



Towards Peace

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



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MISSION

War Child's mission is to work with war-affected communities to help children reclaim their childhood through access to education, opportunity and justice. War Child takes an active role in raising public awareness around the impact of war on communities and the shared responsibility to act.

VISION

War Child's vision is for a world where no child knows war.



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Letter from the Founder and Chair

Dear Friends,

What do we mean by peace? How do we define it? It cannot simply be the absence of war. When guns fall silent and peace agreements are signed, what follows is not what we in North America would recognize as peace. Instability remains, sporadic violence lingers, the rule of law is notable by its absence, and a return to conflict is a constant threat. But if that isn't it, what is it we are talking about when we talk of peace?

We should see peace not as a destination so much as an ongoing process, and one that can be reversed at any time if underlying tensions are left unchecked. We can see this happening across much of the Middle East today and in the civil war in South Sudan, both areas you will read about in this report. You will learn how War Child's programming is directly supporting children and their communities to build a more peaceful future. You will hear from our extraordinary staff on the ground, as well as some of the children and families we work with.

2016 was another year in which humanity demonstrated its limitless appetite for war. War Child Canada's staff responded with ever increasing effort and commitment. Nowhere was this more apparent than in Afghanistan, one of the very first countries in which War Child Canada became operational. The work there, as you will read, has not only expanded territorially but it has developed into a truly holistic program, covering all three pillars of our work – education, opportunity and justice. The successes the team has achieved – especially in changing ingrained attitudes and behaviours – is nothing less than breathtaking.

As Founder and Chair of this organization, we are humbled not only by the scale of the challenges that conflict presents but by the courage and tenacity that children and families we work with demonstrate in overcoming them. When we visit our programs, we are not met with despair but rather a profound hope and belief that war is temporary and that peace and security will prevail.

*"If we can make our peace
Upon such large terms and so absolute
As our conditions shall consist upon,
Our peace shall stand as firm
as rocky mountains."*

William Shakespeare, Henry IV.



*Dr. Samantha Nutt,
Founder and Executive Director*



*Michael Eizenga,
Chair of the Board of Directors*



Two young refugees from the conflict in South Sudan
in a refugee settlement in Uganda.



TOTAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE REACHED:

510,000



TOTAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH EDUCATION:

220,000



TOTAL NUMBER OF
PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH OPPORTUNITY:

65,000



TOTAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH JUSTICE:

225,000

Two displaced boys flying kites
in Northern Iraq.



The need to build peace

War has a devastating impact on individuals, communities, and countries. It displaces millions of people. It ruins livelihoods. It leaves trauma and suffering in its wake. Recent estimates suggest that two billion people in the world live in countries affected by fragility and conflict. In many war-torn countries, children under the age of 18 make up over half of the population.

Even when it seems like war has ended – when a peace deal has been signed or the guns have fallen silent – it often has not. In countries that have experienced a war in the last 10 years, conflict reoccurs over 50 percent of the time. Generation after generation, as a result, are stuck in a seemingly never-ending cycle of violence.

But it does not have to be this way. Over the last 15 years, the world has begun to grapple with the question of how to foster a sustainable peace in conflict-affected countries. This question guides War Child's work. In order to achieve our mission – a world where no child knows war – our programs must necessarily work towards peace in the countries we work in. Technically it is referred to as 'peacebuilding,' but in reality it is an approach to programming that aims to create an environment where peace can take root.

WHAT IS PEACEBUILDING?

Peacebuilding focuses on the root-causes of conflict in a given society, and works to address the underlying tensions and inequalities that lead to war. These programs not only work to secure an end to conflict, but to ensure that the causes of the violence are eliminated so that war does not reoccur in the future. The aim is to not provide band-aid solutions to the problem of war, but to resolve it completely.

War Child's work occupies a critical gap between the immediate crisis and the point at which sustainable development and recovery can begin. Often countries that have been affected by conflict no longer require immediate humanitarian assistance, but are not stable enough for permanent economic and social recovery to occur. Our programming fills that gap by providing assistance aimed at reducing the risk of future conflict, and setting up the conditions necessary for long-term development.

