



MADRE

Fall 2013

www.madre.org

From the Executive Director

YIFAT SUSSKIND

Dear Friend,

Thirty years. Thirty years of friendship, of hard work, of victories and crises, and of celebrations. Thirty years of steps big and small to re-make this world, steps towards the dream of a world where women and girls are guaranteed their rights to live happy, full lives.

Whether you've been a MADRE member for 30 years or for 30 minutes, this is your story.

When I think back on all we've accomplished together, I am awed. I think about those women—from the US and Nicaragua—who came together as sisters in 1983. They denounced the US policies that were fueling bloody violence in Nicaraguan communities. And they reached out to each other to provide love and support, healing the wounds of war.

That love and those steadfast principles are the bonds that have held us together all these years. And those women in Nicaragua are still our sisters today, like thousands of other women—from Haiti to Kenya, Iraq to Colombia—who have been brought together by MADRE and by you.

We've dedicated this edition of our newsletter to 30 Years of MADRE. Take a look back at all that we have accomplished together. Be inspired by the progress we've made for women's rights. And rejuvenate your commitment for the next 30 years and beyond.

Thank you for all you make possible for women and families worldwide.

With gratitude,



Inside this newsletter, you'll get a glimpse of the photos that capture the story of MADRE. To see many more and to celebrate three decades of organizing for women's human rights, join us for **See the Change: 30 Years of Global Women's Activism**, a MADRE Photo Exhibit!



30 years of MADRE

WHITE SPACE CHELSEA,
New York City

October 23, 2013
6:00pm to 8:00pm

RSVP at
[www.madre.org/
seethechange](http://www.madre.org/seethechange)

To make a gift in honor of MADRE's 30th anniversary and to fuel this crucial work for decades to come, visit www.madre.org/30years

30 UNDER 30

To celebrate MADRE's 30 years, we're honoring 30 young women under 30 who are carrying forward the work to advance women's human rights worldwide.

We're starting with a young activist who we lost in a tragic accident at just age 27: **Roxana Diaz**. In her three years on the MADRE staff,

Roxana's zeal and laughter propelled her work. We're resolved to work even harder to make this the world that we envisioned with her.

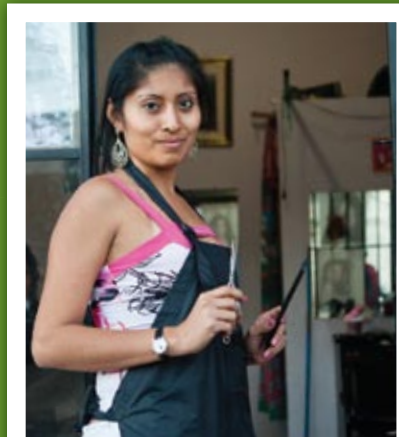
To learn more about Roxana and the amazing accomplishments of our 30 inspirational activists, visit our website at www.madre.org/30under30.



Upcoming MADRE Projects

Sister Salons for Guatemala

► In Barcenas, Guatemala, women face life-threatening violence and poverty. You've helped us respond with Sister Salons, where women will develop marketable skills as hair stylists and become peer counselors for abused women in their community. Sister Salons will enable women to benefit from a community of support and work together to end cycles of poverty and violence.



© Elizabeth Rappaport



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The Greenhouse Project

▲ In northeastern Kenya, Indigenous Rendille People face floods, droughts and diminishing natural resources because of climate change. MADRE, in collaboration with the Indigenous Information Network, is now partnering with the Merigo Women's Group, a women-owned, organic agricultural cooperative. Through MADRE, you'll enable these women to grow the food their families depend on and overcome the environmental challenges they face.

30 Years of **MADRE**

*and highlights of the accomplishments
that your support has made possible.*

◀ **WOMEN IN THE US AND NICARAGUA RISE UP** In **1983**, angered by the US-backed war against civilians in Nicaragua, we took action. We joined with our sisters in Nicaragua to end the mass killings, rape and torture. Together, we created an organization dedicated to social justice, peace and women's human rights. We called ourselves MADRE, in honor of mothers who risk everything to protect their children and their communities.

MILK AND MEDICINE FOR IRAQ ▶ In **1992**, after US bombs spread suffering across Iraq, MADRE brought 10 tons of milk and medicines to decimated hospitals. We're still standing with our Iraqi sisters today, bringing aid to their communities, sheltering women from violence and demanding justice for the illegal US war.



◀ **HEALTH CARE AND HOPE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN HAITI** In **1996**, MADRE co-founded Haiti's first ever women's health clinic. With our local partners, MADRE continued to support women in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. Here, Yifat delivers shoes to a young earthquake survivor at the KOFAVIV Women's Center, one of 5,000 pairs donated through your support.

HUMANITARIAN AID THAT BREAKS BARRIERS IN CUBA ▶ For decades, the US embargo has cut Cuban women and families off from vital medical supplies, challenging Cuba's model public health system. In **1999**, MADRE members helped us send over \$750,000 worth of critical breast cancer screening equipment, preventative medicines and treatment to Cuban women, filling life-threatening gaps in medical care caused by the embargo.



◀ **SEEDS, TOOLS AND TRAINING TO SUDAN** In **2007**, MADRE co-founded Sudan's first ever women's farmers union. Together with our local partners, we're providing 3,000 organic farmers in over 50 communities with the seeds and supplies their families need to survive.

◀ **SAFE BIRTHS IN PALESTINE** In **2013**, Yifat gathered with our Palestinian-Israeli sister organization, Midwives for Peace, to celebrate their 5-year anniversary. Our midwife partners have reached out across the conflict that surrounds them to ensure over 600 safe births for mothers in the West Bank.

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 members have delivered over 30 million dollars worth of support to our partners in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, the Balkans and the United States. MADRE and YOU are proof that together, we can make the world we all want to see.



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