER HOURS



YOUTH

20 EVENTS SUPPORTED
3,566 MEALS SERVED
481 VOLUNTEER HOURS



HOMELESSNESS,
POVERTY AND
HARDSHIP

51 EVENTS SUPPORTED
4,513 MEALS SERVED
1,232 VOLUNTEER HOURS



HEALTH AND
DISABILITY

42 EVENTS SUPPORTED
12,539 MEALS SERVED
3,795 VOLUNTEER HOURS

MAJOR INITIATIVE REPORT:

The Grande Costa D'Avorio Fire, New York, USA

The Grande Costa D'Avorio was a cargo ship docked at Port Newark, New Jersey laden with 1,200 used vehicles and around 157 containers bound for export to West Africa. Just before 9 pm on 5th July, a fire broke out within the holds of the 10th deck while the used vehicles were being loaded. Within the 30 minutes it took for the Newark Fire Department to arrive, the fire had quickly spread from five vehicles up to the 11th and 12th decks.

The challenge firefighters faced was twofold. Firstly, ship fires are extremely complex, and constantly changing, each with unique attributes. Secondly, the fire was burning at extremely high temperatures, making many areas inaccessible to responding teams. The firefighters' objective was to cool the vessel from the perimeter using shore based equipment to stop the fire from spreading further.

Understanding that the firefighters would be onsite for an extended period, the New York-New Jersey Port Authority called RRT NA to support the firefighters and the other personnel on the ground.

Three teams of RRT volunteers travelled from New York and as far afield as Stamford and Westfield to set up on site. Located on the dock at the heart of the action, our volunteers worked in shifts over four days to provide breakfast, lunch and dinner along with refreshments, as Newark firefighters worked

around the clock to contain the blaze. Other agencies on site RRT was able to serve included the US Coast Guard, Jon Smith and Gallagher Marine Systems all of which formed part of the emergency response. 1,369 meals were served from the time we arrived on site until the fire was extinguished on the morning of 11th July.

Supporting emergency services in their efforts to protect our communities has been central to RRT's mission over the past 10 years. Consistent feedback from first responders over this time highlights the value of the simple act of providing a delicious, nutritious meal. These meals not only deliver essential energy but also play a crucial role in boosting morale, helping sustain them through the demands and challenges of their duties.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the dedication of our amazing volunteers. Their reward comes from the profound sense of satisfaction of making a meaningful contribution to those whose vital work our communities could not exist without.

Some of Our Beneficiaries



Our volunteers worked in shifts over four days to provide breakfast, lunch and dinner along with refreshments, as Newark firefighters worked around the clock to contain the blaze.





RRT Caribbean:

When sudden and torrential rains descended upon the southern region of Trinidad, flooding and landslides forced many residents to evacuate. Volunteers from RRT Trinidad were quick to act providing Food Boxes to affected families.





RRT Caribbean General Manager

MARK DECASERES



Volunteering since 2013

Being a small region in the Caribbean, directly in the path of most hurricanes, a year may go by without any events responding to catastrophic natural disasters. This was the case for 2023. While the requirement for major reactive events was less, 2023 was our most “active” year yet, hosting and supporting more events than any other year.

When sudden and torrential rains descended upon the southern region of Trinidad, flooding and landslides forced many residents to evacuate. Volunteers from RRT Trinidad were quick to act, providing over 50 Food Boxes for the families affected. The feedback from the recipients confirms that this temporary food relief is a crucial bridge between disaster and recovery.

Similarly to other regions, the contribution of those in the emergency services divisions, including firefighters, defence forces and police officials, work tirelessly to protect our communities. However, they don’t always receive the recognition they deserve. We are always delighted to support these hardworking men and women. Whether it was providing sustenance to teams during hurricane preparedness drills or saying thanks through appreciation events, RRT CAR provided Frontline Snack Packs, donated water to support charitable fun runs and over 1,600 meals to emergency personnel across all our islands.

For the Caribbean, the aftereffects of COVID-19 were still prevalent as we first entered 2023. Of note was the mental toll on the nurses, doctors and other healthcare personnel. RRT CAR volunteers took the opportunity to provide sizzling signature burgers, served with a big helping of volunteer smiles to show our heartfelt appreciation for all that they did and continue to do for our communities. A particular highlight included delivering appreciation meals for nurses in Barbados and

Jamaica to recognise International Nurses Day.

