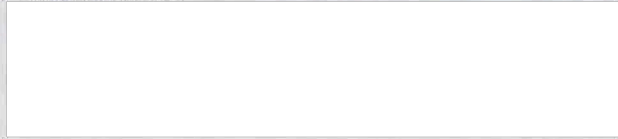


☐ **Yes!** I want to help refugees and other families in desperate need get the food, clean water, shelter and emotional support they need to thrive. Enclosed is my special gift of:

☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$40 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ I want to bring relief to struggling families around the world every month. Please sign me up as a Partner In Mercy. *(please complete section on back)*

Pamela Grow



668596628525

Supporter ID	Last Gift Date
758777	September 2015*

** Gifts received through April 22.*

Thanks for your compassion,
Pamela!

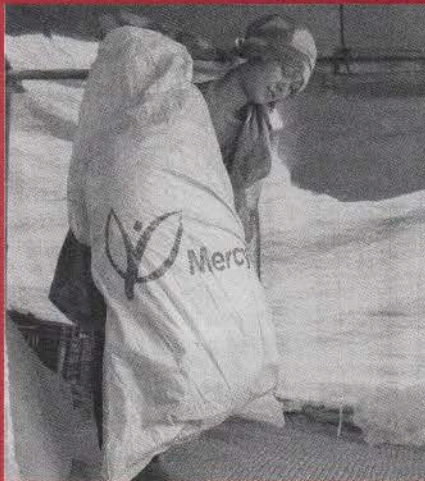
Please mail your check, payable to **Mercy Corps**, in the enclosed return envelope, or complete the back of this form to donate by credit card. All contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Make your impact immediately!
Give online at: mercycorps.org/increase

NE

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Just a few examples of how your gift to Mercy Corps can change lives.



\$20

can provide children in South Sudan with a blackboard to help them learn in the midst of conflict

\$40

can provide a ceramic water filter for a Syrian refugee family in Lebanon, giving them clean water all year long



\$115

can provide a playground for 50 refugee children in Jordan

June 2016

Dear Pamela,

You make all the difference in the world to a mother desperate to feed her starving children ... a father who shelters his family in a broken, ripped tent ... a child who spends her days searching for water instead of going to school.

As you'll read in this issue of your *Mercy Report*, you give help and hope to refugees and displaced families whose lives have been torn apart.

~~Thanks to your kindness, a Syrian child who once witnessed horrific acts of violence~~
now has new prescription eyeglasses so he can continue his education – and regain a piece of his childhood.

Because of your compassion, a mother in the Democratic Republic of Congo who used to walk for hours in search of water can now get clean, safe water just steps from her home.

As a result of your concern, a schoolboy in Lebanon who endured an aching, empty stomach now has healthy meals every day at school so he can concentrate on learning.

I hope these stories, and the many others you will read today, inspire you to help one more family whose life is full of heartache, desperation and hardship.

Will you please help bring lifesaving relief and resources to even more shattered families in Syria, South Sudan, Jordan and beyond with a gift today?

By reaching out right now, you can help families who have risked their lives to reach safety – and have almost nothing left. **Here's what your gift can help accomplish:**

- **\$20 can provide children in South Sudan with a blackboard to help them learn in the midst of conflict**
- **\$40 can provide a ceramic water filter for a Syrian refugee family in Lebanon, giving them clean water all year long**
- **\$115 can provide a playground for 50 refugee children in Jordan**

As you'll read in the feature article, this month we commemorate **World Refugee Day**, a

(over, please)

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Portland, OR 97204
888.842.0842

time to acknowledge and reach out to people struggling to survive in unfamiliar lands.

Today, there are more refugees and displaced people than ever before. They desperately need your help.

Please show your extraordinary compassion once again for families who have been torn from their homes ... who are scarred by violence ... who cannot offer their children safety or basic necessities because nearly everything has been taken from them.

You don't have to be a refugee to feel their pain and desperation. A mother must skip meals just to feed her children. A sister cuddles her baby brother to keep him warm because there are no blankets. A husband cannot protect his family from dangerous armed rebels.

