



## UNICEF AND THE SYRIAN CRISIS

With the crisis in Syria now in its fifth year, the needs for children continue to escalate. Children are trapped in a warzone they once called home. Children are living in crowded and overburdened refugee camps and host communities in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. And children and their families are making desperate and dangerous journeys across land and sea in hopes of a better life.

They have endured more than four years of violence, deprivation and displacement – it is their ‘new normal.’ Young children have known nothing but war and adolescents have been brought up in a culture of conflict. The conflict is marked by human rights violations, indiscriminate attacks against densely populated areas and the targeting of civilian infrastructure – these violations continue to occur in contravention of international humanitarian and human rights law.

### CURRENT FACTS (as of October 9, 2015)

#### SITUATION WITHIN SYRIA:

- **5,600,000** children in need: living in poverty, displacement and caught in the lines of fire
- **12,184,000** people affected

#### SITUATION OUTSIDE SYRIA:

- **2,073,905** registered refugee children and children awaiting registration in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey
- **3,600,000** children from vulnerable communities hosting refugees, who themselves are suffering due to the strain on services like education and health

#### UNICEF 2015 RESPONSE TO DATE:

- **4,245,999** children have been vaccinated for polio
- **509,151** children have received winter clothing, blankets, and heating supplies
- **758,667** school-aged children have received UNICEF support to access learning programs
- **739,131** women and children are accessing basic health services and supplies such as Midwifery Kits and Oral Rehydration Salts
- **642,261** children receiving nutrient supplements such as Therapeutic Milk, Plumpy’Nut and Micronutrient Powder
- **779,957** children participating in psychosocial support programs



### **HOW CAN CANADIANS HELP?**

As the crisis continues, and with no end in sight, millions of vulnerable children continue to be exposed to violence and have limited access to water, education and health services. Despite the upheaval caused by the conflict, children continue to demonstrate incredible courage and determination. Without continuous support, this too, could change.

UNICEF is committed to helping Syrian children through programs like Survival Gifts. Survival Gifts are real life-saving and life-changing gifts for children. Canadians can visit [survivalgifts.ca](http://survivalgifts.ca) to purchase gifts that will allow UNICEF to provide critical supplies in areas including health, education and child protection.

#### **SURVIVAL GIFTS MOST NEEDED:**

- **Emergency Gifts:** Five [Emergency Blankets](#) to help protect children and families against cold temperatures (\$46)
- **Clean Water:** 3,741 [Water Purification Tablets](#) provides ten families with enough clean drinking water for one year (\$29)
- **Education:** [School Essentials Bundle](#) provides 60 pencils and 30 exercise books and gives children a chance to learn (\$19)