Our programming is rooted in the belief that for a community to recover from conflict, it must drive the process. Peace cannot be externally imposed; local inclusion, buy-in, and ownership are necessary to create the conditions for lasting peace to develop. As a result, over 95% of our staff are local to the countries that we work in, and we partner with community-based organizations. The key to our impact is this local approach, as it helps our programs respond to community needs and makes them sustainable in the long-term.



Two sisters walk through their camp for displaced persons in Northern Iraq.

How War Child's programs build peace

Our programs recognise that the drivers of conflict are complex, and therefore we need a multi-dimensional approach to peace.

EDUCATION

War Child's education programming necessarily has a long-term view of peacebuilding that starts with children's education, as the children today are the decision-makers of tomorrow. Education can play a transformative role in post-conflict recovery, providing the next generation with the tools to earn a living, teaching them the skills to reject conflict and embrace peace, and changing their attitudes towards violence. What is more, every year of schooling decreases a boy's chance of engaging in violent conflict by 20 percent, and increases a girl's earning potential by 10 percent.



OPPORTUNITY

War Child's opportunity programming works to address the economic drivers of conflict and help with economic recovery, providing livelihoods training to women and young people so that they will have the skills to both productively contribute to the economy and reject violence in the future. Employment-focused programming is also an important continuation of our education work – if education does not lead to gainful employment it can result in alienation, frustration, and an increased risk of violence. Providing the opportunities for employment thus harnesses the transformational power of education for a more productive economy and a more stable society.



JUSTICE

War Child's justice programming helps strengthen the rule of law and security, which contributes significantly to post-conflict recovery and the prevention of future conflict. During war, the rule of law breaks down and individuals often commit crimes with impunity. In order to restore safety, security, and normalcy post-war, War Child works to strengthen justice systems, rebuild local legal structures, and provide legal council to victims of violence.





A refugee family walk through a settlement in Uganda.



Girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo study at a lesson delivered through radio.

Our work focuses on three main groups in order to build peace.

CHILDREN are the generation that will make decisions about war and peace tomorrow. The experiences of childhood can have an enormous impact on adulthood, especially when children have suffered the trauma of war. We must work to both meet the needs of conflict-affected children, and constructively and meaningfully engage them in building peace.

YOUTH can have a significant impact on a country's prospects for peace. Countries with large youth populations and high unemployment rates are often seen as powder kegs, as youth that lack opportunity are more likely to turn to violence. On the other hand, youth can also be agents of positive change in the face of war, and have proven to be one of the most important actors in peacebuilding.

WOMEN are not simply passive victims of conflict. While women have historically been excluded from formal efforts to build peace, they have long advocated for and worked towards peace during and after times of war. Significant evidence suggests that peace is in fact more durable when women are included. It is therefore imperative that women are meaningfully included at all levels in planning for and sustaining peace.

The creation of sustainable peace in conflict-affected countries is both one of the most difficult and one of the most pressing challenges the world faces today. War Child believes that we have a responsibility to leave a world that is safer and more inclusive for the next generation. This is why, through our work, we meaningfully invest in both children and peace.



Local staff taking selfies in Jordan.



Jordan

Jordan is host to over 600,000 refugees from the ongoing conflict in neighbouring Syria. Refugees make up 8% of the population of the country. To put that in context, if this was happening in Canada, we would be attempting to accommodate almost 3 million new people. Understandably, this is putting a massive strain on local and refugee communities alike and tensions are inevitable, particularly among young people.

Since late in 2016, War Child has been running youth leadership workshops, offering training in conflict resolution techniques and in peer-to-peer learning methods. Once trained, the youth leaders return to their communities and work with their peers to establish trust and friendship between Jordanian and Syrian youth, and devise methods of diffusing tensions without recourse to violence. The project has made a tremendous difference, with youth from both communities working together to solve their differences.

1025

PEOPLE BENEFITED
FROM LEGAL AWARENESS
TRAINING AND
PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

250

YOUTH EMPOWERED
IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION
AND PEACEBUILDING

3000

SYRIAN REFUGEES AND
JORDANIANS REACHED
THROUGH COMMUNITY PEACE
PROGRAMMING

A Staff View

Talal Ibrahim is War Child's Project Manager in Jordan. He is from Jordan and is responsible for the Salaam conflict resolution project.