Our teams served over 600 meals, a new record for the Caribbean for the most meals served in one day.

Regarding the focus area of youth, our goal is to support even more events in 2024. RRT CAR assisted in several events dedicated to empowering our youth. Our teams in St Vincent were delighted to support a collaborative effort between the Rotary Club and the government. The initiative’s aim was to raise awareness for dyslexia and that this condition extends beyond just the inability to spell and read. The Dyslexia Awareness Walk is an annual fundraising event where participants walk 7.5kms putting a spotlight on this condition which impacts 1 in 10 people globally.

Our teams have taken more time to increase their awareness and knowledge of the issues facing the younger members of our community. Where we have supported those in need, we have ensured each volunteer’s action, regardless of how small, has contributed and helped make a difference to those in need.

The Caribbean is not alone as a country with the issues our residents face around homelessness, where loss of employment, mental illness or family rejection all major contributors. Governments across the Caribbean have been steadily increasing the number of programs available to support this issue. Recognising the opportunity to give back to some of our community’s most vulnerable, RRT CAR collaborated with multiple charities throughout the year, with a particular focus on our Holiday Food Box campaign.

As always, I say thank you to all our volunteers, who regardless of the situation, reactive or proactive, make themselves available to assist, offering their time, their kindness and their smiles to those who are most in need.

RRT CARIBBEAN

2023 Snapshot

22
TOTAL EVENTS



588
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS



4,608
TOTAL RRT
FOOD BOX MEALS



3,019
TOTAL MEALS SERVED

 EMERGENCY
SERVICES

9 EVENTS SUPPORTED
1,646 MEALS SERVED
154 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 YOUTH

2 EVENTS SUPPORTED
19 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HOMELESSNESS,
POVERTY AND
HARDSHIP

3 EVENTS SUPPORTED
50 VOLUNTEER HOURS

 HEALTH AND
DISABILITY

8 EVENTS SUPPORTED
365 VOLUNTEER HOURS



RRT Argentina:

Our teams have made great strides to connect and support various charities and people in the communities where we live in times of need. We have a dynamic volunteer base and we look forward to continuing to grow our impact over the coming years.





RRT Argentina Director

PETER HELLBERG



Volunteering since 2022

2023 was a defining year for Argentina as we started to build on our charitable efforts since we officially established RRT here two years ago.

With just three localities spread across the country, we were called upon on numerous occasions to support emergency services in their efforts to quell fires, provide volunteers to help clear debris after devastating storms and deliver moments of appreciation for hospital staff and first responders. However, there were a couple of notable events during the year.

After a long period of drought in the southern part of the country, July experienced a series of wildfires. Unfortunately, some of these spread to residential areas with the first to be impacted being the neighbourhoods of Buenos Aires with the blaze lasting 10 days. 15 RRT AR volunteers provided meals and refreshments to the E. Echeverria department fire department who were focused on the clean-up effort, putting out embers, and clearing the smouldering remains of buildings.

Then at the end of the year, Bahía Blanca, a city south of the province of Buenos Aires, was struck by a severe tropical storm. 140km winds brought down more than 14,000 trees, along with the city's electricity. The winds tore off roofs and walls of homes and buildings, requiring the city to be evacuated.

Once the storm had subsided our volunteers from Bahía Blanca assisted in the clean-up effort. The team were tasked with removing debris from the Plaza Rivadavia, the town's main square.

The storm displaced many residents, so RRT AR delivered 160 Food Boxes to the DOW Shelter and Donation Centre. DOW Shelter is a charitable entity that provides support to families who may find themselves unemployed and, or homeless.

In November RRT AR was also delighted to be able to be involved with Argentina's National Blood Donor Day in two different events, the first held in Santa Fe and the other in Cruz Roja. Organised by the provincial government of Santa Fe and Único de Donación (The Unique Centre for Organ Donation). This organisation promotes organ, tissue and cell donation and works to increase equal access and availability to all patients. We provided 230 breakfasts and 130 lunches for the nurses, doctors and donors on the day.

One of our key beneficiaries is the police force. In September we supported the ninth anniversary of the General Directorate of Tactical Action Police. RRT AR volunteers served up an early morning breakfast at 6 am providing sustenance to those who wore both starting and ending their duties. This event spanned six days, which saw us provide over 600 meals. This unit was established within Argentina's Federal police force to respond to situations such as counterterrorism and hostage rescue.