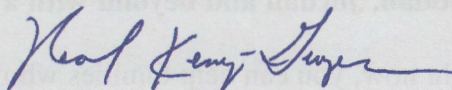
But there is hope for them – because they have you. You can help bring lifesaving support to men, women and children who have nowhere else to turn.

Thanks to you, families who escaped with only their lives will have emergency food, clean water, hygiene and sanitation to keep them healthy, as well as beds and blankets to keep them warm. And because of you, they will also have hope and the resources they need to strengthen their communities for the long-term.

Thank you for being a kind and generous person. You see a desperate need – and you don't rest until you make life better for those who are suffering. For that, I thank you.

You are a true friend to people in crisis. On their behalf – and on behalf of all of us here at Mercy Corps – I am profoundly grateful for your dedication and support.

Warm regards,



Neal Keny-Guyer
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Your generous gift today will make a lifesaving difference to a vulnerable child, a worried mother, or a desolate father struggling through the aftermath of violent conflict and other crises around the world.

In honor of **World Refugee Day**, please help provide a family with vital food, water, shelter and emergency relief – as well as the strength they need to rebuild their lives.

MercyReport

news and notes from the front lines

SUMMER 2016

SPECIAL REPORT:

Helping People Survive the Global Refugee Crisis

Once, they were doctors, lawyers, small business owners. Today, their families live in tents without clean running water or electricity. Some have been displaced within their own country. Others are refugees, forced to leave their homes to make a new life in a strange land.

Torn from their homes because of violence and conflict, more than **60 million displaced people and refugees live on the edge of survival.** Most heartbreaking of all is the fact that half of the world's refugees are children. Many will grow up without a home, education, safety or emotional support ... unless we help them.



Children are among the most vulnerable refugees – and they need your help.

June 20 is **World Refugee Day**, a time to recognize the daily hardships facing men, women and children who often lack the basics – food, clean water, safe shelter – in a place they can't call home. Mercy Corps acknowledges the millions of refugees and displaced ... whose normal, stable lives have been shattered and turned into chaos. Individuals, community groups and

*Today, there are more refugees
than after World War II ... more
refugees than ever recorded.*

organizations around the world will help bring attention and awareness to the enormous challenges facing refugees like these ...

In Syria, families have endured more than five years of violent conflict. More than 11 million people – half the country's pre-war population – have either died or been forced from their homes.

Jordan, the second-most water-poor country in the world, is host to more than 600,000 Syrian refugees. Many spend hours standing in line for water, and the large population of refugees continues to strain resources.

In Lebanon, refugees often live in makeshift tent camps they've built themselves, or in abandoned buildings



In South Sudan, violence has forced thousands of families to flee their homes.

or cowsheds. One in every five people in Lebanon is now a refugee.

While a huge number of the world's refugees have fled the war in Syria, there are millions of people around the world who have also been forced from their homes due to natural disaster or conflict.

The young country of **South Sudan** is in the grips of a massive crisis. More than 1.6 million people are displaced within its borders, and another 755,000 have fled to neighboring countries.

The Central African Republic has been trapped in a cycle of conflict for years. There are 438,000 displaced people in this country and most live in overcrowded and unsanitary displacement camps.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, the desperate need for clean, safe water is one of the biggest daily

(continued on page 4)

"There is nothing we can do without water."

Thanks to you, safe water comes to the Democratic Republic of Congo

Justine and her husband Antoine are struggling to keep their young children safe, healthy and educated in Goma, eastern Congo's largest city. Like so many others in Goma, they fled roaming armed groups and live in a displacement camp built on jagged lava rock. Their one-room wooden shack houses the entire family.



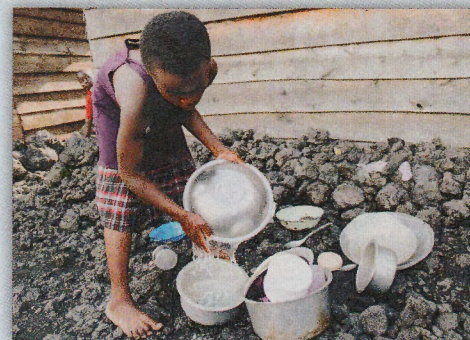
Justine and her family have one less thing to worry about, now that a Mercy Corps tap stand is right near their home.

