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Airlink is a global humanitarian organization that delivers critical aid to communities in crisis by providing airlift and logistics solutions to nonprofit partners, changing the way the humanitarian community responds to disasters around the world.

Our funding comes from donations and in-kind awards from airlines, aviation sector businesses, foundations, and individuals. We build long-term relationships with airlines, who provide Airlink with access to airlift to harness the power and speed of aviation to deliver humanitarian aid and responders in the wake of natural and man-made disasters.

Every year, Airlink brings aid and hope to millions of people across the globe, utilizing over a decade’s worth of experience in the complexities of disaster logistics. Airlink’s role has grown to one that goes far beyond providing free flights, to being an important coordinating force resulting in more aid getting to the right locations at the right time. The Airlink concept has also proven to be an extremely efficient and effective method for airlines and aviation-focused businesses to give and support a wide array of humanitarian programs globally.
Message from the President and CEO

As we look back, 2021 was dominated by the long, dark shadow of COVID-19. We have all faced challenges — as individuals, as a community — since the start of the pandemic over two years ago. Airlink’s story, like that of many of the communities we serve and NGOs we support, is a story of perseverance in the face of numerous challenges.

Our story also is one of human compassion and determination in the face of disaster. The seemingly endless generosity of people within the aviation industry and the organizations they work for is one that deserves far wider recognition than it gets. The Airlink team and I feel immensely proud to be part of the aviation family. Support from our donors enabled Airlink to charter flights, when necessary, and overcome many severe supply chain obstacles.

2021 was also an unprecedented year for natural disasters. Again, we witnessed an extreme Atlantic Hurricane Season, not to mention another earthquake in Haiti, a country still recovering from the quake in 2010 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. In addition to the many projects or programs we supported across the globe to combat COVID-19, Airlink responded to 26 emergencies.

Steven J. Smith
— President and CEO
“Last year, Airlink delivered humanitarian aid to 7.86M people across the world’s six regions in 38 countries. That’s over seven million stories of adversity, turned into stories of renewed hope.”

Airlink was able to support these needs because of the generosity of donors who understand the central role logistics plays in disaster response and Airlink’s critical role in supporting a network of over 130 nonprofit organizations.

Last year, Airlink delivered humanitarian aid to 7.86M people across the world’s six regions in 38 countries. That’s over seven million stories of adversity, turned into stories of renewed hope. Of the 38 countries where Airlink delivered aid, we reached 12 countries where we had never previously had programs; these were located mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

During this period, we’ve reflected and looked inwards to see how we can grow as an organization too. Specifically, we’ve undergone a significant discovery process to identify strategies to better resource and assist crisis-stricken communities in the world’s most vulnerable regions: Asia-Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Operating on a localization agenda and bolstering local aid, development, and healthcare systems remains our main priority in 2022 and beyond.

In this annual report you’ll learn about the challenges we navigated regarding global supply chain issues and complex airlift operations. You will also read about the projects we supported to enable our NGO partners to expand their programs and response capacity including disaster preparedness training, disability services, refugee assistance, and more.

To have directly helped 7.86M people worldwide during a challenging year is a testament to the compassion, generosity, and determination of our NGO network, airline partners, and other donors.

Major responses are underway in 2022 that are propelling us to make an even greater impact, thanks to your support.
A Forward Look: Airlink in 2022 and Beyond

At the end of 2021, no one could have predicted that Europe would be embroiled in a major conflict within its own borders. The Russian invasion of Ukraine, which began in February 2022, will end up being Europe’s largest humanitarian crisis since the break up of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. At the time of writing this report, an estimated 11 million Ukrainians were displaced (4.5 million refugees located across regional neighbors and 6.5 million internally displaced). The United Nations has estimated that roughly half of all Ukrainian children have been impacted by the invasion. Responding to the war has been a major undertaking for Airlink, where our ability to marshal international airlift and logistical resources (charter planes, provide shipping options, and trucking on a large scale), coupled with Airlink’s ability to convene and coordinate a significant section of the humanitarian aid sector has come to the fore. At the time of writing, Airlink had provided flights to more than 300 responders and was on the way to delivering 400 tons of humanitarian aid on behalf of 28 NGOs. Airlink anticipates that this response will continue until the end of 2022 at least. By then it is hoped that Airlink will have moved into a recovery response mode.

