



WHAT IS CWS OPERATION REFUGEE?

Operation Refugee is a simple challenge. You sign up for the full deal – five days of eating the same food as a Syrian refugee – or Operation Refugee LITE for two days as a school student. We send you the information you need to begin and the food minus the rice. The rations are: chickpeas, kidney beans, salt, fish (vegetarians can swap it for more kidney beans or tofu), flour, lentils and oil.

It runs from 16 – 20 June 2018 but you can start earlier or later if you need to.

5 TIPS FOR THE CHALLENGE

1. Make your effort count. Set a high goal. Last year one person raised \$2,079 and a team raised \$5,200. If you are new to the challenge start with \$700 – you can always increase it later.
2. Recruit some friends to join you and make a team. Choose a crazy name, print a t-shirt and organize a weekly check in so you can keep each other on task.
3. Tell everybody what you are doing and why it is so important to show their support for refugees by getting behind you. Make it manageable. Ask a close friend or family member to give you a down payment. Once you get your first donation, ask the next person to match it. Ask two friends for the equivalent of a dinner out and two colleagues for lunch money. You are on your way.
4. A few days before you start the challenge, hit the social media. Use your artistic abilities to tell your story. Share Operation Refugee posts that you think will attract support. Post pictures of yourself enjoying your rations – whatever works for you.
5. When it is over send out a big thank you to your fan base and give them one last chance to donate. Let CWS know what you learned from the challenge and what we could do better. Keep in touch so you find out how much we raised together and what is happening for refugees.

WHY JOIN OPERATION REFUGEE?

A record 65.6 million people have fled their homes. Some have fled to neighbouring countries while many more are displaced by war, conflict and persecution within their home countries. According to the United Nations nearly 20 people are forcibly displaced every minute. More than five million Syrians have sought shelter in neighbouring countries and another million have made it to Europe. More than six million people are displaced inside Syria. We can make sure they have food, medical care and education.

WHO BENEFITS FROM OPERATION REFUGEE?

We all do. Raising funds so people can eat, access medical care and learn is an act of kindness and a way of showing concern for our neighbour. It is a matter of faith and an obligation under international law.

Last year the New Zealand Government matched funds raised by Operation Refugee from its aid vote. The money was used by the DSPR Jordan to help Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria where the need was greatest.

Your donations paid for 200 good quality food parcels, 467 parcels of infant clothes, training in business, psychosocial support and gender based violence for 653 women and 300 refugees for follow up treatment after free medical days.

Your support last year meant that DSPR Jordan and Lebanon could keep the lifeline to refugees needing schooling and vocational training.

This year, we want to do it all again. In 1949, Palestinian Christians set up DSPR to support Palestinian refugees of all religions. Refugees know they can find help at the DSPR centres. Their education services are highly regarded and they continue to promote Palestinian cultural traditions. In Jordan and Lebanon DSPR has been able to draw on its strong local networks to help refugees from Syria since they first arrived in 2011. In Jordan, for example medical staff donate their time and other resources when DSPR organises a free medical day in the camps.

Operation Refugee will give DSPR the support it needs to help refugees face some of the many challenges ahead. Most are deeply in debt and live in cramped informal settlements. Visas and other costs are rising but there are few opportunities to earn an income. Over half the refugees are under the age of 18. DSPR provides emergency food parcels and cash vouchers, healthcare, education, fun days for children and emotional support. Many want to go home but it is not safe in Syria. The money you raise will help them survive and give them a better chance for the future.



MAIA, DUNEDIN AGED 9 YEARS

“I’M GLAD I DID OPERATION REFUGEE EVEN THOUGH IT WAS VERY HARD.”

AGED 9 YEARS OLD, MAIA FROM DUNEDIN WAS THE YOUNGEST PARTICIPANT. SHE DECIDED TO DO THE CHALLENGE BECAUSE CWS SUPPORTS COMMUNITIES AND ORGANISATIONS IN PARTNERSHIP.



WHAT THE MONEY RAISED WILL DO?

1.



Provide food rations and vouchers so families can supplement what they get from the United Nations with what they most need.

2.



Provide free medical days in Jordan's refugee camps with volunteer medical staff from Jordan's hospitals.

3.



Provide forums so children can play, learn and have fun away from the often bleak reality of their daily lives.

4.



Provide tuition, training and support for young students in Lebanon. DSPR organises students to return to Syria to sit senior exams in Arabic rather than French as in Lebanese schools. They are helping others attend university and run preschools.

\$350

will enable one student to attend classes on the Syrian curriculum so they can prepare to sit their final exams in Syria.

\$844

will pay for a children's forum offering music, games, and craft activity to 40 children.

\$870

will pay for 10 good quality food parcels in Jordan or cash vouchers in Lebanon that will feed a family of 6 for 15 days.

\$1,859

will pay for 10 school kits for young students.

\$4,224

will pay for a free medical day in a refugee camp in Jordan attended by more than 500 people.

\$7,392

will pay for a start your own business course for 25 women.



KATE, ASHBURTON
2017 PARTICIPANT

"HAVING THE EXTRA REWARD GOALS MADE PEOPLE GIVE MORE.....WE SAID THAT IF WE GOT TO \$2,000 WE WOULD SLEEP IN A TENT. SUDDENLY LOTS OF PEOPLE SPONSORED! I LEARNED TO APPRECIATE THE AMAZING VARIETY OF FOOD WE HAVE ACCESS TO AND NOT TAKE IT FOR GRANTED."