Justine had been walking for miles to fill cans with dirty water so they could cook, clean and drink. Every single day she risked being attacked by bandits on the long journey, which she often had to start in the early morning darkness.

"Water is life," Justine says. "There is nothing we can do without water."

That's why, with your help, Mercy Corps has been working to repair, improve and expand Goma's water network, so that life's most vital necessity is safe and available to everyone. Today, an intricate system of pipes, pumps and reservoirs brings clean water to tap stands throughout the city – and to a stand across from Justine's home.

Now, instead of walking hours carrying a 40-pound can of water – and repeating that backbreaking journey multiple times a day – Justine walks only a few dozen yards to collect clean water



Justine and her children – and others in the area – now have access to clean, fresh water.

for her beloved family.

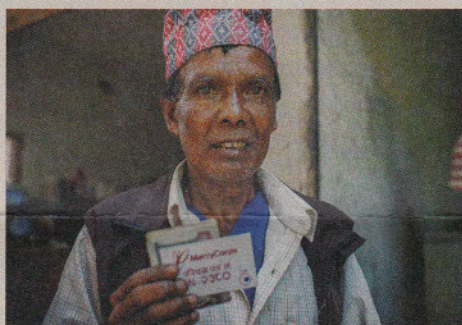
"Now we are feeling very good," Justine says. "We have reduced the distance and time that we were spending searching for water. It is very important to us." With the arrival of clean water, Justine now has hope that things can change for the better in a place that is too often surrounded by suffering.

QUICK FACTS — Your Support in Action



UPDATE: Fighting Hunger in Ethiopia

Whether or not there's food on the table in Ethiopia depends primarily on one thing: the weather. And in 2015, both of the country's rainy seasons failed. As the country struggles to cope with the effects of the most severe drought in over 50 years, you and Mercy Corps are helping families access more food, survive unpredictable weather patterns, and earn steady incomes. Thank you for supporting nutritional and agricultural solutions to keep desperate families from suffering with the pain of hunger.



UPDATE: Nepal Earthquakes

It's been more than a year since Nepal suffered from catastrophic earthquakes that killed thousands. But your support has helped provide emergency supply kits, food, safe water, shelter supplies, cash and more. Thanks to you, Mercy Corps will continue to reach vulnerable communities with recovery loans, insurance and savings accounts so they can rebuild their lives. Together, we're helping families get back on their feet, strengthen their communities, and look forward to the future.



Legacy Giving

A legacy gift to Mercy Corps can create lasting change for people who are suffering from natural disaster, war or poverty. By leaving a gift in your will, living trust, retirement plan or life insurance policy, you can renew hope and rebuild communities for decades to come. To learn more about legacy options that fit your financial goals and current income, contact our Planned Giving advisor, Gene Christian, toll free at **888-842-0842** or via email at plannedgiving@mercy Corps.org.

A Reason to Hope

How you help children reclaim their future

From Syria to Colombia to South Sudan, boys and girls are being robbed of their chance for a bright future. They're never sure if they'll have a meal or shelter. They get sick, withdraw or feel despair. Boys and girls are vulnerable to recruitment as child soldiers, and many girls give birth too young, risking lifelong damage to mother and baby.

For young people facing the world's toughest challenges, their future begins with you. With your support, we're helping them receive an education, reconnect with friends and trusted adults, and rediscover hope.

Here are just three examples of how your support is helping children in crisis build a better future.

Colombian teenagers are at risk. You're their lifeline.

Putumayo, Colombia is a dangerous place to be a child. Domestic abuse, sexual assault and recruitment into armed groups happen all the time.



Carmen engages children in healthy activities that keep them safe from harm.

That's why many parents – like 13-year-old Lucia's* – send their children to rural boarding schools.

Still, the children get little support from adults outside of class time.

***"I want to give them a vision that they can overcome the situation that they're in."** – Carmen, a caregiver*

With your help, we're bringing in caregivers like Carmen to provide full-time supervision for at-risk youth like Lucia. Carmen teaches life-skills like hygiene and sexual education. She helps the children learn about ways to protect themselves from armed groups, child labor and gender-based violence. And the children love it when she schedules healthy educational activities – yoga, games, singing, dancing.