Airlink is on a growth path reflected in the organization’s footprint which grew considerably over 2021, as this report clearly highlights. In 2022 the organization has planned for significant expansion of its NGO and airline networks still further. In 2021, the senior management team and board agreed on a strategic pathway for the organization, based on evidence from an extensive discovery exercise.

Airlink’s globalization plan acknowledges the increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters and changing demographics, socioeconomic, and geopolitical factors which are leading to an increased human vulnerability in communities around the globe. Airlink’s strategy aims to ensure that Airlink and its partner NGOs are better resourced to assist crisis-stricken communities in the world’s most vulnerable regions: Asia-Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

While Airlink’s regionalization plan acknowledges the extremely diverse and unique needs of each region and sub-region; and that affected communities are best suited to lead preparation, response, and recovery activities, it nevertheless aims to allow more consistently supported locally empowered responses. To fulfill this strategy the organization has committed itself to significantly growing its resource base and the number of partnerships -airlines and NGOs- in each key region. Airlink also anticipates hiring more staff, including someone to specifically connect with and manage critical airline relationships and Airlink’s first hire outside the USA.
2021 Year In Review

Airlink has always existed to help remove the cost of air transportation as a barrier to NGOs responding to disasters and other humanitarian crises.

Last year, most of our human impact was made in response to COVID-19. Airlink delivered over 10 million pieces of PPE worldwide. The global response to COVID-19 was underfunded by approximately 60%, and the pandemic has rolled back years of development in low and middle-income countries while complicating the logistical response to humanitarian crises worldwide. Whole healthcare systems have gone down and will likely continue to struggle for years to come.

Transportation is often the most volatile and costly component of the humanitarian assistance and disaster relief supply chain. Research conducted by the Kuehne Logistics University, HELP Logistics, and a number of NGOs analyzed data from humanitarian operations between 2005 and 2018 and found supply chain expenditure averaged 73% of total humanitarian relief expenses. These activities are frequently undervalued in programmatic planning or underfunded despite being vital to getting expertise and supplies to communities experiencing emergencies.

A feature of recent supply chain issues impacting most economies around the world is the increase in transportation costs for nonprofit organizations trying to move aid. Pre-pandemic, half of all air cargo that traveled around the world was flown in the bellies of passenger aircraft. During 2021, between 20-30% of the passenger planes in the world were still not flying due to a lack of demand for seats. This drove up competition for airfreight space and rates. On high-traffic routes the costs increased as much as five times the pre-pandemic norms.
Airlink has always existed to help remove the cost of air transportation as a barrier to NGOs responding to disasters and other humanitarian crises. In 2021, Airlink had to charter three separate planes in support of NGO partners responding to disasters. Two planes were chartered to move humanitarian supplies to Haiti in response to the earthquake and one was chartered to fly Personal Protective Equipment and (PPE) and other medical supplies to Nepal to support local health systems trying to combat COVID-19 surges. In both cases, this was done because normal carrier networks had been suspended or interrupted on the back of COVID-19.

The impact COVID-19 had on global logistical infrastructure resulted in a greater, more consistent demand for Airlink’s services than at any other time since our inception. The high demand, and the significant increase in cost burdens responding to disasters is unlikely to change in the short- and medium-term. It is a testament to Airlink’s expertise and deep connections across aviation and freight forwarding sectors that we were able to move shipments that partner organizations would not have otherwise been able to do.

While the second year of the pandemic has brought Airlink a higher level of NGO requests, as well as turning every disaster and humanitarian crisis into a health crisis, it came on top of responding to 26 other separate emergencies. Communities around the world and here in the U.S. have been tragically affected by relentless and increasingly frequent natural disasters, including severe earthquakes and wildfires, an unprecedented Atlantic Hurricane Season, record-breaking tornadoes and flooding, typhoons, and harsh winter storms, to name a few.

In response, Airlink delivered 766,000 pounds of humanitarian supplies and transported more than 1,000 emergency responders on behalf of 56 of our NGO partners.
2021 Numbers

347 tons +766,000 pounds of cargo

+1,000 responders sent

+7.8 M people assisted

27 responses supported across 50 countries

6,671,088 people provided with healthcare services

927,150 meals distributed
2021 Snapshots

01. Kentucky Tornadoes (USA)
December 11, 2021, as many as 30 tornadoes swept through six US states. An estimated 89 people lost their lives, with 76 of those in Kentucky alone.

