



MADRE

Spring 2014

www.madre.org

From the Executive Director

YIFAT SUSSKIND

Dear Friend,

I was in a refugee camp in Jordan, speaking with women who had fled terror and warfare in Syria. The mother before me struggled to find the words to tell her story.

“We have left everything,” she said, holding her little girl on her lap, “and now we are here with nothing. This is no life for my child.”

I could see the pain and loss that she was grappling with. But I could also see what gave her strength. She laid her hand on her daughter’s head as she spoke. She shared her story of trauma, but also her resolve to rebuild her life and a better world for her daughter.

She is a mother with a fighting spirit, one of so many across the world. Inside her burns a fierce determination to protect her children from the violence she has endured. She sees the future through the eyes of her daughter, and she wants more than anything for the young girl’s life to be peaceful and safe.

This Mother’s Day, we give thanks to all the fierce mothers of the world. They are women who live in war zones but still create spaces of peace and play for their children. They are women who see past the rubble of their ruined homes and past the flapping tents of refugee camps and instead envision new possibilities for the generations to come.

Thank you for all you make possible for mothers everywhere.

With gratitude,



See Your Impact for Women and Girls



© Fatima Ahmed

SUDAN: Thanks to you, women farmers have a new way to earn an income, feed their families, send their children to school and invest in their communities. Over 100 women farmers are now benefiting from the oil miller that your support provided. This tool allows the women to extract oil from the sesame seeds and groundnuts they grow and sell it in local markets.

PHILIPPINES: Your dedication is sustaining women and their families in the Philippines so that they can rebuild their communities on a stronger foundation after Typhoon Haiyan. Thanks to your support,



© Karapatan

1,373 families, mostly women and children, received emergency food packages, medical supplies and shelter kits with reconstruction materials.



© Karapatan

NICARAGUA:

Your commitment is protecting the health of Nicaraguan mothers and their newborns. Thanks to you, we delivered over 3,000 bottles of prenatal vitamins to the Waspam Casa Materna, benefiting over 120 pregnant Indigenous women.

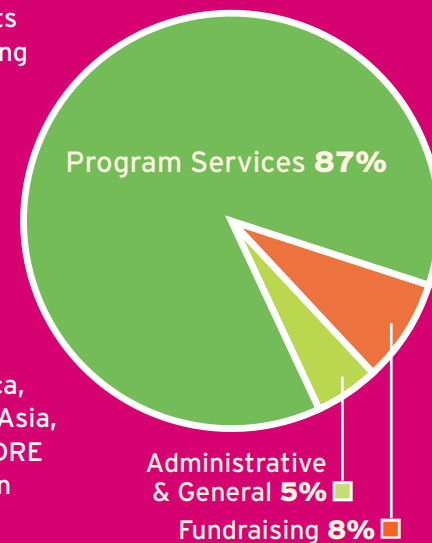


© MADRE

To learn more about the impact of your support, visit www.madre.org/impact

For every dollar you give, 87 cents go directly to support our sisters worldwide

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 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.



MADRE Celebrates Mothers Demanding Justice

In war zones, mothers are the driving force behind protecting their families and rebuilding their communities. This Mother's Day, we thank them.

JANNAH is a Syrian refugee and a mother.

"We came here to Jordan without knowing anybody. There are no jobs for us. It is hard to get food, and when my children are sick, it is difficult to find a doctor. But I am their mother, and this is why I fight every day for them. Thank you, MADRE, for helping me with my fight."



© COHI

BETTY GONZALEZ's daughter Rosemary was killed almost 5 years ago in a wave of brutal rapes and murders targeting women in Guatemala. At right, Betty with MADRE Executive Director, Yifat Susskind.

"When Rosemary was killed, I thought my world had ended. I dreamed of finding justice for my daughter, but the police refused to investigate. Just when I was about to lose hope, MADRE promised to join me. You helped me put pressure on the police and the courts. And it worked. This year, Rosemary's killer was convicted. I finally have justice for my daughter."



© Bradley Parker



© Jessica Alderman

ADEELA is a mother in the West Bank, where Israeli soldiers restrict travel and make it difficult for laboring mothers to reach hospitals.

"When I was pregnant, I was very afraid to go to the hospital. What if soldiers stopped us and I could not reach the hospital? What would happen to my baby? I needed to ensure that she would be safe. That's why I was so happy to learn about MADRE and the midwife program. A midwife came to my house to check up on me. And when I went into labor, she came again to deliver my daughter safely. For that, I am grateful to you."

To celebrate a mother in your life, visit www.madre.org/mother