While operating officially under the banner of RRT is still in its infancy, our teams have made great strides to connect and support various charities and people in the communities where we live in times of need. We have a dynamic volunteer base and we look forward to continuing to grow our impact over the coming years.



We supported the ninth anniversary of the General Directorate of Tactical Action Police. RRT AR volunteers served up an early morning breakfast at 6 am providing sustenance to those who wore both starting and ending their duties. This event spanned six days, which saw us provide over 600 meals.





RRT FINANCIALS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Financials

As part of our commitment to good governance, where RRT is a registered charity across the globe, we produce and publish a financial review, transparently sharing the charity's financial standing for the previous financial year which is available upon request.

To view this Annual Review and previous iterations please visit www.rrtglobal.org/compliance

Corporate Governance

RRT views Corporate Governance as an essential part of ensuring our directors around the globe address their corporate, legal, financial, and audit responsibilities, and exercise reasonable care, skills, and diligence in carrying out their duties.

RRT as a charity takes its responsibilities and Corporate Governance obligations seriously.

All RRT Directors are aware of their responsibilities and ensure RRT abides by its Constitution. The RRT Board's primary responsibilities are to;

- Establish long-term goals and approve strategic plans to achieve these goals and monitor achievements.
- Ensure the appropriate separation of authorities and balance of responsibilities between the Board and management.
- Review and approve annual budgets, monitor management and financial performance, and ensure that the organisation has the necessary skills, resources, and support.
- Identify significant organisational risks and ensure effective strategies are in place to manage these risks and ensure that there are adequate systems of internal control, together with appropriate monitoring of compliance activities.
- Review and approve major strategies, financial objectives, and plans, including capital expenditures.

Further, the Board promotes ethical and responsible decision-making by ensuring that RRT conducts its business to the highest standards of honesty, integrity, respect, and fairness when dealing with members of the community and both internal and external stakeholders.

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACROSS THE GLOBE

NORTH AMERICA

- Aaron Holt
- Greg Cornell
- Greg Johnstone
- Randy Thomas
- Wayne Druckenmiller
- Chris Samuels

CARIBBEAN

- Mark DeCasseres
- Alfred Pile
- Gerald Hunte
- Chester Morren
- Stanley Corbin
- Cedric Ward
- Derek Daniel
- Philip Mings
- Kenley Ward
- Ryan Chambers
- Robert DeCasseres
- Leon Bailey
- Kent Pile
- Jeffery Niles
- Wayne Brathwaite
- Wesley Hunte

UNITED KINGDOM

- Sam Blackledge
- Rod Buckley
- Murray Robertson
- David Brown
- Russell Lynes
- Ben Napthine
- Andy Turner

FRANCE

- Kenny Bartolomei
- Guillaume Gounon
- Jérôme Barthélémy
- Clément Courbis
- David Argaud
- Johnny Guilhot

ARGENTINA

- Peter Hellberg
- Peter Browning
- Aidan Sandeman
- Richard Irvine
- Roger Landini
- Sam Hazell

NETHERLANDS

- Simon Maak
- Roderik Suurmond
- Jimmy Burk

DENMARK

- Jens Anderson
- Greg Calder
- Harry Edwards
- Niels Webb

SWEDEN

- Niklas Gunnarsson
- Gary Worsley
- David Malstrom
- Jim Rosdahl
- Basil Guest

GERMANY

- Angus Otto
- Christoph Menn
- Jonas Pfeiffer
- Tony Burk



ITALY

- Lorenzo Casavecchia

SWITZERLAND

- Loren Hazell
- Benji Tiso
- Ron Tiso
- Patrick Hannaford

AUSTRALIA

- Ron Arkcoll
- Lester Sharples
- Lloyd Grimshaw
- Rick Grosse
- Rick Salisbury
- John Proctor
- Scott Jensen

NEW ZEALAND

- Cameron Prestidge
- Daniel Blampied
- Daniel Steele
- Edward Davis
- Jeff Wearmouth
- Kingsley Smith
- Matthew Smith
- Ronald Malcolm

To all those volunteers, who have tenaciously harnessed a humble idea, I say thank you. You have created an enduring foundation ensuring RRT will continue to express our values of care and compassion into the next decade and beyond.

– Ron Arkcoll, Global Managing Director







Community | Compassion | Support

www.rrtglobal.org