

# IMPACT REPORT

January-December 2018



# Almost 9 million people in Iraq and Syria are still displaced.

Estimates indicate that more than 13 million people\* are in need of humanitarian assistance. In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, one in four people is either a refugee or an internally displaced person.

The stress on community and governmental infrastructure is taking its toll with needs far greater than the resources available.

*\*To put this in context, imagine if the entire populations of New York City and Los Angeles were displaced from their homes and/or were without food.*



# Total Impact January-December 2018

## IRAQ

-  1,926,258 total meals\* served
-  10,881 food packs feeding 65,286 people
-  1,391,250 liters of water delivered
-  7 wells drilled
-  303,652 medical consultations
-  10,250 hygiene kits
-  298 refugee-owned businesses started
-  3,874 coaching hours provided
-  21,197 visits to the child-friendly center
-  96 people with disabilities served
-  910 students graduated from WorkWell technology hub

## SYRIA

-  7,661,385 total meals\* served
-  60,000 food packs serving 360,000 people
-  7,301,385 meals served in 3 emergency kitchens
-  51,000 bread packages to besieged area
-  12,000 people given warm clothes
-  2,000 hygiene kits
-  139,959 patient visits at mobile medical units
-  250 traditional farms established
-  250 mushroom farms created
-  7,900 units of formula delivered to fleeing or besieged families

\* "Total meals" is a measure of population served by calculating food delivered as both hot meals and food packs.

# You provided 7,301,385 hot meals in Syria.

These meals were the only food some families had access to. You loved and cared for our displaced friends when they needed it the most.





# Emergency kitchens create jobs for women and men displaced by war.

When you are living in a makeshift camp, you have almost nothing but your family. No work, and little prospect for work when you are one person among tens of thousands trying to find their way back home. The emergency kitchens you funded fed those who were hungry, but they are also helping by giving people jobs. Thank you for creating opportunities for our displaced friends in Syria!



# You delivered 70,881 food packs to those who were hungry.

These food packs provided meals to 425,286 people in Iraq and Syria for one month. Your compassion ensured they were not alone as they made efforts to recover and regain what war has taken from them.



# You delivered bread packages to 50,100 people in besieged areas.

Due to food shortages, in some hard-to-reach areas bread prices rose to \$18.64 for approximately 2.2 pounds of bread. (For context, that is about two loaves of white sandwich bread or one loaf of hearty whole grain. The Syrian equivalent is pictured here.)

Before the civil war began, wheat consumption (primarily in the form of bread) accounted for 40% of the Syrian diet. Our friends here eat bread with every meal and because it is such a significant staple of daily life, bread production has been subsidized by the government since the 1960's.

Thank you for providing our Syrian friends with their daily bread!



# You helped 500 families turn hardship into harvest through farming.

With your support, our Agriculture Project has enabled 250 families to return to their farmland in rural Aleppo by establishing a farming cooperative that equips them with the seeds, tools, and machines they need to plant, harvest, and sell their crops again. Additionally, your contributions established a mushroom nursery—training families to produce and sell mushrooms locally.

In 2018, these two projects allowed approximately 3,000 people to benefit from renewed livelihoods. By giving our Syrian friends what they need to once again generate their own income, you are restoring their sense of financial security and creating an impact that is generational.



Watch this video by co-founder Jessica Courtney who brings the mushroom farming story to life...





# You protected 12,000 people with winter survival kits.

In the cold months of early 2018, you distributed winter survival kits for our displaced Syrian friends in camps where they lacked adequate means to stay warm. These kits included thermal underwear for adults and children, hats, neckwarmers, gloves, and children's boots and rain ponchos.

# In 2018, you stood with women.

When you discovered that your Syrian sisters in overcrowded camps were vulnerable, you created a secure and private space for them to shower. You even provided female security guards to ensure their safety.

In primary health clinics, you saw to the physical needs of women and their children, but also provided space for trauma counseling to help mitigate the psychological wounds of war.

Thank you for your support of long-term solutions to heal violence against women. Thank you for walking with our displaced friends as they work their way back toward healing and wholeness.