02. India COVID-19 Surge
April 2021, the WHO reported India accounted for 40% of global COVID-19 cases. Vast healthcare hurdles included fatal shortages of oxygen and oxygen-related medical equipment, PPE, and testing materials.

03. Haiti Earthquake
August 14, 2021, a 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck Saint-Louis du Sud, Haiti, resulting in 2,200 deaths and impacting 1.2 million people.

04. Ghana COVID-19 Surge
September 21, 2021, COVID-19 surge in Ghana threatened to overwhelm local health systems. Airlink and partners boosted the health system by sending tens of thousands of gowns and masks.

05. Hurricane Ida (USA)
August 29th, 2022, saw Hurricane Ida make landfall. Initial estimates were over 1,000,000 people were without power. Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards has said that this was one of the strongest hurricanes to hit Louisiana since at least the 1850s.
Spotlight: COVID-19 A Global Pandemic

In 2021, COVID-19 became a two-tier pandemic underscoring global inequality, with low and middle-income countries experiencing higher excess mortality rates while simultaneously bearing the brunt of natural disasters and other humanitarian crises.

Halfway through the year, only 0.3% of vaccine doses had been administered in low-income countries. Additionally, the Delta variant caused fourth waves in countries with already overwhelmed health systems working to recover from initial waves, and Omicron emerged as a highly transmissible variant soon after.

In April 2020, Airlink launched AviationC.A.R.E.S. (Co-ordinated Air Response for Emergency Supplies), an initial commitment to support communities and health systems through the pandemic response. Now in its second year, Airlink has reached 30+ countries since the start of the pandemic with essential supplies needed to limit the spread of COVID-19. These include personal protective equipment (gloves, gowns, masks), COVID-19 tests, oxygen supplies, diagnostic tools like pulse oximeters and X-ray machines, and hygiene and sanitation materials.

Airlink’s AviationC.A.R.E.S. program will continue for as long as is needed to tackle COVID-19 and ensure people around the world have access to necessary medical care, vaccinations, and sanitation and hygiene to stay safe.

Countries and Territories Where Airlink Delivered Aid:
(Ballesia Grouped by Region) Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, USA, Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

People Provided with:
Health Services and Supplies - 6,525,751
WASH - 2,500
Food - 622,276

Airlink is an incredible asset and partner for Project:Camp. Having airfare provided alleviates a huge line item for us, which allows us to respond to more disasters, get more volunteers on the ground, and ultimately help more families.

—Ozzie Baron, Co-Founder, and Deputy Director, Project:Camp
American Nurses on a Mission, Costa Rica

- **2,500** WASH
- **6,525,751** People provided with healthcare and supplies
- **5,581,979** Pieces of PPE delivered
- **27** Nonprofits helped
Spotlight: India and COVID-19

In April 2021, the World Health Organization reported that India accounted for 40% of global COVID-19 cases as the country faced an unprecedented COVID-19 surge. Vast healthcare hurdles included fatal shortages of oxygen and oxygen-related medical equipment.

Airlink's response to India provides an example of the complexities of humanitarian response. Airlink navigated customs duty issues, a requirement that goods be shipped directly to the state within the country where they were to be utilized, and requirement that aid be consigned from our international NGO partners directly to state-recognized local partners. This presented a set of knots that tied the hands of many organizations wanting to help.

Responding NGOs requested Airlink's services not only in providing tactical coordination and airlift, but also in making vital connections on the ground that would allow aid to be brought into the country.

Airlink swiftly launched its Operation Airlift India Campaign and delivered over 1M pieces of PPE while supporting 17 NGO partners in the process. Thanks to our Global Signature Lead Partner, United Airlines, and Response Lead Funders, the ISTAT Foundation and the Air Lease Corporation, Airlink was able to provide healthcare-related assistance to 1.8M people.

Countries and Territories
Where Airlink Delivered Aid:
India

People Provided with:
Health Services and Supplies - 1,878,224
Pieces of PPE sent - 1,019,964
Pulse Oximeters - 2000
Mixed medical supplies - 146,128 lbs

NGO Partners:

Airline and Logistics Partners:
Atlas Worldwide, British Airways, Cathay Pacific, DHL, Polar Air Cargo, Qatar Airways, United Airlines

Funding Partners:
Aircastle, Air Lease Corporation, Global Giving, BOC Aviation, Flexport, Gap Foundation, ISTAT, The ISTAT Foundation, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Without supporters like Airlink, MedWish would not be able to provide lifesaving medical equipment and supplies to our recipients in need.

