



USA for
UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Because You Care

Your Newsletter — Exclusively for Compassionate Americans Who Care About Refugees WINTER 2022

The Warmth of Your Compassion

Your love blankets Siba in warmth and keeps her hope alive this winter.

Read her story inside →



Siba works to keep water out of her family's makeshift home.

© UNHCR/DIEGO IBARRA SANCHEZ

When you share your warmth . . .

You take Siba's hands in your own

Numb. Siba's gloveless fingers no longer feel the cold that bites at her hands and feet. But there is no relief, as she's only half finished emptying the freezing water that invades her tent. Siba is only 10 years old.

SHE DREAMS OF BEING A LAWYER. But instead of holding a pencil, her fingers are plunged into ice-cold water and snow every morning and night as she tries to keep her family's makeshift shelter in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley dry. Winter is the most dangerous time of year for refugees like Siba.

But **you** take Siba's hands in your own, and share your warmth with her until her fingers tingle with renewed life. Until her heart glows with renewed hope.

All over the world, refugees are bracing for winter. Days are short, nights are long and warmth is hard to come by. But you are sharing the warmth of your compassion with refugees in so many ways.

To Siba, and to refugees like her, warmth means

many different things. It means wrapping yourself in a cozy blanket on a cold day. Last year you provided 3 million cozy blankets!

Warmth means having enough income to pay for all of your winter needs and some extra to provide some festive joy during the shorter winter days. In Lebanon alone, your compassion provided cash assistance to nearly 160,000 Syrian refugee families last winter.

Warmth can also mean the gentle glow in your heart that comes from being welcomed by people who love and care about you.

You give that warmth to refugees each and every day by welcoming them into your community and into your heart. ♥

Your Impact
2021 IN REVIEW

Across continents and crises, you shared your warmth!



Ethiopia

Berhane was forced to flee escalating conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray region, leaving behind all means of support for himself and his loved ones. Now living in a camp in Sudan, Berhane is getting back on his feet working at a small mill. **To Berhane, your warmth is self-sufficiency.** © UNHCR/AHMED KWARTE



Yemen

Young **Tahani** plays near her family's shelter. Resources are scarce, but your commitment to these families helps ensure access to food, water and critical supplies. **To Tahani, your warmth is a full belly.**

© UNHCR/MARIE-JOËLLE JEAN-CHARLES



Ecuador

Angela, 76, from Venezuela, breathes a sigh of relief. She is among several refugees to receive her first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in Guayaquil, Ecuador. **To Angela, your warmth is protection.**

© UNHCR/SANTIAGO ARCOS VEINTIMILLA



Bangladesh

Kefayetullah, his wife, **Fatima**, and their two children live in the Kutupalong refugee camp. They received support to create a vertical garden and vegetable patch beside their shelter. "With the money we earn from selling extra vegetables, I can buy fish and other groceries," Fatima shares. **To this Rohingya refugee family, your warmth is restored livelihood.** © UNHCR/KAMRUL HASAN



Afghanistan

A looming humanitarian catastrophe

SIX-YEAR-OLD ZARIF peeks around the corner of the tent he shares with his grandmother. Sadly, his father was killed. As fear and uncertainty prevail in the region, **your support is more important than ever. To Zarif, your warmth is hope.**

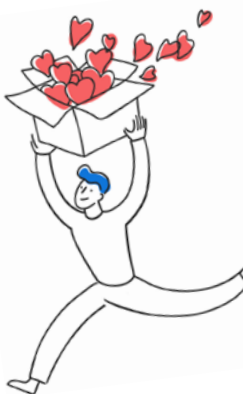
In Afghanistan, where a staggering 80% of those forced to flee violence and persecution are women and children, the future remains unknown.

Through escalating crises, COVID-19 and natural disasters, you have been the loving friend refugees need to overcome the toughest moments of their lives.

→ When you become a monthly supporter, **your love and compassion can be counted on as a reliable source of warmth, comfort and safety.** ♥

Yes! I want to be a monthly supporter, to make sure help is there **whenever and wherever it is needed most.**

Visit [UNrefugees.org/monthlygiving](https://www.unrefugees.org/monthlygiving)





As your witness

From Anne-Marie Grey,
Executive Director and CEO

In a season of uncertainty, your boundless love gives hope

YOUR LOVE IS TRANSFORMATIVE. But you don't need me to tell you that — all you need to do is look at the power and hope in young Siba's face on the cover. With friends like you, her hopes have a chance to become reality — her life can be one full of dreams that come true.

Winter is the most dangerous season for refugees like Siba. And it is the season when precious dreams are most at risk. Thankfully, you are there with your care, your compassion and your boundless love when it is most needed.

This winter, so many more refugees are facing uncertainty. In Afghanistan, the escalating humanitarian crisis has forced hundreds of thousands of people to flee — **just as temperatures plunge.** Too many will face the cold in flimsy tents and makeshift shelters.

But our community of caring Americans has never turned away from the call to care for those forced to flee.

This winter, your compassion can warm a family in their hour of greatest need and give others, just like Siba, the chance to keep their hopes alive.

Thank you for all you do for refugees and displaced families around the world every day.

With Gratitude,

Anne-Marie Grey



Huda's face breaks into a beaming smile because she knows her daughter, Nagham, 9, will have everything she needs this winter.

© UNHCR / MOHAMMAD HAWARI



WHAT SERVICE MEANS TO YOU

Pour yourself a hot cup of coffee or tea and read why supporters like you choose to give back!



Nothing warms the heart like serving others.

"To me, service means the giving of one's self without expectations.

Although I never met my grandparents, their story is what inspired me to be sensitive towards different cultures and to advocate for immigrants, especially Syrian refugees. I was adopted into a Syrian family and grew up influenced by their culture through fellowship, food, gatherings, dancing and music. It was something very special.

We are all one people in the end. It reminds me of President Kennedy's speech, 'Ich bin ein Berliner' (I am a Berliner), meaning that we have different skin color or ethnicity, but we are all part of the human race."

— SUSAN B., LANCASTER, CA

Your support came through!

Her soul was infused with warmth and joy

"It felt like a holiday," says Huda of the winter cash assistance she received because of your support. And what are the holidays about but love, joy and community?

WINTER IS HARD FOR HUDA and her five children, Syrian refugees living in Jordan. She relies on UNHCR to make ends meet, and the high costs that come during the winter months make it especially difficult. Her husband was killed in Syria, and on top of caring for her five children, she also supports her elderly father. "There has been hardly a day in the last year when one of us has not cried," she says. "Life has become very difficult."

But then your support came through, and Huda's soul was infused with the warm feeling of joy that the winter holidays bring. She now has enough for all of the winter essentials, gas for heat and warm clothes for her children, and she also has a sense of safety that her family is cared for. And that's the greatest gift of all. ♥



Build Your Legacy of Warmth and Love

Time and time again, you have shown your kindness and support to refugees. Now is the perfect time to think about including a charitable gift in your will to ensure the comfort and protections of your love for generations to come.

It's surprisingly easy. David is here to help answer any questions that you have.

To discuss leaving your legacy, simply contact our expert, **David Hall**, at **202-293-0434** or **plannedgiving@usaforunhcr.org**.

He'd love to talk with you! ♥

UNFORGOTTEN BECAUSE OF YOU

Little Lina has never seen her home country — she was born a refugee after her family fled the brutal civil war in Syria. But thanks to your kindness, Lina's family is safe and building a future in Turkey.

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