# You drilled 7 wells in Mosul's Old City.

After the liberation of Mosul, there were still areas without safe and reliable water. We chose seven sites in dangerous and poor neighborhoods to drill wells. Sustainable access to clean water helps prevent disease, saves many hours of traveling to retrieve safe water, and eliminates the need for emergency water deliveries.



Read more about how you're helping families to hold on and hold out...



# You delivered 1,391,250 liters of water.

Because you helped repair vital water infrastructure in Mosul and drilled 7 wells in hard-to-reach places, the need for water delivery is significantly reduced from 30 million liters last year to less than one million liters this year. There is still one small camp without water, but you have stayed faithful to our mission of being last to leave, ensuring they have the lifesaving water they need while working to restore what they lost to war.

# You provided 303,652 patient visits in clinics throughout Iraq.

Your love ensured that people victimized by conflict had access to the medical care they needed. Because you continued to stay with our Iraqi friends, our partnerships with neighborhood clinics allowed us to establish strong, lasting relationships. So, when doctors discovered critical needs, we were able to respond quickly with essential resources like wheelchairs, medications, and more.





## Your mobile clinics in Syria gave medical care during 139,959 patient visits.

In some areas of Syria, whole neighborhoods and vital sections of cities are destroyed. One critical service that has become unavailable in these areas is medical care. Local clinics lie in rubble, forcing those in need of care to travel more than an hour—one-way—to be treated. In addition to the risks of traveling while sick or injured, there are additional consequences: unexploded ordnance in conflict areas, forced conscription of men at checkpoints, separation of families during security checks.

Your concern for the health and safety of our Syrian friends made it possible for them to get the critical care they needed near their homes and encampments.



# You helped bring 1,673 babies into the world!

At clinics you helped fund, you ensured that 1,673 babies were born in a safe and sanitary environment. In a world of conflict and scarcity, this is a luxury! Thanks for giving these babies a great start in life and providing their families with peace of mind.



Meet new mother Hala and her beautiful newborn...

A young child with dark eyes, wearing a blue jacket and a pink knit hat with a small emblem, looks intently at a person whose back is to the camera. The person is holding a white packet, likely formula. The background is blurred, showing other people in a crowded setting.

# You provided formula to 7,900 families with babies and toddlers.

Conflict zones create hardships that every displaced person encounters, but women and young children are uniquely impacted. Breastfeeding is not always a possibility for mothers facing scarcity and stress. Your generosity is making sure parents are able to nourish their babies alongside the rest of their families.



You delivered desperately needed equipment and services to 96 people living with disabilities.

You also provided supplies to keep them healthy and infection-free. Thank you for giving our Iraqi friends a measure of mobility and independence that some of them haven't experienced in years.

74 people have received physical therapy, caregiving, and long-term treatments.

In addition to providing care, medication, and medical equipment to those who have lived without basic care for years, you provided financial assistance to families who needed to transport loved ones to a clinic for specialized care. With proper medical care and the gift of mobility, families are beginning to rebuild their lives.



Meet the bravest kids in Mosul...



# You funded 298 new refugee-owned business start-ups.

You helped 298 displaced women and men start businesses that allow them to provide for their families' basic needs. When disaster strikes, emergency aid is often a necessary first step. But you're not just first in. You're last to leave—giving families what they need to rebuild, long after the rest of the world moves on. Thank you for helping those who have endured so much loss to reclaim their futures.



## Zaroka and Zanoba

Zaroka and Zanoba are sisters-in-law. Thanks to your help, they were able to start a knitting business, producing very popular baby sweaters. But the demand for knitted goods is seasonal, and caring for families requires an income that will allow them to earn a living for their family throughout the year.

In their neighborhood, there was no place to buy groceries. Seeing this need, they saved their earnings from knitting, and pooled funds in order to open a shop. From their small lot in the camp, they carved out space to build a single-room store. It is a small, basic space, but enough to offer much-needed, pantry-stable groceries that you can't get nearby.

