



Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen / Wings of Help e.V.

20 years of help for people in need

Help...

... a matter of the heart

A question that helpers are asked again and again is how they can cope with the many stressful images and situations that they are directly exposed to during their assignments. Certainly a valid question.

Being a spectator of human suffering, the destruction of catastrophes or images of wars can be an experience



that is difficult to digest. This must not simply be ignored, but must be processed at some point. Sometimes this is only possible with professional support.

What also helps is that the helpers remain active and take action in situations of agony, despair and hopelessness. Don't become an uninvolved witness, but become a helper in need. "Friends in need are friends indeed" is the mission of our organization. Being confronted with the images of suffering and pain is not comparable to looking at a television screen, it creates a certain distance. Being on site takes exactly this distance, opens the immediate perceptions of the individual senses to suffering and pain, they can be felt immediately. Now the viewer can no longer avoid it, becomes a feeling witness.

The quintessence: to always keep the necessary distance, to provide help and thus to give comfort. This helps those who need help, but also everyone who provides support for life.

Frank Franke

President

Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen/Wings of Help e.V.

From individual aid... *...to help thousands* *of people*

This is how the history of Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen can be outlined within 20 years. The fact that the second name Wings of Help was added in recent years is only logical: because the organization that I was able to co-found has now achieved an enormous international orientation.

The initial idea of helping individuals via single projects has turned into support for many in need: in Turkey after the severe earthquake as well as after the tsunami in Indonesia or Japan. Or in the Ukraine, where people are suffering catastrophically from the war.

With this global commitment, we can look back on an impressive history in the diverse landscape of humanitarian institutions. And for the future, further successful work in favor of people in need seems to be



secured - thanks to the high level of commitment of many volunteer helpers and the support of all those who remain so strongly engaged to Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen/Wings of Help.

Ulf Merbold

Honorary President

Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen/Wings of Help e.V.

What happened 20 years ago?

+++ SARS pandemic afflicts the world: 770 deaths +++ Heat wave in Europe causes 20,000 deaths, 700 victims in Germany alone, record temperature of 47.5 degrees Celsius, 500 hours of sun more than usual +++ More than 700 elementary events and natural disasters, including more than 70 earthquakes worldwide, 6 billion US dollars in earthquake damage alone +++ Earthquake in Iran with 26,000 victims +++ Ongoing fight against the 15 billion euro damage caused by the floods in Central Europe in 2002 +++ January 2003: In Paris First talks on founding Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen/Wings of Help (LOG/WoH) together with EADS/Airbus. June 3, 2003: Official founding of LOG/WoH in Frankfurt am Main as a registered association.



Children from Afghanistan reach Germany for medical aid

A bladder saves Ahmad Bilal's life

2004

LOG/WoH flies the five-year-old boy Ahmad Bilal, who is doomed to die, from Afghanistan to Germany. Here, in the university clinic in Würzburg, he is helped in a twelve-hour operation. The boy was born without a bladder. A bladder was constructed for him from intestinal tissue – with good prognosis for his future life.

Airlift to the tsunami victims

2004/05

The 9.1 magnitude Indian Ocean earthquake with its epicenter 85km off the north-west coast of the Indonesian islands was the third-strongest on record and triggered a series of devastating tsunamis along the Indian Ocean coasts. In total, around 230,000 people died as a result of the earthquake and its aftermath. The tsunamis were the deadliest of all time. Over 1.7 million coastal residents around the Indian Ocean were left homeless. Around 165,000 people died in Indonesia alone, and tens of thousands more in Sri Lanka, India and Thailand. LOG/WoH used an airlift to fly urgently needed relief supplies (clothing, tents, pharmaceutical products, etc.) to the region, with a focus on the devastated Indonesian province of Banda Aceh on the northern tip of Sumatra.



The coastal region of Indonesia after the tsunami

Three Boing 747 with relief supplies to Kashmir

2005/06

The severe earthquake in the Kashmir region 100 km north of Islamabad claimed 77,000 lives. LOG/WoH managed to set up a supply bridge with three Boeing 747 freighters in order to bring the most important aids to the earthquake region via Islamabad as quickly as possible.