The volatility that surrounds these children can cause behavior problems, lapses in education, and despair – but it doesn't have to. Through this intervention, you're helping us reach 46,500 children just like Lucia, to help them build a future free of violence.

6,000 students receive eye exams

Omar, who lives in the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan, used to sit in the first row in his classroom – not only because he loves to learn, but also because he couldn't see what was written on the board.

But this year, Omar is one of 6,000 students who have been prescreened for vision problems. And because of his new prescription glasses, he can sit anywhere he wants in the classroom – and his notes will be complete.

With your help, we're making sure that every student in need in the Za'atari and Azraq refugee camps will have corrective glasses by 2017. And what does this mean for the children?



Because of you, kids like Omar can see!

They get a chance to recover one more piece of normal life.

Feeding the future in Lebanon

Before Mommy Made's food deliveries, 4-year-old Najya went most days at kindergarten without any lunch at all. Missing meals is a stark, daily reality for many refugees in Lebanon.

That's why, earlier this year, we partnered with Mommy Made and Arab Salim Women's Cooperative to fill the bellies of students at three impoverished schools in Lebanon.

"They're energetic. They're happier. They're how kids should be. Not hungry."

– Lynn, Mommy Made's dietician

The guarantee of a balanced meal increased students' attendance and encouraged parents to choose education over child labor as they saw their household food costs decrease.

Thanks to your support, we provided over 37,000 lunches to thousands of young students in Lebanon, giving them the fuel they needed to learn, grow and succeed.

Refugee and low-income students received healthy bag lunches through our lunch delivery program.



*Names have been changed to protect the identities and safety of students and staff.

8-Year-Old Charlotte Wants to Change the World

How she raised \$2,800 to help refugees

Do you believe that a child can change the world? Eight-year-old Charlotte does. She knows that



Charlotte, 8, created a video to help raise money for Mercy Corps' work with Syrian refugees.

when we work together, we can do amazing things for people who are struggling.

She recently joined Worldbuilders – a community of people who fundraise together to support the causes they care about. Charlotte set up an online fundraising page to raise donations for Syrian refugees. In addition to writing a message on her webpage about why she wanted to help, she

also created a video to show the challenges that Syrian refugees are facing.

"You can be part of the change that saves lives and makes a difference for Syrian refugees," says Charlotte. And she should know. She surpassed her goal of \$500 and collected over \$2,800 – and hundreds of views – after her video got attention from NBC Nightly News and others.

Just like Charlotte, supporters like you are passionate about creating positive change in the world. So we've created a quick, simple and fun online experience to help you fundraise. And young Charlotte reminds us that anyone can make a difference, no matter your age.

To learn more about how you can create your own online fundraising page and help relieve the suffering of refugees and families in need around the world, visit mercycorps.org/fundraising.

Refugees in Crisis

(continued from page 1)

challenges for families that have lived with dangerous conflict for two decades.

The global refugee crisis is real.

But together, we can help families find comfort, safety and stability and rebuild their shattered lives.

Your compassion can help children – who face extraordinary challenges – return to school and get an education. Your heartfelt support can help greet newly arrived refugees with open arms, as well as the essential food, water and clothing they need. Your kindness can help provide emergency shelter or repair a cold apartment where a displaced family is forced to live.

Together, we are touching the lives of nearly 2.5 million people affected by the Syrian refugee crisis alone. You are providing hope and help to their families during their time of greatest need. But while thousands are forced from their homes every day as a result of war and conflict, our help is needed now more than ever.

Your compassion can make all the difference to men, women and children who feel alone and forgotten. Thank you, in advance, for all you do for families in need.

Here's My Special Gift for Families in Need!

☐ **YES**, I am proud that I am changing lives around the world, and I want to do even more to help. Please use my enclosed gift where it is most urgently needed:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ **Make this a monthly gift**

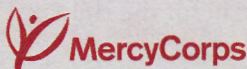
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

*Thank you! Please detach this form and return it with your gift.
If you have any questions, contact us at 888.842.0842.*



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MercyReport

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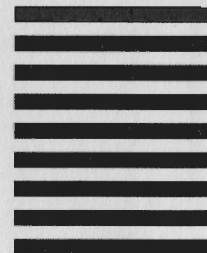
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