Why is it important to run peacebuilding programs in Jordan?

Jordan is surrounded by countries that are suffering from domestic unrest and armed internal clashes. Jordan provides a safe space due to its political calmness and internal security. This attracts fleeing families and refugees seeking refuge.

The huge number of refugees that Jordan welcomed in a very short time has put tremendous pressure on the host communities whether on infrastructure, increasing prices or fewer employment opportunities. These tensions make peacebuilding programs important not only for the traumatised refugee communities but also for the under pressured host communities.

What activities does War Child carry out in these programs?

The main outcomes of the project were: 1) youth leaders were trained in peace building and conflict resolution, and on War Child's Youth to Youth methodology; 2) The youth leaders went on to train 250 youth within their communities; 3) Each trained group agreed and selected an initiative that would include both host and refugee communities. War Child is also trying to incorporate some marginalized community groups as a way of reducing conflicts and increasing cooperation between the communities.

What is the most challenging problem that the program is trying to address?

How could the host community accept the difference between them and the newly displaced refugee community. And how could the new community adapt to the new conditions that they have ended up at. How to close the gap between the two communities and make them learn how to live next to each other. One of the most highlighted challenges was that many of the projects that aim to foster peace are targeting youth. Meanwhile, I believe that these programs should be inclusive for caregivers and parents where you can positively change family conditions and raise their awareness before heading to the wider community.

What evidence have you seen or heard that demonstrate that the programs have worked and changed attitudes and behaviors?

When I knew that refugee and host communities' children started to have friendship among each other. They even have WhatsApp and Facebook groups where they chat with each other. Also when they performed the initiatives, they have selected households to benefit from both communities. The challenge that was mentioned above was directly communicated to me from both sides, they said "our parents should take this course because we feel that the conflicts start from inside the house". That the young people identified such a need and knew who the programs should be addressed to other than themselves was an indicator that this program has worked and changed attitudes and behaviours.

What The Program Meant to a Youth Leader

I am Amal Shanatwah. I am 20 years old and have five sisters and two brothers. I volunteered at Princess Basma center when I was fifteen years old where I joined the girls club and participated in many workshops that have helped me strengthen my personality. Then, after I finished high school, I joined the youth committees at the center. The workshops and trainings I participated in were an English language course, accessory making, and reproductive health in addition to many more. I was also a member in Al Bir wa Al Ihsan initiative lead by Princess Basma and have received certificates of appreciation from the center. All of this had a great impact on my personality and my life in general.

When I participated in the Salaam project with War Child it was my first experience as a leader and trainer for youth and it was a very big step forward for me and affected me positively. The training itself was one of the most interesting workshops I participated in, especially with the situation the region is facing and the strong need for a topic like peacebuilding and conflict resolution. I also made new friendships in the workshop.

Children in Jordan taking part in a community peacebuilding class.

As we are selecting and training the youth participants my colleagues and I felt the huge need for this program in the community and the importance of helping both the Syrian refugees and Jordanians by bringing them together in activities that will help them ultimately communicate with each other and resolve their own problems. It was a great experience for us all. We made good friendships with both communities and helped to bring out their talents in initiatives like rap singing and acting. It is very important to pay attention to children because they are the future of our community and we hope that they will be the peace builders and spread hope and love and help others by using their energy and innovative skills.

I thank all of those who worked with me on the project and I thank War Child for giving me this beautiful opportunity that helped me develop my personality.

Let's always leave a fingerprint.



A youth-led community outreach workshop to foster peace among South Sudanese refugees and local Ugandans.





Uganda and South Sudan

As a new country, South Sudan lasted all of two years before collapsing into civil war. Old ethnic and political enmities that had been suppressed during the long struggle for independence could not be contained in peace. In 2013, armed unrest between the President's supporters and those of his deputy spread from the streets of the capital, Juba, out across much of the rest of the country. Despite numerous attempts to negotiate a peace deal, violence has continued to plague the country ever since. With vast oil reserves and abundantly fertile land, South Sudan ought to be economically successful and easily able to feed its people. Instead it faces hyper-inflation and potential widespread famine.

