

Your gifts, large and small, can mean the difference between life and death. Thank you! —

"I honestly don't know how you thank someone enough who saved your life..."

When a normal race turned deadly, your support was there to save this young runner's life. One of the many ways your gifts save lives right here at home...

The Dublin half-marathon started like any other race for experienced runner, Siobhán Jordan. But without you, she may not be alive today...

She doesn't remember telling her friend she didn't feel well.

She doesn't remember slowing to a staggered walk.

And she doesn't remember collapsing in full cardiac arrest...

But thanks to your support, it took Red Cross volunteers trained for any emergency just 16 seconds to spring into action and start life-saving CPR.

"We couldn't feel a pulse."

If they [the Irish Red Cross] hadn't been there, I don't think I'd be here today.

She wasn't breathing," explains volunteer, Ciarán McDonnell. But two whole minutes after Ciarán and his fellow volunteers began resuscitation... nothing.

Then suddenly, after a second shock with the defibrillator in a desperate attempt to restart her heart, a sudden intake of breath... Siobhán was back.

"...that's down to your guys getting to me so quickly,"

says Siobhán. "I thank them with everything I have."

Only with your generosity can our specially trained life-saving volunteers be ready to help in situations just like this one...

If not for you, Siobhán might not be here today. Thank you for the help you bring when it's needed most — both far away and right here at home.



Your Monthly Gifts Save Lives... THANK YOU!

When crisis calls... you are there. Just like you'll be there for the next hungry family fleeing war. Just like you'll be there for the next child separated from his mother in a disaster.

With your cherished monthly gifts, you bring food, clean water, emergency care, and the comforting words of a kind volunteer to someone who has lost everything.

For your kindness, month after month, we thank you.

Would you like to join as a monthly life-saver?

You would be bringing relief and comfort to people who are going through the very worst moments of their lives. To join today, just use the back of your reply form enclosed. Thank you!



To give online, visit: redcross.ie/frontline
or call the team on 1850-50-70-70

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Registered charity number: CHY3950.



Frontline

Your Red Cross Supporter Newsletter | Spring 2020

4yr-old Azam & 2yr-old Dewi play outside their family tent.



Photo: © Kathleen Prior/IFRC

After Triple Tragedy, Your Gifts Bring Laughter and Hope...

It is said that trouble comes in threes, and after a series of earthquakes and tsunamis nearly destroyed the Indonesian island of Sulawesi... maybe it's true. But when crisis calls, you don't give up... you stand up.

In a place which is now 'home' to thousands of people displaced by disaster, happiness can be hard to find.

But as Azam chases his brother, Dewi, both giggling with wide-eyed delight, the little boys' laughter echoes through the camp. Nearby, their mother smiles with relief...

Because it wasn't so long ago that she feared she may never hear that sweet sound again.

She remembers all too clearly the terror of a year ago — the day the ground beneath her family's feet turned to mud, swallowing their home and livelihood with it.

Everything they had... gone in the blink of an eye. Can you begin to imagine the fear this mother felt?

The days that followed were the stuff of nightmares. Fathers... mothers... children... all missing. Whole villages washed away. 4,000

people lost their lives. 170,000 people were left homeless, hungry, and desperate.

Yet even in the midst of this panic and chaos... there is hope. There is you.

Your generous gifts sent first responders to lead urgent search and rescue missions. Your donations were there to provide emergency medical (Please continue on page 2)

+ Page 2: Emergency Readiness Wish-List

+ Page 3: Precious water in Syria

+ Page 4: Saving lives here at home



Photo: © ICRC

Water in Short Supply

In war-torn Syria, hundreds of families have fled to the relative safety of the city of Hassakeh. But now they face a new enemy...

When Ali and her family ran from their home amidst an airstrike, they took nothing... "We had just finished lunch when we heard a big explosion. My husband and I took our kids and left... we walked for two days to reach Hassakeh," she says.

Your kind gifts are helping to feed, clothe, and shelter hundreds of families like Ali's who have fled their homes seeking shelter and emergency humanitarian aid.

But now, water shortages are threatening these life-saving operations. There is a continuing struggle to get water to all the families sheltering in Hassakeh.

"Now, we are staying in this school [a Red Cross shelter] where we feel a bit safer, but we brought no food, no water, no mattresses," explains Ali.

Will you help bring the very basics like clean water to Syria's victims of war like Ali and his family? See the 'Emergency Readiness Wish-List' for ways you can send vital supplies. Thank you!

Your Gifts of Laughter and Hope After Triple Tragedy

(Continued from cover...)

care to the weary and walking wounded. And you gave this little family the help they needed just in time.

Because you cared, the Red Cross was out in the field from the very beginning — caring for homeless families like Azam and Dewi's. And because you still care... we're still there. A year later, just as the victims' plight continues, your kindness endures.

“

There are still 57,000 people without homes. Because of you, we are still here. Your generosity brings food... clean water... medicine... shelter... the list goes on. Thank you!

”

Emergency Readiness Supplies

Will you help us get ahead of disaster *before* it strikes?

+

€30 is the cost of Hygiene Kits for 3 families for a month

+

€55 is all it costs to send a family Food Parcels for a month.

+

€225 is the cost to provide a Shelter Kit to a homeless family.

+

€470 is the cost of Beds, Mosquito Nets and Shower kits for 8 people.

+

€1,230 is the cost for a Defibrillator and CPR device.

You could feed a homeless family for a whole month!

Your gift, of any size, will be treasured.

To give, use the form enclosed. Or visit redcross.ie - Thank you!



Photo: © Kathleen Prior /IFRC

Because of you, there's hope right now for those in need —

Home Again

"It was a nightmare," says Gina Tomas Duarte. Heavily pregnant with her second child, and still mourning the sudden death of her husband, Gina tells of the terrifying night just last year that **two** raging cyclones hit her family home in Mozambique — one after the other — leaving a deadly trail of despair and devastation in its path.

"Somehow, I managed to grab the kids, and we ran to a neighbour's house. We stayed there until morning," says Gina.

Thankfully, her family and her unborn baby survived, but her home was devastated, the roof torn off completely. "A house without a roof is not a home... Every time it rained, we prayed to God it would stop because we had no shelter," she told us.

But as we speak to Gina, she prepares a meal for her family using kitchen supplies you so kindly provided with your generous donations. And now, your gifts are helping Gina rebuild her family home...

Gina is grateful for the tarpaulin your generous gifts provided, which is temporarily serving as a roof. She's grateful for the hygiene supplies, seeds, and agricultural tools you sent to replace crops devastated by the floods. And she's grateful for the thousand other little kindness you've shown her family as they start to rebuild their lives.

For caring about those affected by disaster long after the cameras leave... Thank you!



Gina with her baby, sisters and nephews — grateful to be in their home, thanks to you.

With your help, we're providing food, shelter, and comfort to families like Dewi's and helping them rebuild the lives they lost.

But, even with all the generous help you give, the realities of living in a temporary camp can be harsh... especially for children like Azam and Dewi.

And so, with your help, Red Cross volunteer and psychosocial expert, Putri, came here to help children in the settlements deal with the trauma and the deep scars disaster can leave.

By playing games, singing songs, drawing pictures, telling stories, and talking, children are distracted from day-to-day life at the camps. But even more than that, Putri's guided sessions help children process and talk about the tragedy they suffered while encouraging them to laugh, play, and find simple joy even in the midst of this ongoing crisis.

This disaster may have robbed them of their homes, but with your help, it won't take away their childhoods.

For every little moment of joy and laughter you bring to families who lost almost everything... thank you.

Dignity. Hope. Comfort... these are the precious gifts you give. **Thank you!**