

# Friend Ships

## February 2025 Activities Report

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Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for the support you provide to Friend Ships through your friendship, love, financial support, donation of goods and volunteer service!



Our base, Port Mercy, in Lake Charles, Louisiana was blessed this past month with an amazing volunteer team from International Alert Academy in Big Sandy, Texas. 29 hard-working young men spent a week with us and accomplished many important projects including work on the ship, Pelican's Nest, and various projects. Help from guest workers pushes us so far toward reaching our goals! Projects that would take our crew weeks or even months, are accomplished in just a few days.



The Alert team cleaned the decks of Pelican's Nest and pressure washed them, cleaned and reorganized the fire locker and deck locker, removed unneeded equipment and scrubbed

down the main engine room. On the grounds, they cleaned and organized a huge area of equipment. They constructed sheds for sheltering equipment by installing roofs to span two containers then securing the roofs with chain. They cleaned the decks on our ship Hope and when all that was completed, they installed a new privacy screen on the fencing surrounding Port Mercy.

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The Port Mercy ships crew prepared safety equipment for sailing, fixed leaky pipes, welded areas of need and are now getting ready to install rebuilt injectors in the ship's generator.

Murray Douglas and the Sea Hawks have been working on designing and constructing a new framework for connecting our medical tents on the field through a central triage as we did (at left) on a mission in the Middle East. The StoreHouse One project continues to distribute food in Lake Charles, into Texas and in Southern California - to churches helping the needy in their communities, organizations assisting those recovering from drug and alcohol addiction, the elderly and the homeless. In March, we look forward to having the help

of a wonderful family from Maine, a Bible School team from Colorado and a church team from Sulphur, Louisiana who, in addition to international projects, carry out their call to help missions by helping us at Friend Ships with special projects that support our ongoing operations.

The team in the Middle East is working hard on organizing all the medical and humanitarian equipment in storage, activating generators and other items for use as we once again move forward into a medical camp for people in desperate need similar to the the cross-border work we did at Camp Ichay a few years ago. We expect to start operations in March or April. We have sent a team of eight additional crew including this year's Sea Hawks from Port Mercy to assist with the new project. We have been blessed with a very special gift of financial support to launch this important new work. Hopefully, we will be at liberty to share details next month. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at [portmercy@friendships.org](mailto:portmercy@friendships.org). The need for medical and support staff is now!

*Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground. Psalm 143:10*