The conflict has led to over a million people to flee the country. Over 360,000 refugees are living in neighbouring Uganda, where pre-existing border tensions have been exacerbated by the fighting, and resources and services have been strained by the sudden influx of people. With the likelihood of refugees returning to South Sudan fading by the day, reduction of tension and conflict with the host communities is critical.

200

YOUTH PEACE
COMMITTEE
MEMBERS
TRAINED AND
PARTICIPATING IN
PEACE PROMOTION
OPPORTUNITIES

80%

OF ALL YOUTH
TRAINED ARE
ACTIVELY USING
PEACEFUL
CONFLICT
MITIGATION
TECHNIQUES

100%

OF DIALOGUE MEETINGS
BETWEEN HOST AND
REFUGEE COMMUNITIES
LED TO A PEACEFUL
RESOLUTION

35,000

PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH RADIO
PROGRAMS ABOUT
REFUGEE RIGHTS
AND PEACEFUL
CO-EXISTENCE

15

JOINT
EVENTS HELP
THROUGHOUT
THE YEAR
BETWEEN HOST
AND REFUGEE
COMMUNITIES.

In 2015, War Child launched the Suhulu project (meaning peace in Swahili), aimed at bringing youth leaders from both communities together to participate in peacebuilding activities that they could then take back to their communities to train their peers. 10 groups of young people were formed to identify common conflict drivers and generate ideas and initiatives to resolve them. They were also trained in peer-to-peer methodologies to allow them to promote peace to the wider community.

Throughout the year, the 200 Youth Peace Committee members participated in peace promotion and conflict resolution activities in refugee camps and host communities in Uganda, as well as a large displacement camp within South Sudan. Six major outbreaks of conflict were reported, mainly resulting from land disputes, inter-marriage, religious differences, and perceived unfair treatment by the judiciary. The youth committees helped resolve these crises through community dialogues and mass sensitization campaigns broadcast via radio throughout the border areas. Additionally, the youth organized a number of unity events, including celebrations of International Peace Day, International Youth Day and International Women's Day.

As fighting in South Sudan intensified, the program was expanded to accommodate newly arriving refugees. War Child began facilitating morning sessions and orientations on peacebuilding at the refugee reception centres along the border.

The program has seen many successes and its impact has been profound, particularly on those youth leading the activities. This is clearly told in the following handwritten text of a speech given by Awal, a youth leader, at a launch event for the project.

*Children exploring their rights
at a class in Uganda.*



SPEECH BY AWAL CHAN MART

Peace building

Peace is a situation in which a person or human being live in harmony. Without fear of being attacked by another person or by an outsider who is interested or aiming at killing them and taking away their property. Peace can also mean lack of war in one self home, community and in a country at large.

Peace is an important aspect, the present of peace in a community or in a country is very very important. This is because peace promotes unity among people in a community and in a country. And when people are united, they can achieve so many things together. Peace also creates good morals in a society. This is because where there is peace there is love. Peace also brings happiness among people in a community. Not to leave behind a society's community and a country which has peace develop very fast. There is no killing of innocent citizens and the value of human rights is highly observed.

When we come to how we can promote peace in our community, there are so many ways in which we achieve that. First and foremost the public needs to be aware on the importance of living in peace and harmony. They should also be told about the badness/implication of war in our society. We can do this by organizing awareness sessions ~~separate~~ about peace. We can also move door to door preaching peace at home level. We can also create more organisation or youth committees to promote peace in the community. Last but not least, peace in the ~~com~~ concerning on how we can promote peace is by engaging the youth on activities which are productive to them for example taking them to school, starting some small business for them. This is because most of the people who

The text of a speech by a youth leader, Mary Awal Chan, at a launch event attended by The Honorable Deborah R. Malac, American Ambassador to Uganda.

are always against peace are the youth who might be school dropout due to lack of school fees and this force them to engage in bad activities like stealing, robbing and killing others so that they get something to live or ~~over~~ survive on.