Because you believe in our displaced friends and are willing to continue to stay with them after others have moved on, you were able to help Zaroka and Zanoba provide for their families, but also for their neighborhood.



[Read more about their shop, and how it is changing the face of their community...](#)



# Firas the Welder

In 2014, the Sinjar region in Iraq was targeted for destruction by ISIS. Families who didn't escape the invasion were slaughtered or enslaved. Some sections of Sinjar City were so thoroughly destroyed that it may never be restored.

But in some neighborhoods the damage is repairable. Residents are slowly returning and you've been supporting them with food deliveries—providing the nourishment their bodies need to begin the hard work of starting over.

The first step is to secure their homes by replacing doors and windows that were destroyed or stolen. This is where we meet Firas the Welder.

You helped Firas open his shop by offering him a small business grant. As soon as they opened, Firas and his team stocked the shop with doors, windows, and other items people needed most. Items that Firas knows how to make well, with indisputable passion and two decades of experience.

Firas' business is still young, but with your support it has already helped dozens of resilient people successfully return home where they will walk the path back to a life that feels more secure and full of hope.



[Read more about Firas and the rebuilding of Sinjar...](#)





# You provided 3,874 hours of coaching to ensure refugee-owned businesses thrive.

Once each refugee business owner has determined their plan, you offer the financial resources to bring it to life. But that's not all you provide.

For each business started, we lend ongoing support to refugee families, leveraging our relationships to negotiate better prices, making periodic following-up visits to see how each new business owner is doing, and working through new challenges as they come—together.

Because nobody should have to walk their path alone.



# You gave 910 refugee students the confidence and skills to start new lives.

In 2018, 910 students graduated from programs at our WorkWell tech hub, where they transformed themselves from refugees to entrepreneurs. Being at WorkWell offers a sense of normalcy, a reminder of what their lives used to be—and most importantly, a glimpse of what they can become. Students don't just learn new skills; they're able to access the global digital marketplace as freelance coders and designers. They can get jobs locally and online. They are earning money and are free to dream of a future beyond just tomorrow.

Because you refuse to give up on them, nearly a thousand graduates are forging new futures for themselves.



[Read more about the magic of WorkWell...](#)

# You funded 21,197 visits to the Friendly Center for children.

There's a refugee camp in northeastern Iraq that's home to nearly 9,000 Syrians forced to flee their homeland. It was never meant to be home, but for years it has housed thousands of refugees, half of whom are children.

Built for emergency response, the camp is not a very warm and welcoming place. But with the Syrian war still raging, there is no going home for the foreseeable future. Living in the camp, children and their parents are not only separated from their homes, but from the neighborhood friendships and tightly knit family networks that once formed their support systems. Traumatized families live with guardedness and vigilance.

But the Friendly Center offers children safety, a chance to play and learn, a chance for refugee kids to simply be kids and heal from the trauma of war. Kids use play and art to work through trauma. Teens learn leadership skills and ways to build a more peaceful future for their generation. Parents can also participate in therapeutic activities. Social workers are available to make home visits.

Thank you for providing this safe and healing place for our smallest friends from Syria. Thank you for making their world a little better, a little safer, a little more like home.



[Read more about how the Friendly Center creates space for refugee kids to just be kids...](#)





