



LEAD THE WAY ON MIGRATION

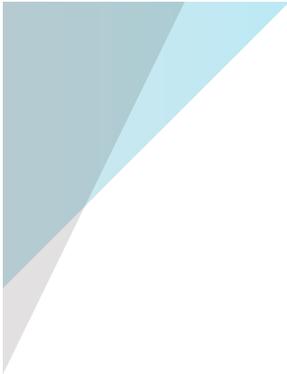
Ark of Hope

crs.org/leadtheway

Text LEAD NOW to 306-44



Photo by Jennifer Hardy/CRS



SHARE HOPE WITH OUR HUMAN FAMILY

The **CRS Ark of Hope** invites you to recall the story of Noah and the Flood—a story of hope and of God’s love for his children and all creation. Today, we share this hope with our sisters and brothers most in need through CRS’ lifesaving work around the world.

Lead the way to a better world by fundraising with your community to fill a symbolic ark and help enable all members of our global family to thrive.

Use the highlighted resources below to enhance your community’s CRS Ark of Hope fundraiser with prayers, stories and other resources to support migrants and refugees.

“To protect creation, to protect every man and every woman, to look upon them with tenderness and love, is to open up a horizon of hope; it is to let a shaft of light break through the heavy clouds; it is to bring the warmth of hope!”

— POPE FRANCIS

LIVE GOD’S PROMISE, TODAY

BY FUNDRAISING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY, YOU CAN MAKE A REAL, POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN OUR WORLD. SHARE THE FOLLOWING STORY AS PART OF YOUR FUNDRAISER TO SHOW YOUR COMMUNITY THE DIFFERENCE THAT THEIR DONATIONS CAN MAKE.

Today, nearly 80 million people are currently displaced, many as a result of conflict and violence. Families are forced to flee in search of safety. Children often have long-term emotional, physical and cognitive setbacks. We can lead the way by establishing safe spaces where children can heal and regain a sense of security.

With perfect posture and a radiant smile, eight-year-old Soraya stands in a circle with her classmates, singing. The children sway to the music, their hands performing playful gestures that accompany the song. Gradually, under the care of trained teachers in this child friendly space in the Philippines, healing is happening.

Soraya’s family is one of more than 70,000 families forced from their homes in Marawi City, Philippines, when fighting broke out in 2017. They have not been able to return. Initially, the family lived in a tent at an evacuation center where it was not possible for Soraya to attend school. She did, however, visit a mobile child friendly space sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, which gave her the chance to begin working through trauma she experienced after witnessing violent conflict.

Child friendly spaces don’t replace primary education, but they do serve a unique need for emergency-affected children. Through participation in free and structured play, child friendly spaces offer children a safe place to learn and heal which is critical to re-establishing a sense of normalcy. Learn more about Soraya and her story at crs.org/leadtheway.

YOU CAN HELP ENSURE THAT MORE CHILDREN FEEL THE SUPPORT THAT SORAYA AND HER FAMILY HAVE EXPERIENCED BY MOBILIZING YOUR COMMUNITY TO FILL YOUR ARK TO PROVIDE SAFETY AND OTHER NECESSITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AROUND THE WORLD!



Soraya, second from the right, loves to color, draw and play with her classmates at their child friendly space.

Photo by Tiffany Tsang for CRS

*“Amen, I say to you,
whatever you did for
one of these least
brothers of mine, you
did for me.”*

— MATTHEW 25:40

HOW CAN WE WORK TO HELP LEAD THE WAY ON MIGRATION?

PRAY TOGETHER FOR A BETTER WORLD

Our faith calls us to acts of charity. Make sure to integrate faith filled reflection into your fundraiser. Use the prayer, [Prayer for Migrants and Refugees](#), to pray as a community for each member of our global family who seeks safety and refuge.

GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

Challenge your community to go a step further by adding these items to your ark.*

- **Raise \$70** for an **emergency supply and hygiene kit** for families on the move or in temporary housing. In addition to food, water and medicine, we provide household essentials like cooking pots, containers, blankets, soap and other hygiene items.
- **Raise \$100** for **winterization kits** that help families in sub-standard or temporary housing survive cold winters. They include blankets, heaters, insulation and tarps to reinforce roofs and keep people dry.
- **Raise \$255** for a **safe space for displaced children**. Boys and girls will receive transportation to and from classes, recreational activities to interact with friends, school supplies and counseling for their emotional health.
- **Raise \$450** for **transitional shelters**. Semi-permanent housing gives displaced families safety, security and some of the comforts of home while they wait for permanent housing.

** Gifts are symbolic of the good your donation will do and represent actual goods and services provided to the people CRS serves around the world.*

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

We make the most impact when we take action together with others. Consider holding your fundraiser in conjunction with one of these important dates in the effort to support migrants and refugees.

“Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.”

— ROMANS 15:7

- September 27: World Day of Migrants and Refugees
- October 11: International Day of the Girl
- November: World Day of the Poor*
- December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- December 18: International Migrants Day
- January 11: National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- February: Week before Ash Wednesday*
- May: Pentecost*

*Date varies given calendar year.



Displaced families experience safety and security from transitional homes.

Photo by Tiffany Tsang for CRS

Join us

by texting LEAD NOW to 306-44 to get the latest CRS campaign news and alerts.

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