



MADRE

Spring 2016

www.madre.org

Dear Friend,

As a mother of two young sons, I'm thankful every day that I'm able to nurture and provide for them in a safe and healthy environment.

But what about mothers in some of the world's toughest places and worst circumstances? Like in war-torn Iraq, or in a Syrian refugee camp, or in drought-ridden Kenya?

If there's one thing I've learned from my 18 years at MADRE, it's that mothers the world over want the same for their children as you and I do — to be safe, happy and healthy. And even in the hardest conditions, they do everything they can to protect their families and to demand their rights.

Like the mothers I met at a refugee camp in Jordan who made sure that their children, uprooted by war, had access to a school, a safe space to learn and play games. This seemingly simple act protects their children's childhoods amidst chaos and uncertainty, and opens a path to a brighter future.

Or the mothers I met in Kenya who learned how to harvest rainwater so that their daughters, traditionally tasked with the arduous job of collecting river water for their families, can stay in school and grow into leaders.

As we near Mother's Day, we celebrate them — and all the brave mothers who raise healthy, happy families with determination and resilience. And we honor the courageous activist mothers who create a peaceful world for future generations. I hope you'll join us.

With gratitude,

Yifat Susskind
Executive Director



Same Impact, Same MADRE— New Website!



Have you seen our new website? Be sure to visit madre.org to check out it out! Find the latest news and updates from the lifesaving work your support makes possible.



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Celebrate a Mother in Your Life

The incredible strength and bravery of women worldwide is a driving force behind MADRE's work for peace and rights. What better way to celebrate a mother in your life than with a gift to support the world's bravest women? Please make a gift at madre.org/mother.



Your Support in Action

SHELTER AND HEALING FOR GIRLS FLEEING ISIS

Your support opened a brand new shelter and rape crisis center in Kurdistan for young girls fleeing ISIS sexual slavery. Thanks to you, girls receive lifesaving medical care, food and shelter. Not only that, the center provides counseling, mentorship, literacy programs, job training and human rights education. You give these girls the tools they need to rebuild their lives in a supportive, loving environment. Thank you for making this possible!



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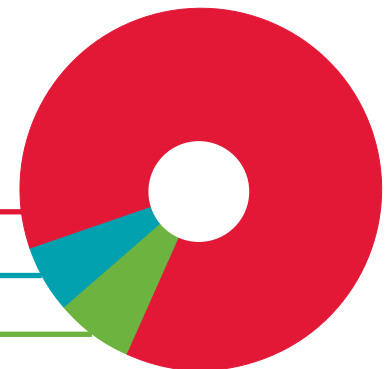


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To learn more about the lifesaving work you support through MADRE, visit madre.org/myimpact.

MADRE EXPENSES

Program Services **87%**
 Administrative & General **6%**
 Fundraising **7%**



Mothers Are Builders of Peace

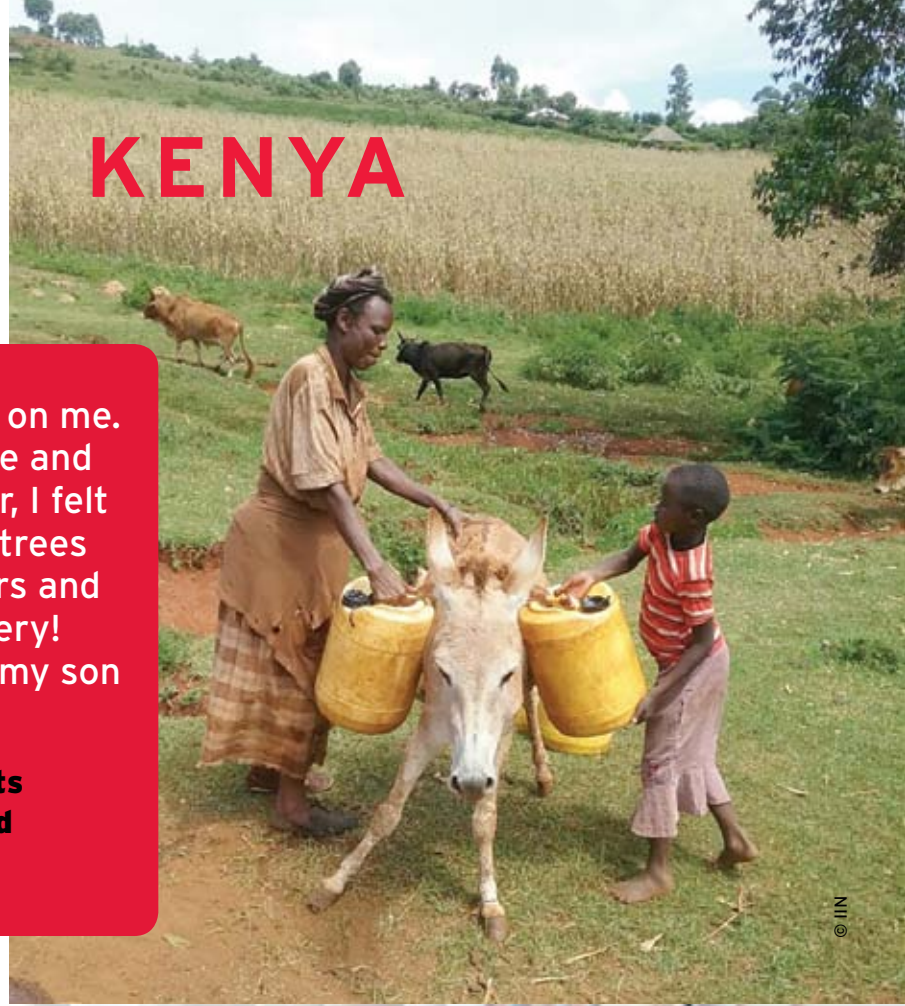
In some of the world's toughest places, mothers ensure their families' survival, strengthen their communities and build the peaceful world we all need. This Mother's Day, we honor them.

In the Olepolos community of Kenya, nearly a third of women like Elinah are widows, after their husbands were killed in violent clashes between communities. They also face severe drought caused by climate change.

"Since my husband died, my son depends on me. We are all we have. I need to keep him safe and healthy. When he got sick from dirty water, I felt helpless. But then, I learned how to plant trees to protect our water sources. My neighbors and I have planted over 400 trees in our nursery! And we installed a clean water well. Now, my son is healthy and thriving at school." -ELINAH

Your support helps MADRE and our grassroots partners train women to confront drought and secure clean water for their children.

KENYA



COLOMBIA

During decades of war, women and girls in Colombia, like Manuela and her daughters, have been caught in the crosshairs, uprooted from their homes and targeted with rape.

"My daughters and I had a happy, peaceful life. But in a flash, it was gone. When the guerrillas came to our town, they brought violence and destruction. They raped my daughter. I felt so afraid and powerless, but I knew I had to keep fighting for my daughters. They didn't deserve to live in fear." -MANUELA

Your support helps MADRE and our local partners provide trauma counseling and art therapy so women and girls, survivors of war, can heal.



SYRIA



Many Syrian refugee women and girls have survived rape, forced marriage and displacement, during their country's five-year war.

"I remember how happy I felt when my daughter was born. I swore I would protect her. And that's what I'm doing. We fled Syria when I heard they were raping girls my daughter's age. I was frightened when we arrived at the camp. But then I found women who were offering support and care. They helped us feel safe. And now, my daughter is happy in school. And I have friends to lean on." -SARA

With you, MADRE and our local partners bring lifesaving aid, critical health care and schooling to mothers and families escaping war.

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