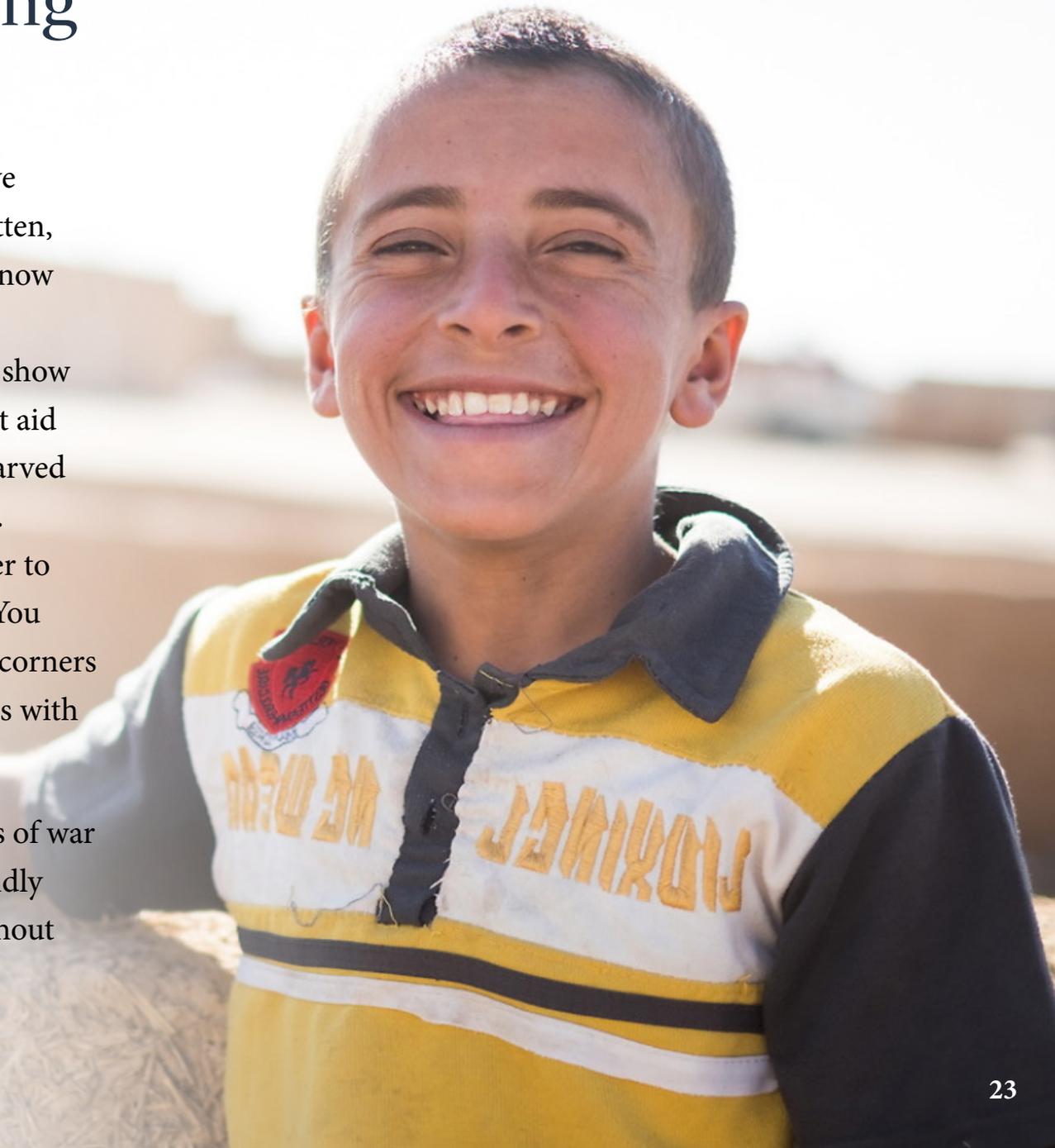
# Thank you for making 2018 a better year!

Thank you for believing in and sharing your love with the most vulnerable, and sometimes forgotten, people in Syria and Iraq. Because of you, they know they are not alone—they are valued and loved.

Because of your partnership, we've been able to show up on the frontlines when crisis hits. You've sent aid where bullets were flying, where people were starved and trapped, where conflict was still happening.

You helped families turn the corner from hunger to harvest, from receiving aid to reclaiming lives. You gave us courage to help in the hardest-to-reach corners of the world, and you showed up in the darkness with the revolutionary light of love.

Together, we can continue mending the wounds of war and helping families flourish. Thank you for boldly waging peace with us. We could not do this without you—and we wouldn't want to.



# We love hearing from you!

Do you have any questions? Do you have ideas for more ways we can work together to wage peace and #loveanyway?

We want you to fully understand your impact—your essential role in waging peace in the world's most polarizing conflicts—so you can share your work with friends and family, colleagues and constituents.

**Please let us know how we can serve you better.**

