At just 10 months old, Isra’a* has already endured a lifetime of terror and discomfort. She was born into Syria’s devastating civil war. After 10 years of conflict, she and more than 6 million children like her are in desperate need of food — their whole generation is at risk of malnutrition.

Isra’a’s family was displaced by shelling and struggles to survive without enough food. They also have no electricity or light. And with no heat, they struggle to stay warm.

“Our current situation is horrendous. We’ve been without light for two months and we don’t even have a heater, so we end up spending our days under our blankets just to keep warm,” says Isra’a’s mom, Aya.

This is the plight of many of Syria’s children and their families, who have been forced from their homes and now live in areas where basic services are almost non-existent. The essential infrastructure they rely on — such as health care, education, and water and hygiene services — has been devastated.

Recently, Isra’a stopped drinking milk and was surviving on water and bread soaked in tea. As a result, she suffered intestinal complications and became severely malnourished.

Thankfully, compassionate friends like you help support a mobile health and nutrition clinic in the displaced-persons camp where Isra’a’s family currently lives.

Clinic staff provided the family with complimentary feeding supplements as well as guidance on breastfeeding Isra’a. Since then, this precious little girl has recovered and receives regular checkups, giving her and her family hope for the future.

With your help, Save the Children is on the ground delivering lifesaving aid across Syria. Together, we can continue to reach children and families in urgent need.

Raising Kids Who Care

This past year, many parents found themselves also becoming educators at home. To help, we created Raising Kids Who Care, our interactive webpage filled with informative resources, free downloads and incredible tips on raising compassionate, global-minded children.

Check it out at savethechildren.org/kidwhocare. Or scan with your phone’s camera.

*Names changed for protection
Millions of people in Ethiopia’s Tigray region were already vulnerable as a result of the worst desert locust outbreak in a generation, which ravaged crops and contributed to the nation’s hunger emergency. Now, civil conflict combined with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has left children and families at even greater risk as more people are driven from their homes and unable to find basic essentials.

Currently:
- 2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance
- 600,000 people face food insecurity and severe hunger
- More than 3,000 people cross the border into eastern Sudan each day to escape the violence

Families are in urgent need of clean water, food, a place to sleep, medical care; and children need protection and safe places to learn, play and recover.

With your help, Save the Children was the first humanitarian agency to respond to the crisis. Together, we’ve reached more than 1,063 households (4,368 internally displaced people) with lifesaving assistance, including:

- 840 Food Baskets
- 1,000 Shelter Kits
- 500 WASH Kits
- 2,100 Dignity Kits

To meet some of the children and families throughout the United States that benefit from your dedicated support, visit youtube.com/watch?v=bQ80tz4gys or simply scan the QR code with your phone’s camera.

At least 1 in 4 families in the United States don’t always have the tools their kids need for remote learning, with rural kids being the most disconnected. The more impoverished a family is, the greater the likelihood that kids are missing out on vital learning and development.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the learning of an entire generation of children. Early in the crisis, only 60 percent of low-income students regularly logged into online instruction. Many of these lower income girls and boys do not have a proper learning environment, such as a quiet space with minimal distractions, devices they do not need to share, high-speed internet and parental academic supervision.

This is why our response here at home is so critical. Our early childhood development and education programs have helped more than 1 million children in over 200 communities across 10 states.

To keep children learning until they are able to return to school, we’ve distributed additional supplies and organized reading challenges with local libraries and schools. So far, participating children have read over 450,000 books. Another 49,500 kids received learning materials through our remote summer programs last year, and tens of thousands more will benefit in the coming months.

Since the COVID-19 outbreak began, we’ve provided struggling rural U.S. families with $9.1 million in essential materials to help them remain self-sufficient, including care packages with items like wipes, clothing, books, early learning tips, and fun, educational activities.

“Kids need books. But a lot of families can’t just go out and buy books or they don’t have access to the library or anything.”
— Latasha, mother of two out-of-school children
SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT
YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS KEEP CHILDREN LEARNING DURING COVID-19.
Eglantyne Jebb said ‘The only international language in the world is a child’s cry.’
We have heard that cry and it will not go unanswered. The war on children must stop.

Did you know 415 million children worldwide are right now living in war zones and areas of conflict? That’s almost 18 percent — or 1 in 6 — of all the world’s children.

These 10 countries in conflict are the worst places to be a child

1. Afghanistan
Nearly 10 million children in Afghanistan are in desperate need of lifesaving help.

2. Central African Republic (CAR)
Life expectancy at birth in the CAR is 51 years for women and 47 years for men.

3. Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
One in five children in the DRC dies of preventable diseases before their fifth birthday.

4. Iraq
Of the 3 million Iraqis forced from their homes by violence, about half are children.

5. Mali
More than half of all children in Mali are not in school and missing out on critical education.

6. Nigeria
10.6 million people in Nigeria’s conflict-ravaged northeast need urgent humanitarian aid.

7. Somalia
Nearly 840,000 Somali children are going hungry and require critical medical treatment.

8. South Sudan
Almost 40 percent of all children in South Sudan have been displaced by conflict.

9. Syria
More that 6 million Syrian children are struggling to find food.

10. Yemen
Over 2 million Yemeni children under age 5 are hungry with over 2,200 near starvation.

The number of conflicts around the world has more than doubled in the last 25 years. Children live in constant fear, experiencing grave violations of their rights and having their childhood stolen. Millions of children have grown up knowing nothing but war and conflict. Most suffer from trauma toxic to their psychosocial and physical development and well-being.

Every child deserves a future. Thanks in great part to your support, we’re active in the 10 worst places to be a child. We’re also on the ground in over 100 countries.

Together, we work to protect children from harm. Our emergency relief team is often the first to respond during times of crisis. Throughout the response you help make possible, we work alongside local governments and other partners to provide relief that is tailored to the affected area’s needs.

You and your fellow supporters are the reason we are the leading humanitarian organization on a domestic and global scale when it comes to creating child-friendly spaces in areas of conflict and during natural disasters. These safe spaces offer children the chance to play, learn, cope and heal.

Other programs we offer help restore education and provide access to critical health care. We also help reunite children with their families, and work closely with refugees and internally displaced peoples all around the world.

Thank you for helping us respond when and where children need us most.

Learn more about the work you help make possible at: savethechildren.org/countries-in-conflict or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

JOIN US FOR 100 DAYS OF READING

Kids have been in front of a computer for months now, because of the pandemic. That’s why we’ve created 100 Days of Reading – fun ways to help kids keep learning, reading and moving. Join us! All summer long, we’ll share tips and activities to help keep kids reading and active. Meanwhile, every action you take – every tap, every click – will help feed the minds and bellies of children in rural America who are falling behind.

Want to join us or learn more? Just go to savethechildren.org/read