

Operation Blessing, International

Organization Description

Operation Blessing, International (OBI) is a nonprofit, faith-based organization devoted to relieving human suffering both nationally and internationally through hunger relief, medical aid, disaster relief, and community development. It was founded as the humanitarian arm of the Christian Broadcasting Network family of organizations. Through its Hunger Strike Force (HSF) program, OBI supplies food to thousands of small relief groups and food pantries serving a diverse population of needy clients. OBI also assists these organizations to provide other life-enhancing services.

Project Description

OBI's Hunger Strike Force program includes approximately 95 regional drop off sites which service over 5,000 relief groups nationwide. Only 5% of drop off points have adequate computer systems for tracking donated product and food distribution. Sixty-five percent have no dedicated computer equipment of any kind. This project will provide computers and training to allow OBI's network to use their product tracking system. It will also provide training and technical assistance in program organization, management and capacity building.

Geographic Scope of Project

Nationwide, focused on the 95 organizations in the Hunger Strike Force food distribution network located in 22 states plus new sites that will be added.

Partnering Organizations

OBI will work with all of the organizations represented in their network. In addition, they will partner with Regent University to provide training and regional workshops.

Sub-Awards

OBI will provide \$382,000 in sub-awards. OBI will issue up to 15 sub-awards of \$2,500 expand capacity of regional drop sites. They will also offer sub-awards of \$5,000 to upgrade 5 regional sites' level of operations. Sub-awards for refrigeration storage will be offered based on need, availability, and infrastructure. OBI will also purchase and place 35 computer systems equipped with customized tracking software within the HSF network of relief groups.

Project Objectives

1. To develop 2 regional drop sites to the OBI Network level.
2. To add 10 new local drop sites.
3. To provide TA in the productive use of computer technology.
4. To provide TA in program organization, management and capacity building.
5. To increase food distribution capacity of participating drop sites by 10-15%.

Project Strategies

- Offer product tracking system and computer hardware to select drop sites.
- Organize 5 regional technical assistance workshops.
- Offer individualized technical assistance where needed.
- Provide information resources on OBI's website.
- Offer sub-awards for new drop sites and upgrading capacity of existing drop sites.

Grant Award Amount

\$500,000

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