

September 6, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Church in Oklahoma City

FROM: Heart Menders International, Inc.

RE: **A Proposal for Disaster Preparedness in OKC**

Because of the Murrah Bombing, Oklahoma City stands as an example of how a tragedy can be turned into triumph. Our belief at Heart Menders is that it was a unique event that evoked a unique response of love, rescue, and healing, and served to position our City as a leader in dealing with disaster, crisis, and trauma.

In order to take our City to the next level, we believe that “The Church in the City” – the true Body of Christ – needs to move from a re-active position to a pro-active one. Just like Joseph in the Book of Genesis was used of God to prepare a nation for seven years of famine, so the Lord should be able to use us, His People, to prepare our City for disaster and crisis, and to do so explicitly in the name of Jesus.

Many voices in the Church have been speaking about the concept of “The Storehouse” and it is a theme that resonates with us at a deep level. In order to establish “God’s Storehouse in the City,” we believe that a model needs to be built, one that is endorsed, funded, and supported by “The Church in the City,” the Body of Christ at large.

Our proposal is this: As the Lord leads, we challenge 50 churches (or ministries, or companies, or other organizations, or even individuals) to commit to a monthly pledge of \$100. From that starting point, we would form a non-profit oversight organization that would rent a warehouse facility and construct a “Storehouse in the City” as a model program. It would be a storing-and-organizing place for donations of the following:

- Basic non-perishable food-stuffs
- Bedding and related items
- Furnishings and related items
- Other disaster-preparedness related items

These donated items would be stockpiled, organized, and packaged according to best practices in disaster preparedness. Then, when a crisis occurs, we will be in the pro-active mode, ahead-of-the-curve for a change, and stand ready to assist the poor and needy with practical items of provision specifically selected to meet the greatest need at the most critical time.

If you would like to pledge to this project, please download our “Letter of Intent for the OKC Storehouse” from www.HeartMenders.org, complete it and mail it back. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration and support of this important project.