



## Responding to Refugees: Your Best Friend Is Your Neighbour

Posted in [Syria Refugee Appeal](#)

Your generous gifts support partners' response to the needs of displaced Syrians and Iraqis who have taken refuge in Jordan.

We Call Them Guests, Not Refugees

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We are called by our [Song of Faith](#) to defend human dignity and love fiercely in the face of violence. The generous people of the United Church have responded to this call by donating over \$8 million to local efforts that helped sponsor more than 900 Syrian refugees for resettlement in Canada.

United Church people have also donated over \$1.05 million to our [Syria Refugee Appeal](#). Your generous support allows Mission & Service partners on the ground in the Middle East respond to the needs of displaced Syrians through a lens of human dignity.

In Jordan, Mission & Service partner the [Middle East Council of Churches](#) (MECC) has been responding to the needs of Iraqi Christian refugees in Jordan for many years (see video above). As many other refugees fleeing the conflict in Syria also end up in Jordan, MECC works to aid the local churches that house and support these refugees.

"We try to liberate them from what I call imposed food parcels and clothes," says Wafa Goussous, Director, MECC Jordan. "We provide for them vouchers where they can take the voucher, go to the shop, choose their own food, choose their own clothes ... especially [important] for the children."

Your donations help the MECC serve Syrian and Iraqi refugees while they seek to rebuild their lives.

"I wish for my family, especially for my only daughter, a stable life where it's safe," says one refugee, who fled Iraq with her husband and daughter after the attempted kidnapping of her daughter outside of her kindergarten. "Since our childhoods, we have grown up in a war-war after war after war. We didn't see anything beautiful in our lives. I wish for her to have a better future than ours."

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