— Jennifer Buck, Director of Operations, MedWish International
1,019,964 Pieces of PPE delivered
17 Nonprofits helped
1,878,224 People provided with healthcare supplies
366,499 Pounds of relief supplies delivered
1,019,964 Pieces of PPE delivered
17 Nonprofits helped
Spotlight: Nepal and COVID-19

In 2021, Nepal’s already fragile health system, spread across a challenging topographical landscape, also had to cope with COVID-19. Nepal also closed its airspace making charters the only way to get in.

Nepal urgently required a range of medical supplies to cope with the surge in healthcare needs. The Nepalese government closed all airports to commercial flights in response to the COVID-19 surge. Only chartered flights could gain access, but the confluence of a number of factors led to a shortage of available charters, dramatically driving up the costs beyond the resources of most nonprofit organizations. This further constricted the supply of medical assistance.

Working with and coordinating partners Flexport.org, Project HOPE, and Polar Air Cargo, Airlink chartered an IL-76 flight into Kathmandu. The flight carried 1.4 million gloves, 128,000 KN95 masks, 70,000 surgical masks, 35,000 face shields, and even 30 hospital beds, which better equipped local health systems to tackle the health crisis. MedShare, a national nonprofit organization that recovers surplus medical supplies and equipment, donated supplies, and the Pratiman Neema Memorial Foundation was the consignee who benefited from the donation in-country and distributed the medical supplies across Nepal’s nine regions.

In total, the medical supplies flown in by the charter saved an estimated 900,000 lives.

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Through our partnership with Airlink, Project HOPE has been able to respond quickly to bring relief to communities that are in crisis. This collaboration empowers us to rapidly respond to get medical supplies, medicines and other critical items to hospitals and communities with the greatest needs. Thank you to Airlink for working with us and the communities we serve.

—Chris Skopec, Executive Vice President, Project HOPE
Pratiman-Neema Memorial Foundation, Nepal

- 65,829 Pounds of relief supplies delivered
- 900,000 People provided with healthcare and supplies
- 1,633,030 Pieces of PPE delivered
- 3 Nonprofits helped
Spotlight: Haiti Earthquake

On Saturday, August 14, 2021, a 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck Saint-Louis du Sud, Haiti, resulting in 2,200 deaths and impacting 1.2 million people, including an estimated 570,000 children.

The challenges of the response, and the scale of the impact on the people of Haiti, were intensified by the fact Haiti was still recovering from previous natural disasters, the 2010 earthquake and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. The same region was hit by a tropical storm one week later.

The supply chain post-earthquake was extremely difficult to navigate. Many airlines stopped or reduced services due to a combination of civil unrest pre-pandemic and low demand for travel when the pandemic set in. As a result, the reduced capacity meant high rates for air cargo movements.

There were significant access constraints and a fragile security situation in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, gang violence created a bottleneck for cargo from Port-au-Prince by blocking the main aid corridor to the Southern Peninsula. Finally, the long shipping times by sea, global shipping container shortages, and worries over insecurity at Haiti’s seaports, further limited available options.

In the end, Airlink sent 100 tons of aid to the country and supported over 100 flights for responders, utilizing both our organizational funds and airline donations to meet the needs of our partners.

Airlink is always ready to dive in, no matter the need. Their leadership to connect airlines and NGO partners to serve crucial humanitarian needs is unparalleled and humbling. This work resonates with Alaska Airlines’ values of caring and doing the right thing, and we’re grateful to partner with Airlink to support those in crisis and recovery, from those affected by flooding in Everson, WA to Haiti. When there’s a call for help, we work together to support communities in need.

—Diana Birkett Rakow, Senior Vice President, Public Affairs & Sustainability at Alaska Airlines
SARAID, Haiti

- 159,319 Pounds of relief supplies delivered
- 9,350 Shelter & non-food items
- 52,000 WASH
- 80 Responders sent
- 15 Nonprofits helped
Spotlight: Haiti Earthquake Charters

Working together with ShelterBox, Airlink rushed one large shipment of humanitarian aid across two charter flights to families in Haiti impacted by the 7.2M earthquake in August.

Where possible Airlink tries to use existing capacity within the scheduled airline and air cargo network. Not only is this operationally the most practical and cost effective operating model, it also ensures Airlink helps minimize global CO₂ levels by utilizing existing network capacity across our airline partners’ networks. Where there is no other option, Airlink will charter aircraft. This is where the logistics expertise and flexibility that Airlink brings to disaster response pays off. We remove the burden of organizing such complex operations from NGOs and Airlink is usually able to get access to charters at a lower rate than would the NGO on its own, because of our substantial network of relationships.

