

Catholic Relief Services supports hundreds of transformative projects in more than 100 countries around the world. Our work is not built around one idea or one size fits all approach; we tailor our response to need and the people we serve.

As the [official international agency of the Catholic Church](#) in the United States, we work with the local Church and partners to create a world in which people live as one human family. CRS' relief and development work is accomplished through programs of [emergency response](#), [HIV](#), [health](#), [agriculture](#), [water](#), [education](#), [microfinance](#), [peacebuilding](#) and [partnership](#).



With her thick black hair pulled into a long ponytail, a bright pink t-shirt, and multi-colored nail polish, Sakeena Mteir looks like your typical 11-year-old. And in some ways, she is. She loves to draw, and someday she hopes to become a teacher. But after fleeing the war in her native Syria more than four years ago, Sakeena has been living in a makeshift shelter made of a few wood beams and an assortment of tarps in Lebanon's remote Bekaa Valley. While life is hard for her family, there is hope in programs that help children like Sakeena heal.

[Learn more about Sakeena's story here.](#)

Headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, Catholic Relief Services eases suffering and provides assistance to people in need, without regard to race, religion or nationality. Overseas, we work through CRS offices located in the regions of [Africa](#), [Asia](#), [Europe](#), the [Middle East](#) and [Latin America and the Caribbean](#).

CRS also works through regional offices within the [United States](#) to support Catholic individuals, parishes and dioceses as they strive to live their faith in solidarity with the poor and make decisions as consumers, voters and advocates to promote more just and peaceful societies.

Discover where we work by viewing the highlighted countries below.

Facing an uncertain future, [Syrian refugees](#) are struggling to survive. With violence continuing in their homeland, they wait in camps hoping that a country will offer them asylum. Catholic Relief Services supports the efforts of [Pope Francis](#), who says "there must be no family without a home, no refugee without a welcome, no person without dignity."

As a humanitarian organization that has [come to the aid of more than 1.25 million](#)

[war-affected Syrians](#), CRS calls on all involved to allow those fleeing violence to reach safety. We continue to provide life-saving assistance to Syrian refugees across the Middle East and Europe.

"Far too many lives have been lost in this conflict, and we join Pope Francis' call to protect human rights, grant safe passage for all those trying to flee the violence, and for urgent humanitarian aid to reach those who desperately need it."

— Sean Callahan, President & CEO

While Catholic Relief Services is providing support to those in need, this crisis is turning into one of the greatest humanitarian emergencies today. Here are 7 ways you can make a difference in the lives of Syrian refugees.

How to help Syrian refugees

1. DONATE

One of the best ways to help is through donating to accredited nonprofit organizations that are responding to the crisis. More than 90 percent of money donated to CRS goes directly to people in need.

2. LEARN MORE

The more you learn about this crisis, the more you'll understand its underlying causes and can spread the word. Continued warfare in Syria, the drought in Somalia and violence in places like Iraq and Afghanistan, has contributed to the surge of refugees from those countries. Meanwhile, deteriorating economic conditions in places like Sub-Saharan Africa has led people to Europe in search of a better life. The refugee ban complicates matters.

Here are some good resources for you.

Read and Act: What We Are Doing: CRS' Support of Syrian Refugees

Syrian Refugees: Meet the People Everyone's Talking About

11 Things You May Not Know About Refugees

CRS Rejects New Executive Order on Refugees

Watch and Engage:
Syrian Family from Aleppo Finds Refuge in Europe
CRS/Caritas Architects Find Shelter for Refugees in Athens
The Beauty of Serving Refugees

3. FUNDRAISE

You can provide direct assistance by setting up a page to raise money to support our emergency efforts. Your support will ensure that we can provide immediate assistance, including food, water, access to sanitation, legal services and medical care.

4. ADVOCATE

For years, countries in the Middle East have been sheltering the largest number of Syrians and Iraqis. CRS is calling on the United States to continue and expand humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in these countries, as well as those burdened by this new migration. Most importantly, the United States should lead concerted diplomatic efforts to end the fighting in Syria.

But you have a part, too. Join our new campaign to urge our nation's leaders to respond to the crisis, and write Congress urging them to take up the cause. **WRITE AN EMAIL TO CONGRESS**

5. USE SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow and retweet @CatholicRelief and @CRSNews on Twitter for the latest updates on the #RefugeeCrisis that's reached Europe. Also, share the memes on this page on your social media channels to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters.



SHARE THIS:



6. PRAY

Pray for protection for refugees around the world, as well as for personal transformation, as we face the needs of refugees everywhere, by using this [Prayer for Refugees](#).

7. SUPPORT REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES

Although CRS works exclusively overseas, there are many ways to help refugees in the United States. [Join our new campaign](#) to continue to

make a difference. Support organizations such as [Migration and Refugee Services](#) and your local [Catholic Charities](#). You can also volunteer to help refugees in your own area through local refugee resettlement centers.