Over three million people were left homeless. The international help – including the army pilots of the German Bundeswehr who worked with LOG/WoH – was overwhelming.

Mobile rescue station for New Orleans/USA

2005

Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf of Mexico particularly hit the American south with the city of New Orleans. Among the helpers from Europe: LOG/WoH. In cooperation with EADS/Airbus, the organization brought a mobile rescue station to the "Deep South", where 1,800 people had already died as a result of the hurricane. The facility became a major medical supply station in the New Orleans city limits.



Help for Kashmir arrives in cargo jumbo from Frankfurt

Baby food by air to Beirut

2006

The children suffered most from the war between Lebanon and Israel. Through difficult negotiations, LOG/WoH managed to organize a cargo flight exclusively with baby food from the Netherlands to Amann/

Jordan. From there, smaller aircraft took the aid goods to Beirut, Lebanon.

The challenge with this vital transport was the flight logistics in this persistently contested part of the Middle East.



Aid by helicopter shuttle between the Dominican Republic and Haiti after the devastating earthquake

Emergency aid for the earthquake victims in Peru

2007

The earthquake in Peru had a magnitude of 8. The epicenter was 150 km south of the capital Lima. More than 500 people were killed and over 1,600 injured. LOG/WoH organized an airlift to Lima by freighter with aids for first aid including medication.

Cyclone Nargis kills nearly 100,000 in Myanmar

2008

The devastating Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar's Irrawaddy Delta claimed nearly 100,000 lives. The humanitarian aid for the politically isolated country turned out to be a challenge. LOG/WoH knew: The fishermen in particular were robbed of their livelihoods by the natural disaster and urgently needed boats. With the "Buy a Boat for Myanmar" campaign, soccer club Eintracht Frankfurt donated eleven fishing boats. At the same time, LOG/WoH started food aid for children: In cooperation with the association "World Chefs without Borders", which includes well-known chefs, WOH/LoG organized meals for 4000 children over months in the delta.

Concert for children's home in South Africa

2008

At the same time, LOG/WoH In Germany was committed to a children's home and orphanage in the Cape region of South Africa: With the benefit concert of a South African children's choir from the home for deaf and blind children in Sibonile and performances by German choirs together in Wiesbaden, LOG/WoH generated donations. They will serve the further development and expansion of the almost 100-year-old home in southern Africa, where more than 100 children and young people live today.

Large-scale operation for the people of Haiti

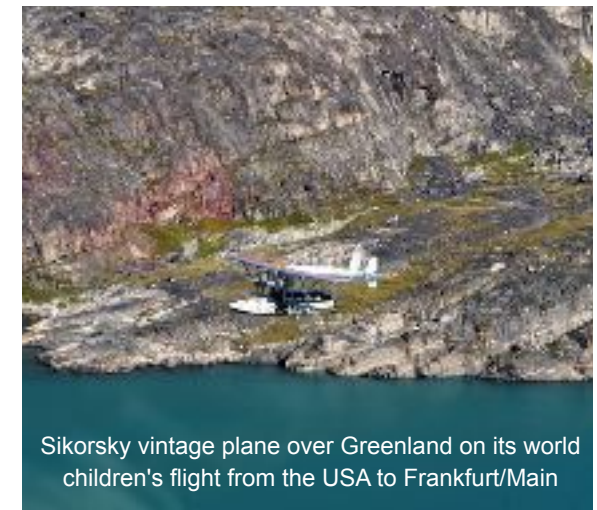
2010

The earthquake in Haiti claimed over 200,000 lives and injured 300,000. The isolated state was inaccessible by direct means. LOG/WoH flew several times to the earthquake region via the Dominican Republic, with strong support from the German holiday airline Condor. From Santo Domingo, emergency doctors, paramedics and medicines were brought to the devastated area of Haiti by helicopter with the help of Airbus.

World Children's Flight: A vintage plane crosses the Atlantic

2010

LOG/WoH starts in the USA for the World Children's Flight - in an old Sikorsky passenger plane from the 1920s/1930s. The flight took place in an icy climate, the twin engines old-timer needed 10 days with various stops, e.g. in Greenland, across the Atlantic to Frankfurt am Main. After this challenge an excursion to Switzerland followed with water landings on Lake Lucerne and Lake Zurich. An adventurous event with a vintage aircraft - supported by a group of people who are enthusiastic about flying, generated donations for needy children for every mile traveled between the New and Old World.