The shipment totaled 71 tons in weight and the cargo was moved over two chartered flights utilizing A300-600F aircraft. The aid included shelter kits, tarpaulins, solar lights, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, blankets, and water carriers for clean water transport.

The shipments supported the shelter needs for an estimated 2,000 families.

Working with Airlink has been fantastic. They were able to source the best possible transport solution, ensuring that vital aid items were moved in as few uplifts as possible, in the fastest possible time frame. Airlink also made a generous donation towards the transportation costs from their Disaster Response Fund, allowing us to support more families in need of assistance.

—Rachel Hall, Programmes Supply Chain Manager at ShelterBox
156,014 Pounds of relief supplies delivered
10,600 People provided with healthcare and supplies
1,019,964 Pieces of PPE delivered
1 Nonprofits helped
Spotlight: Hurricane Ida, USA

Hurricane Ida, a deadly and destructive Category 4 Atlantic hurricane, made landfall on August 29th in the U.S. state of Louisiana where it brought life threatening storm surges, catastrophic winds, and dangerous rainfall and flooding.

Hurricane Ida was the second most damaging hurricane to hit Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Hurricane Ida caused widespread loss of power throughout Louisiana, as well as parts of Mississippi — leaving people with chronic illnesses and under-resourced communities without vital electricity to carry on with daily life. Airlink activated a response to provide impacted communities with search and rescue, shelter, medical teams and supplies to bolster local systems, feeding stations, and flooding clean-up.

Based on past experience responding to hurricanes and other weather events of this sort in the USA and beyond, Airlink anticipates that we will be supporting rebuilding and recovery efforts for the next two years, if not longer, and will likely provide over 500 flights for responders and recovery teams over that timeframe.

Operation BBQ Relief thanks Airlink for helping to get our key volunteers and staff to serve communities in Louisiana following Hurricane Ida to provide over 247,000 meals. The Operation BBQ Relief team met many families that were deeply grateful for support during the drive-thru distribution. Thank you Airlink for helping us share the healing power of BBQ.

— Stan Hays, Co-Founder & CEO of Operation BBQ Relief

Countries and Territories Where Airlink Delivered Aid:
USA — Louisiana

People Provided with:
Food - 247,573
WASH - 2,500
Health Services and Supplies - 1,875
Shelter - 1,300
Other - 26,143

NGO Partners:
All Hands and Hearts, Empact Northwest, Fuel Relief Fund, IOCC, NECHAMA, Project Hope, Operation BBQ Relief, Sol Relief, Saint Vincent de Paul-USA, Team Rubicon.

Airline and Logistics Partners:
Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, Sol Relief
Airlink

Annual Report 2021

NECHAMA, Louisiana

366,499
Pounds of relief supplies delivered

1,875
People provided with healthcare and supplies

247,573
Meals distributed

451
Responders sent
Airlink responses in 2021

- Over 7.8 million stories of adversity turned into stories of hope across the globe.
- Airlink operates by region forming local partnerships to propel disaster response.
Asia-Pacific

Devastating surges of the COVID-19 Delta variant across the Asia-Pacific region created significant challenges for healthcare systems in many countries in 2021.

Airlink quickly mobilized to support cargo movements into several countries experiencing debilitating waves of infections, sending more than 214.5 tons of critically needed medical supplies, PPE, and oxygen-related items to medical facilities in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

The Asia-Pacific region is home to some of the largest populations of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and prone to devastating natural disasters. Airlink saw a significant increase in humanitarian needs in the region, with COVID-19 simultaneously impacting access for humanitarian response and increasing the number of those in need.

When Typhoon Rai made landfall in the Philippines in late 2021, COVID-19 related travel restrictions hindered many humanitarian organizations’ ability to quickly respond. By the end of the year, Airlink coordinated passenger travel for NetHope to the Philippines to install equipment needed to support responding organizations’ coordination and increase WiFi connectivity within areas affected by the typhoon. After Typhoon Rai, this was instrumental in repairing badly damaged telecommunications infrastructure.

This year, Airlink supported Lifebox to provide 800 pulse oximeters and over 165,000 KN95 masks to healthcare providers on the COVID frontlines across six countries. Thank you Airlink, for this outstanding support to Lifebox - protecting patients and providers from COVID-19.

