



Myanmar Refugee Crisis

A young girl is seen by a doctor at one of the Red Cross mobile clinics inside a refugee camp in Bangladesh.

Dear supporters,

It was this time last year that the world's eyes turned to one of the largest humanitarian crises in recent years. In a mere few weeks, over 700,000 people — mostly women and children — fleeing the violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar, arrived in Bangladesh in search of safety.

Since then, they have been living in cramped conditions in Cox's Bazar, in makeshift camps built on muddy slopes that are exposed to the elements. Their numbers have topped 60,000 per square kilometre, making living conditions miserable.

I have visited these camps. I have seen the pain and worry in the eyes of these families. I have heard troubling stories.

At our field hospital, I met Noor Fatima, whose two children were acutely malnourished. In the next bed lay Shahidullah,

barely a year old, with a broken leg. With your precious support, over 160,000 people have been treated by the Red Cross medical teams in the past year alone. Families have also received food, clean drinking water, personal care items, and psychological support.

Despite the daily hardships, your support has made their lives a little easier and rekindled hope in their eyes.

Thank you for continuing to be by their side.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Conrad Sauvé".

Conrad Sauvé
President and CEO

How your support helped baby Yasmin see the light of day



Yasmin almost didn't make it into the world, but an emergency caesarean saved the lives of both her and her mother, Sanjida.

“We provide medical care they wouldn't get otherwise.”

– **Sherry Humphrey**, a nurse for the Canadian Red Cross

Yasmin's birth was nothing less than a miracle. The same can be said for the 500 others that have taken place at the Red Cross field hospital in the past 12 months.

Although many mothers give birth in the camps with the help of midwives, women with life-threatening complications for either themselves or their baby are immediately taken to the hospital.

That's exactly what happened to Sanjida. After five long and painful hours of labour, little Yasmin was still refusing to come out, and the mom-to-be was completely exhausted.

But your generosity made sure there was a happy ending. Inside the Red Cross field hospital, medical staff performed a caesarean, relieving Sanjida from her suffering and ensuring her baby girl could see the light of day.

Thanks to your support, doctors and nurses continue working to ensure that little miracles like this happen nearly each and every day.

Extending care to those in need

Far from the field hospital, Red Cross Red Crescent teams are also operating a health post in the most remote area of the camp. This is often the only chance for people to get the basic care they need.

Meanwhile, inside a new community outreach centre, the most vulnerable children receive special attention to help them cope with the trauma of their experience.

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK: LIFESAVING HEALTH CARE



160,000+ patients treated by the Red Cross field hospital staff and mobile teams



60+ Canadian medical specialists deployed to Bangladesh to provide healthcare



511 births, most after life-threatening complications

Your lifesaving difference:

Trained and ready to come to the rescue



My son is trapped! Quick, get a doctor! Help, I'm stuck!

It's monsoon season in the Cox's Bazar refugee camp. We are in the middle of a simulation exercise, but these cries for help could easily be real.

In Bangladesh, the season's heavy rains often bring floods, landslides and strong winds. On these muddy hillsides that hold hundreds of thousands of makeshift shelters, the risks are even greater. Will these fragile homes be able to withstand the weather?

With your support, the Red Cross has trained and equipped more than 500 men and women to provide emergency assistance whenever the call for help comes. The volunteers know what to do if a child becomes separated from their parents, if someone is trapped under a mound of mud, or if an elderly person is unable to move.

"I volunteered to help my people," explains Borhan, who is 20 years old. "I teach kids to remember their name and their parents' names."

For families in the camps, natural disaster is a constant threat. But thanks to you, they are prepared. Alarms will sound, and the first responders will spring into action. Trapped bodies will be recovered, and separated families will be reunited.

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK



250,000+ people assisted with urgent needs such as food, water, and shelter supplies



18 million litres of clean drinking water distributed in the camps



256,000 people supplied with personal care items (soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, etc.)

Thank You



Since the very beginning of the crisis, the Red Cross has also provided humanitarian aid to those who remain in Rakhine State, Myanmar, where many have been displaced. Over 280,000 people have received food, clean drinking water, relief items, healthcare and financial assistance.

YOUR GENEROSITY AT A GLANCE

The Canadian Red Cross wishes to thank Canadians, the business community, and provincial governments for contributing more than \$1.7 million to date towards our operations. Here is how your donations are helping:

\$1.2 M
Emergency health programming in Bangladesh

\$252,000
Lifesaving relief operations in Bangladesh



\$250,000
Lifesaving relief operations in Myanmar

The cost of fundraising on this appeal was less than 5%. This includes fees associated with donation processing and receipting, reporting and communications.

Emergency health programming in Bangladesh

- Supplies and training for the ongoing operation of a static Health Post in the camp
- Community outreach activities, including health and hygiene promotion, and emotional support
- Supplies and training to prepare for the monsoon season and prevent disease outbreaks
- Provision of non-food items such as hygiene kits for families and dignity kits for women and girls
- Construction of water and sanitation facilities, including bathing shelters for women

Lifesaving relief operations in Bangladesh

- Clean water and food
- Shelter supplies, including ropes, blankets, tarpaulins and mosquito nets
- Personal care kits (including soap, shampoo, wash towels, razors, etc.)
- Cash assistance

Lifesaving relief operations in Myanmar

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