

# MAX starts mutual aid ministries program

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. — MutualAid.eXchange, a reciprocal insurance company for Anabaptists, has finalized the second phase of its development — a new mutual aid ministries program to help people with physical, spiritual and emotional needs.

MAX was founded in 2001 by several established mutual aid agencies. In its first phase, it developed home, farm, church and business insurance lines.

On Nov. 18, the MAX board of directors finalized plans for four new aid ministries. The programs — in the areas of burden bearing, networking, finances and education — will:

- Help displaced Anabaptists and work with local churches to address their physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

- Create a network of North American Anabaptists who are notified of special needs in the Anabaptist community. These needs could be prayer requests, monetary aid or volunteer help.

- Create a “share fund” that could help out Anabaptists who are under financial burden.

- Create an educational foundation to teach Christian mutual aid principles to others.

“MAX’s development is built on a grand vision in which the insurance piece becomes the mechanism to reach out with great emotional support, educational directions [and] mutual aid funding sources,” said MAX president and CEO David Wine.

“MAX is deeply committed to develop the interwoven strands of insurance protection and mutual aid outreach.”

MAX members include Mennonite mutual aid companies based in Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, South Dakota, Virginia and Ontario. Some of these companies serve people in other states as well. MAX products can serve almost 80 percent of the North American Anabaptist population.