— Kris Torgeson, Global CEO of Lifebox
3,547,512 Pieces of PPE delivered

17 Nonprofits helped

3,633,974 People provided with healthcare and supplies

475,418 Pounds of relief supplies delivered

NetHope, Philippines
Europe

In 2021, Europe faced challenges caused by conflict, climate emergencies, and displacement, all exacerbated by the pandemic. The Armenia and Azerbaijan conflict caused COVID-19 cases to spread rapidly, as displaced families were forced to live in close quarters.

In collaboration with Project Hope, Airlink coordinated the shipment of 500,000 masks to reach civilians in Nagorno-Karabakh. Distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) became a critical way to protect vulnerable populations.

In addition, European nations continued to be a destination for those seeking asylum from protracted conflicts. Asylum seekers from Syria and Afghanistan continued to arrive at refugee camps in Greece overwhelming already strained health facilities. Airlink supported flights for medical personnel with Hands On Global providing triage and wound care as well as implementing telehealth systems at the Kara Tepe camp in Lesvos. The teams were vital to providing services to the most vulnerable members of the camp.

Total Number of Projects Supported: 2
Countries and Territories
Where Airlink Delivered Aid:
Armenia, Greece

Total Number of NGOs Supported – 2
Project HOPE, Hands On Global

Airline and Logistics Partners:
Qatar Airways (Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict)
United Airlines (Syrian refugee crisis in Greece)

“International Medical Corps implements programs in +30 countries, assisting local communities in hard to reach areas. Partnerships are instrumental to delivering on our mission. Without the transportation and logistics support from Airlink and others, we would not have been able to respond in some places during the challenging supply chain environment brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

—Marcia Roeder, Senior Specialist, Strategic Philanthropy and Gift In-Kind at International Medical Corps
Hands on Global, Greece

8,818 Pounds of relief supplies delivered

105 People provided with healthcare and supplies

500,000 Pieces of PPE delivered

2 Nonprofits helped
Latin America and the Caribbean

Latin America and the Caribbean is the world’s most economically unequal region and the second most disaster-prone.

In 2021, Airlink responded to the volcanic eruption in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the devastating earthquake in Haiti, unprecedented flooding in Guyana, and spikes of COVID-19 in Mexico, Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

Increased vulnerability to climate disaster means that communities require significant long-term recovery efforts. In 2021 alone, Airlink provided flights for more than 150 volunteers to support rebuilding projects in Bahamian communities affected by Hurricane Dorian in 2019. Airlink also supported recovery programs in Honduras and Guatemala after Hurricanes Eta & Iota, and in earthquake-stricken indigenous communities in southern Mexico.

In Colombia, the influx of refugees and migrants escaping from the economic collapse in Venezuela has strained under-resourced border communities. Airlink worked with NGO CADENA to deliver hygiene kits and provide medical and psychological consultation to Venezuelan families.
965,500 Pieces of PPE delivered

23 Nonprofits helped

977,122 People provided with healthcare and supplies

188,512 Pounds of relief supplies delivered
Middle East and North Africa

Ongoing conflict, population displacement, and insecurity remain a backdrop to response efforts in the Middle East, all compounded by the impact of COVID-19, which has contributed to current humanitarian crises throughout the region.

In 2021, Airlink supported critical cargo movements of personal protective equipment and medical supplies to Iraq and Palestine.

In Lebanon, the country’s health system had to cope with COVID-19, political and economic instability, and the continuing aftermath of 2020’s Beirut port explosion. Hospitals saw increased patients, depleting medical supplies and adding strain on weakened infrastructure. To respond to these needs, Airlink supported the transportation of medical equipment and face masks on behalf of MedWish International and International Medical Corps. The medical equipment will bolster health facilities’ capacity to treat patients beyond COVID-19 and maintain continuity of care, while the face masks protected frontline healthcare workers as they treated underserved communities.

Since 2020, our partnership with Airlink has allowed MedWish to be able to send life-saving medical supplies to our recipients. During the Covid 19 pandemic, Airlink supported MedWish in sending ventilators to Lebanon and providing personal protective equipment to India. Without this connection, we would not have had the resources to meet this critical need.