Sikorsky vintage plane over Greenland on its world children's flight from the USA to Frankfurt/Main



The Fukushima catastrophe **2011**

Over 18,000 people lost their lives in the earthquake followed by the Fukushima nuclear disaster north of Tokyo. Large parts of land were devastated, entire towns wiped out. Almost 500,000 people had to flee from the disaster, and more than 160,000 people must be resettled. LOG/WoH helped by sea and brought eight large ship containers with relief supplies to Japan.

A new life for Moise from Rwanda **2011**

Twelve-year-old Moise from Rwanda in Central Africa benefited from an interplastic surgery assignment. Moise, whose body had been heavily injured by a fire, came to Germany. Dr Andre Borsche, chief physician for plastic surgery in Bad Kreuznach, performed several operations. They were all successful. The boy can see and walk again, smell and grasp with his hands. The campaign was made possible, among other things, through the close cooperation between LOG/WoH and the American Hilton Foundation.

Great need in Syria

2012

The war in the Middle East calls LOG/WoH to help the needy refugees. The Autonomous Republic of Kurdistan lies in the epicenter between Turkey/Syria and Iraq and is home to over a million refugees, mainly in tent cities. This includes thousands of Yazidis who were forced out of the Sinjar Mountains by IS violence. LOG/WoH has been helping the people in northern Iraq continuously since 2005, especially with clothing and food. In the early hours of the morning, on the night of the liberation of the Yazidis, who had endured the IS attacks, a cargo plane with relief supplies landed at the airport in Erbil/Northern Kurdistan. Just a few hours later, six 40-ton trucks set off towards the Shingal Mountains with the urgent help supply to survive.

Typhoon destroys parts of the Philippines

2013

Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines with a wind speed of 215 km - the city

of Guiuan was almost completely destroyed, 44 provinces of the archipelago were devastated. Over 6,000 people died. LOG/WoH brought aids, mainly medical products, to Tacloban, where they were distributed in cooperation with the International Medical Corps.

Greece fights against the flow of refugees

2014/
15/16

Due to its geopolitical situation, Greece is heavily occupied by refugees. In order to cope with the streams of migrants and asylum seekers, Hellas sets up camps on various islands. Especially Lesbos and Chios become a symbol for the reception of people from Syria, Afghanistan and other eastern countries. One of the main in-country aid organizations is The Smile of the Child, the dominant humanitarian organization in the country. LOG/WoH works closely with The Smile of the Child, bringing children's food, clothing and other essential supplies into the country for distribution - an ongoing project as it shows today.



Refugee Camp in Greece



reason for the charity trip on the Rhine river from Ludwigshafen - Worms - Oppenheim - Nierstein - Mainz - Wiesbaden-Bingen was the situation of the refugees in general, but especially from Syria across the sea to escape from war. The activity was also linked to the devastating cyclone in Myanmar in 2008 to support the fishermen in the Irrawaddy Delta. As a result, the local fishermen over there presented an original Myanmar fishing boat to LOG/WoH as a thank you for the international help. With the symbolic action on the Rhine, the millions of refugees, especially the children, attracted a great deal of media attention.

Help for people on the Balkan route

2015

At the same time, LOG/WoH intensively helped people on the so-called "Balkan route": refugees from the Middle East, Pakistan and Afghanistan, for example, who were trying to find their way to Central Europe from Turkey. In particular, LOG/WoH supplied food, clothing and medical

products to the stream of refugees who were desperately trying to move to Western Europe.

„All in the boat for humanity“

2015

For World Children's Day in late summer, LOG/WoH initiated the "In the Boat for Humanity" campaign. The

2016

Cooperation with the Barzani Foundation in northern Iraq

LOG/WoH enters into a long-term cooperation with the Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF) in northern Iraq. This non-political foundation takes care of refugees in the Kurdish region in an exemplary manner and is a reliable partner in the distribution of relief supplies.



