



Spring 2012
www.madre.org

MADRE

Your Support in Action

From the Executive Director
YIFAT SUSSKIND

Dear Friend,

People say a picture is worth a thousand words. Often, I think it's worth more.

As I write this, I look up at the pictures above my desk. In them, the faces of the many women who built MADRE over the years look down at me. There are women smiling and celebrating together. There are women comforting each other through crisis.

Each photo carries a story. When I see Mirna Cunningham's photo, I remember the story of a woman in Nicaragua who stood up to armed militias to keep her community safe. When I see Eramithe Delva's photo, I remember the story of a woman in Haiti who survived violence and refused to be silent, her strength inspiring others to speak out.

Though these women are close to my heart, we are usually separated by many miles. Their photos help bring them closer to me. I can look at their faces, and my energy to support their lifesaving work is renewed.

I hope that these photos and updates help renew your energy, too. Your commitment means so much to our sisters—and to us. We're not a big organization, but each gift you give goes so far, because of the vibrant network of women you've helped strengthen. These pages capture moments that would not have been possible without you.

Thank you always,



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See Your Impact...



Sheltering Haitian Girls

Girls orphaned by Haiti's earthquake are still in danger. Some have no option but to exchange sex for basics like food and water. You help ensure that no girl faces this abuse. Your support provides food, medical care, counseling and friendship to girls at risk of exploitation and hunger. **You help girls rebuild their lives in the wake of disaster.**

Standing with Guatemalan Women

Girls and women are facing epidemic levels of rape and murder. With your support, our sisters in Guatemala, led by Sandra Gonzalez (right), are taking to the streets to say NO. **Their strength is multiplied because you stand with them. Thank you.**



MADRE advances women's human rights by meeting immediate needs and building lasting solutions for communities in crisis. MADRE works in partnership with community-based women's organizations on peace building, women's health and combating violence against women, and economic and environmental justice. Since we began in 1983, MADRE has delivered over 29 million dollars worth of support to our partners in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, the Balkans and the United States.

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... And Make It Grow

New Projects

KENYA: Mobile Clinics Bring Hope and Health

Children in northern Kenya are facing hunger and disease. Thanks to you, MADRE is launching mobile clinics to reach them, offering health care and humanitarian aid.



© Hubbie Hussein al-Haji/Womankind Kenya



© Terry Allen

IRAQ: Families Overcoming the Legacies of War

In Haweeja, Iraq, severe birth defects have skyrocketed. Mothers point to nearby toxic munitions dumped by the US military as the reason. We won't leave our sisters behind. With you, MADRE will help provide medical care and counseling, and demand accountability for the harm they face.



© KOFAYIV

URGENT ACTION NEEDED:

Haiti's rainy season has begun. Deadly cholera outbreaks are on the rise. You can save lives by providing soap, water purification tablets and rehydration solution to women and families at risk. Join us at www.madre.org/cholera.

Take Action for Mother's Day

Women's rights to contraception and abortion are under attack, nationally and internationally. Help us send a Mother's Day message to President Obama: "Family planning and abortion rights are essential to women's health and safe motherhood." To add your voice, visit www.madre.org/mothers.

Join the conversation:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/madre.org

Twitter: www.twitter.com/madrespeaks



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Our work is fueled by the incredible strength of mothers

who are determined to build a better world for their children. This Mother's Day, send a special gift through MADRE. You'll make a difference in more than one mother's life.

Visit www.madre.org/mothersday to send a beautiful card. And visit our webstore at www.madrewebstore.org to purchase extraordinary hand-made Mother's Day gifts from around the world.