— Jennifer Buck, Director of Operations at MedWish International
International Medical Corps, Iraq

14,003
Pounds of relief supplies delivered

592,150
People provided with healthcare and supplies

600,170
Pieces of PPE delivered

2
Nonprofits helped
Sub-Saharan Africa

In Sub-Saharan Africa, COVID-19 continues to place a tremendous burden on health systems and the medical personnel and community health workers that operate them.

Providing over 1M people with access to healthcare services in 2021, Airlink’s key priority for the response in this region has been to bolster healthcare infrastructure in low-resource settings by arming local organizations and health facilities with access to face masks, gloves, and other PPE items to increase health workers’ ability to protect themselves from the transmission of COVID-19 and other illnesses. Beyond PPE, Airlink supported multiple shipments of pulse oximeters to increase capacity to monitor and treat COVID-19 in non-emergency settings, increasing space at hospitals to treat critically ill patients.

As part of its commitment to expand Airlink’s regional focus in Sub-Saharan Africa, Airlink reached six countries in the region with humanitarian aid for the first time in 2021 including: Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, South Africa, and Zambia.

Airlink also worked with GlobalMedic to support flights for pilots to attend a disaster preparedness training in Mozambique regarding the use of drones and A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) in disaster response, and delivered micronutrient sachets to Nigeria on behalf of Rise Against Hunger to alleviate rates of malnutrition that are unevenly spread across the country as part of a World Bank funded project.

Total Number of Projects Supported: 26
Countries and Territories
Where Airlink Delivered Aid:
Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Total Number of NGOs Supported – 14

Airline and Logistics Partners:
Emirates (COVID in Uganda), United Airlines (COVID in Lesotho & Ghana, SAR Training in Mozambique), Qatar Airways (Tigray Regional Crisis, Northeastern Nigeria Food Insecurity Crisis, COVID in Zambia, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Zimbabwe), DHL Express (COVID in Lesotho, Ethiopia, Zambia, Kenya, Madagascar, Sierra Leone), Lufthansa Cargo (COVID in Liberia and Sierra Leone), Flexport.org / Flexport Fund
645,291 Pieces of PPE delivered
14 Nonprofits helped
1,048,331 People provided with healthcare and supplies
74,226 Pounds of relief supplies delivered
North America

In 2021, communities across North America grappled with the impacts of extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and wildfires, all compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Total Number of Projects Supported: 37
Countries and Territories Where Airlink Delivered Aid: USA, Canada
Total Number of NGOs Supported – 17
Team Rubicon Canada, All Hands and Hearts, Disaster Services Corporation, SVDP-USA, Empact Northwest, Fuel Relief Fund, Heart to Heart International, Inspiritus, International Orthodox Christian Charities, IsraAID, ITDRC - Information Technology Disaster Resource Center, NECHAMA - Jewish Response to Disaster, Off-The-Grid Missions, Operation BBQ Relief, Project:Camp, Project HOPE, Team Rubicon, Waves for Water

Airlink and Logistics Partners:
Air Canada (PNW Floods in BC, Lytton Fire in BC), Alaska (PNW Floods in WA, COVID in Los Angeles, Hurricane Ida), Southwest (KY tornadoes, Winter Storm Uri), United Airlines (AL/GA tornadoes, 2021 CA Wildfires, KY tornadoes, PNW Floods, West Tennessee Floods, Afghan Refugee Relief, COVID in Los Angeles, COVID in Navajo Nation, Hurricane Ida, Hurricane Laura recovery, Michigan floods, Winter Storm Uri, Hawaii Floods)

From immediate relief to long-term recovery, Airlink played a key role. Airlink coordinated responses in British Columbia and the US Pacific Northwest after record breaking wildfires, and then once again just months later when the same communities were hit with devastating floods. When Hurricane Ida struck the Gulf Coast, Airlink’s NGO partners provided assistance to over 275,000 people. At the same time, Airlink continued to support recovery programs assisting last year’s hurricane season.

Throughout 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to disproportionately impact frontline healthcare personnel, indigenous people and people of color, the elderly, and those immunocompromised. Airlink provided surge capacity with partners like Project HOPE while also addressing the pandemic’s broader impact, sending responders to provide water and meals to vulnerable populations with All Hands and Hearts. When vaccinations became readily available, Airlink sent healthcare workers to assist with administering the doses. This effort built the capacity of overwhelmed healthcare systems and provided holistic support to vulnerable communities.