Hope on the train ride towards Germany

2018

Joining ASF International

LOG/WoH joins the humanitarian umbrella organization Aviation Sans Frontières International. In the ASF International, LOG/WoH is responsible in particular for the large logistics area and thus brings all its many years of experience to this non-governmental organization, which today has ten countries affiliated with it.

2019

Hurricane hits Grand Bahama

With unimaginable force, hurricane Dorian leaves a trail of devastation in Grand Bahama off the US coast. The storm raged over the islands for forty hours at speeds of up to 300km, bringing death and destruction. It was the strongest storm since modern weather records began to hit the Bahamas. Up to

13,000 houses were destroyed and many people lost their lives. LOG/WoH bought aids, such as power generators, in Florida and brought them by cargo ship to Grand Bahama, where they were handed out to the people by church institutions, among other things.

2019

Mozambique: Cyclone robs livelihoods

Cyclone Kenneth destroyed the livelihoods of more than 100,000 fishermen and farmers to an unimaginable extent. Boats, nets and farm land are victims of the cyclone, which drove the sea water ever more inland. LOG/WoH decides to provide immediate aid with clothing, builds a computer school in a small town near the capital and brings drugs against cholera into the country, saving the lives of over 20,000 people, according to the Mozambique Red Cross. The partner Aviation sans Frontieres, Belgium was also involved in this campaign.



Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas had a tremendous destructive power



Thanks from the inhabitants in the Ahr River Valley to LOG/WoH

Efficient support system for the Ahr Valley

2021

The flood disaster in the Ahr Valley calls LOG/WoH into action. Together with many supporters, LOG/Wings of Help was able to start an aid chain by land freight just 3 days after the disaster. After the emergency aid, generators and further support for the reconstruction could be provided together with the partner International Medical Corps. The local partner was the Sinzig-Bad Bodendorf volunteer

fire brigade, which took care of the difficult distribution in the disaster area. With the International Medical Corps, LOG/WoH bought almost a thousand battery-powered devices for the population in the 100-kilometer valley in need. The local fire brigades lent the devices to the affected families and they returned them to the fire brigades for further use by others.

2022

Ukraine war as an enormous challenge for Europe

The war in Ukraine challenges LOG/WoH in a special way. Convoys of more than 70 trucks are bringing thousands of tons of relief supplies to those in need in Ukraine and in emergency shelter camps along the Ukrainian-Romanian border. A large-scale operation with which LOG/WoH provides people with food, drinking water, clothing, hygiene products, blankets and much more. The willingness to donate in Germany is consistently strong. LOG/WoH continues the transports.



Endless destruction in eastern Ukraine



A child draws the war in the Middle East

2023

Dramatic destruction in Turkey and Syria

The numbers vary widely. At least 60,000 dead, 125,000 injured and three million people affected by destruction - this is the result of several earthquakes in south-east Turkey. Regions like Hatay, Antakya and Gaziantep resemble lands of desolation. LOG/WoH has strong ties to Turkey, knows the border region to Syria and helps with tents, sleeping bags and clothing. LOG/WoH knows: This task of standing by the people with help and hope will take many years.



Southeast Turkey and Syria were hit by the earthquakes on an unprecedented scale



For ten years, LOG/WoH has been setting up computer classes in schools of needy countries

Education is Future – Bildung ist Zukunft

Under this mission, LOG/WoH has been equipping schools for almost ten years and setting up computer classes in difficult places around the world - now in ten countries. This in refugee camps, in school districts of large cities or in cooperation with

universities such as in Erbil, the administrative capital of the Autonomous Republic of Kurdistan. The program is intended to help young people to find prospects and a connection to the future and to continue their education with the relevant information. LOG/WoH provides the computer hardware and offers long-term support in the training of targeted learning programs.



Luftfahrt ohne Grenzen / Wings of Help e.V.
Cargo City Süd, Building 501 c
D - 60549 Frankfurt - Flughafen
Tel: +49 / (0) 69 / 690 23 255

Donation Account
Frankfurter Sparkasse
IBAN: DE 84 5005 0201 0200 3322 44
BIC: HELADEF1822

E-Mail: info@wingsofhelp.org
Internet: www.wingsofhelp.org



Imprint

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