



# MADRE

Spring 2013

[www.madre.org](http://www.madre.org)

## From the Executive Director

**YIFAT SUSSKIND**

*Dear Friend,*

Every Mother's Day, we are reminded to show our mothers how much we appreciate them.

You and I already understand the vital role that mothers play, every day of the year. The world over, it's mothers who care for the most vulnerable among us. They give love, of course, but they also provide food, shelter, healthcare and education under the toughest conditions. Mothers are peacemakers. Mothers help build the world we all want to live in.

That's why I am determined to stand with mothers year-round as they demand rights for themselves and their families. And I am so grateful that you're standing with us. Your support gives strength to mothers—and to all the women—who are demanding safety, health and human rights.

In Guatemala, you help mothers forge solutions to the violence they and their daughters face at home and in the streets. In Palestine, your gifts allow mothers to give birth in peace, despite the conflict that surrounds them. In Sudan, your support gives women farmers the tools to feed their families. And with your backing, we're winning new laws that support all women. Thank you!

We've dedicated this edition of our newsletter to all the brave mothers we support together. Thank you for all you do to make our work with women and families worldwide possible!

With appreciation,



# Ways to Honor Your Mother—and Mothers Worldwide

The incredible strength of mothers worldwide is the driving force behind MADRE. This Mother's Day, here are two ways to honor and thank the amazing mothers in your life!

## 1 A Mother's Day gift that supports women worldwide!

Give an alternative gift in honor of someone special, and we'll send them a personalized card from you! Your gifts can buy a sewing machine for a Nicaraguan mother to make clothes for her children, seeds for women farmers in Sudan to raise food for their families, safe birth kits for midwives in Palestine and so much more! Visit [www.madre.org/webstore](http://www.madre.org/webstore) to start shopping!



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## Planned Giving

Create a legacy of hope that will support women's human rights for generations to come. For more information, please call us at (212) 627-0444 or visit [www.madre.org/plannedgiving](http://www.madre.org/plannedgiving).

2 Make a donation to MADRE in honor of your mother, and we'll send her a beautiful card that includes a special message from you! What a great way to honor the women who work tirelessly to build a better future for all children. Visit [www.madre.org/mothers](http://www.madre.org/mothers) to donate!

Becoming a MADRE Lifeline is a secure, hassle-free way to give on a monthly, recurring basis, ensuring that MADRE's programs remain strong and vibrant without writing another check. To learn more, visit [www.madre.org/lifeline](http://www.madre.org/lifeline).

# Your Support in Action

## NICARAGUA > Mothers Preventing Waterborne Disease

Too many mothers here have watched as their children die from easily preventable waterborne illnesses—all because of a lack of clean water and healthcare. Your Mother's Day gift will support these mothers in learning to repair wells, install water pumps and manage water resources.



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## < IRAQ Mothers Healing Their Children from War

In Haweeja, Iraq, grieving mothers are demanding answers for the shocking rates of cancers and birth defects among their children, apparently the result of a nearby toxic US munitions dump. Your Mother's Day gift will help us deliver urgent healthcare to these children and demand legal accountability from the US government.



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## < KENYA Mothers Protecting Their Daughters from Harm

In Kenya, mothers are determined to spare their daughters from forced marriage and genital mutilation—by sending them to our shelter schools. Your Mother's Day gift will help support a safe haven and an education for these girls. Grateful mothers have named these schools the “Nanyori” Shelter Network, which means “You are Loved.”

## CUBA > Mothers Demanding Care for Their Children

Cuba has a model public health system. Yet children there are suffering needlessly because the US embargo denies them essential medicines. As we fight for healthcare in the US, MADRE stands with mothers in Cuba to demand an end to the US embargo that threatens their children. Your Mother's Day gift will allow us to ship lifesaving pediatric nutritional supplements to Cuba, crucial for sustaining children who are severely ill.



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**MADRE Executive Director Yifat Susskind** recently returned from a camp for Syrian refugees, where she saw firsthand the dangers they face and heard directly from our partners. Visit our website at [www.madre.org/backfromsyria](http://www.madre.org/backfromsyria) to see Yifat's report.

## SYRIA: Mothers Soothing Their Daughters' Fears

Syrian women and girls who are war refugees are afraid. They are traumatized after escaping sexual violence that has become rampant in the Syrian war. When night falls at the refugee camps, mothers have told us that their daughters are too terrified to walk in the darkness to the public bathrooms. They fear that they will be attacked. Your Mother's Day gift will help MADRE deliver solar lanterns, a simple yet powerful security tool for women and girls in the camps.

To learn more about the programs mentioned here, visit us at [www.madre.org/springreport](http://www.madre.org/springreport). And to make a Mother's Day gift, go to [www.madre.org/mothers](http://www.madre.org/mothers).

**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 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.