The Unique Role of IAFR on the Refugee Highway

There is no question that when humanitarian disaster strikes, disaster response agencies need to rush in and stop the free fall of those directly affected by providing security, water, shelter, food and medical care.

But the response to humanitarian crisis requires more than the services of disaster response agencies. There is a need for long-term recovery work that fuels hope and helps those affected rebuild their lives. Such work requires different strategies and skills than disaster response work.

Recovery work begins when emergency responders have established a basic level of stability. As refugees often feel de-humanized, recovery work is highly relational and seeks to restore dignity and sustain hope. Recovery ministries invest in the resilience of forcibly displaced people as they work to regain a sense of normalcy in life.

The problem of forced displacement leaves people without a place to call home. Even when the door opens and a solution to this problem of place is found, the process of integration has many challenges of its own. Long-time residents and newcomers need to move toward one another and work together for mutual flourishing.

Local church communities are perfectly suited for such ministry, and IAFR is here to help. IAFR is seeking the welfare of forcibly displaced people together with the church by meeting them on their journey, generating hope and helping them rebuild their lives.

Interested in seeing what this looks like on the ground? Learn more at www.IAFR.org!