Airlink came through for us in a big way in 2021. During a catastrophic wildfire and flood season, their donation of flights, and coordination efforts helped us support a team of 132 skilled volunteers from Canada and the US in British Columbia over 126 days. Their mission enabled us to bring hope, and skilled hands into communities during their darkest days, and we are grateful.

—Bryan Riddell, CEO of Team Rubicon Canada
924,150 Meals distributed
419,406 People provided with healthcare and supplies
49,925 Pieces of PPE delivered
17 Nonprofits helped
President’s Circle of Corporate and Foundation Supporters

Sponsor levels represent combined cash and in-kind giving from company, employees, and hosted fundraising activities. Support from Airline Partners recognized separately.

*Thank you to our media supporters – Airline Economics, Aviation Week, CNN Impact Your World, Royal Media, and The Points Guy

Titanium ($250,000+)
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
The ISTAT Foundation

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Aviation Capital Group
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AERO
Asahi Aviation
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Our sincerest thanks to the many individual donors from across the public and the aviation sector who generously donated to Airlink. We honor each of you in this report. Thank You!

Disclaimer:
Every effort has been made to properly recognize our institutional supporters for 2021. In the event that your company or foundation has been inadvertently left off this list, please contact us.
Board Members

Read more about our Board Members, and other volunteer leadership including Ambassadors and Governor’s Council here. [www.airlinkflight.org](http://www.airlinkflight.org)

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**Lars Winkelbauer**  
Aviation Executive
NGOs Supported in 2021*

ADRA International
Afya Foundation
All Hands and Hearts
American Nurses on a Mission
Assist International
Build Health International
CADENA
CDEMA
Clinton Health Access Initiative
CORE
Empact Northwest
Feed the Hungry
Fuel Relief Fund
GAZHP
GlobalMedic
Global Response Management
Global Support & Development
Hands On Global
Heart to Heart International
Hearts & Hands Disaster Recovery
Inspiritus
International Association of Human Values
International Medical Corps
International Orthodox Christian Charities
IsraAID
ITDRC
Kent Hospital
Lifebox Foundation
MAP International
Medical Teams International
Medshare
MedWish International
Mercy Corps
Mobile Medics International
NECHAMA
NetHope
Off-The-Grid Missions
Operation BBQ Relief
Partners in Health
Project:Camp
Project C.U.R.E.
Project HOPE
Rise Against Hunger
SARAI
Sewa International
Shelter Box
Sikh Gurdwara of San Jose
SVDP
Team Rubicon Canada
Team Rubicon
UMCOUR
Village Health Works
VisionSpring
Water with Blessings
Waves for Water
We Care Solar

*New partners in blue
Airlink appreciates the donation of airlift and logistics services from these partners whose routes aligned with our humanitarian partners’ needs for transportation of relief aid and responders in 2021. They are among the network of 50+ airline partners Airlink works with to cover disasters around the world. We thank all of our Airline Partners for their readiness to support. For a complete list of our Airline Partners, go to our website.

*These airlines provided additional support to Airlink through cash donations for its operations, and encouraged customers to consider giving donations of cash or miles direct cash and mileage donations to Airlink.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Signature Lead</th>
<th>Rhodium ($350,000+)</th>
<th>Titanium ($250,000+)</th>
<th>Platinum ($100,000+)</th>
<th>Gold ($50,000+)</th>
<th>Bronze ($10,000+)</th>
<th>Steel (up to $9,999)</th>
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<td>Flexport.org</td>
<td>Avianca Cargo</td>
<td>Alaska Airlines*</td>
<td>Copa Airlines</td>
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<td>DHL Express</td>
<td>Air Canada</td>
<td>JetBlue Airways</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold ($50,000+)</td>
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<td>Polar Air Cargo*</td>
<td>Lufthansa Cargo</td>
<td>Volaris</td>
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</table>
Financials 2021

Revenue: $5,333,161
Expenses: $4,118,837

Expenses:
- Programs: $3,229,282
- General Admin: $541,946
- Fundraising: $347,609

Revenue:
- Contributions: $3,287,796
- Other in-kind: $363,169
- Donated flights: $1,682,196

Based on FY21 Audited Financial Statements
Airlink is a global humanitarian organization delivering critical aid to communities in crisis by providing airlift and logistical solutions to non-profit partners, changing the way the humanitarian community responds to disasters around the world.

Airlink exists to help remove the cost of air transportation as a barrier to NGOs responding to disasters and other humanitarian crises.

www.airlinkflight.org | email: info@airlinkflight.org