A YPC - Youth Peace Committee is a youth who has been assigned or with a duty of promoting peace and harmony in a society. A YPC has got so many roles to play in a community. For example:

- Offering guidance and counselling to the traumatic people.
- Reporting and Referring cases which are beyond their control.
- Holding community awareness and dialogues or meetings to promote peace and harmony in the community.

AYPC should also be an exemplary to others in promoting peace.

There are many things that we need as youth peace committee in order to establish our work more effectively. We need more trainings so that we can gain more knowledge about peace. We also need uniforms which will act as our identity when we are doing our duty of promoting peace because without it we cannot be identified as peace promoters. Above all, security is very important because sometimes the YPC members are always at risk of being attacked while they are on the mission of promoting peace.

Lastly or to come to an end, we need peace in order to live without tears of being killed. We also need peace to promote development among ourselves, our society and country at large. May the spirit of peace prevail and dwell among us. Thanks you very much.



War Child staff training Afghan women in tailoring,
so they can start their own small businesses.



Afghanistan

War Child Canada began working in Afghanistan in 2003, and has never left. Over recent years the program has grown exponentially in both scale and scope. By the end of 2016 it was operational in five provinces offering programming that focuses on women's economic empowerment, education, protection and access to legal justice. It is by far our largest operation, employing 150 staff by the end of 2016.

75,000

PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
PROGRAMMING ON
RADIO

33,000

CHILDREN LEARNED
ABOUT CHILD RIGHTS

1,400

LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
WERE TRAINED, WITH
87% HAVING INCREASED
UNDERSTANDING OF
THEIR ROLE AS LEGAL
DUTY BEARERS

4,700

CHILDREN
ATTENDED CHILD
FRIENDLY SPACES

711

CASES WERE TAKEN TO
COURT BY WAR CHILD
LEGAL TEAM.

616

CASES WERE SETTLED
THROUGH ALTERNATIVE
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

650

WOMEN COMPLETED
VOCATIONAL TRAINING

EDUCATION

War Child provides Early Childhood Development (ECD), helping children receive the vital early years of education and ensuring the transition to formal schools is successful. The program operates out of child friendly spaces, providing a safe space for children to learn and play. Spaces are established in partnership with community-based shuras and run by trained volunteers. 7,000 children – half of them girls – benefited from activities that enhanced their physical, psychosocial, and cognitive development. The district education department repeatedly visited the program and met with children and their parents, encouraging them to enroll the children in formal school. By the end of 2016, nearly 800 children were listed for enrollment.

OPPORTUNITY

In partnership with local partner organisations, War Child provides internally displaced women and survivors of sexual violence with literacy, numeracy and vocational training. Upon completion of courses, women are given an initial micro credit loan and provided with ongoing professional and peer mentorship and business development support to enable them to launch their own small businesses. The impact of War Child's programming on the lives of the participants and their families has been immediate and profound. By the end of 2016, 350 survivors of gender-based violence were enrolled in apprenticeships.

JUSTICE

War Child is a registered law firm in Afghanistan, and is one of the largest providers of legal aid in the country. A three-tiered approach to justice is used including: direct legal aid, community outreach and training of legal actors including police. This program is unique in that it also targets women who have been imprisoned for 'moral crimes' (such as running away from domestic violence or a forced marriage), offering them legal representation and helping them to transition back into the community through enrolment in literacy, numeracy or vocational training. In 2016, 23,000 women and girls had access to and made use of the legal aid and psychosocial support provided by War Child.



Young women in Afghanistan learning about their rights as women and girls as part of War Child's justice training.

The Program Director

Aftab Tariq Ihsan is Program Director in Afghanistan. Here he tells us his view of Afghanistan, War Child's role in it and what his hopes for the future are.

Q: Being confronted by the violence that has been visited upon Afghanistan would be devastating for most populations but you were telling us earlier of the resilience of the Afghan people. Can you tell us a bit more about that?

Whether it be the soviet and Mujahidin era, or the post-9/11 era, I have seen it all – Afghans are the people I lived, ate and worked with for almost 30 years now. That is more than half of my life and almost all of my professional life. I learned a lot from my Afghan colleagues and communities and I tried to give back, but all along I developed a strong relationship and emotional bond with them. A bond that is hard to break. Afghan colleagues and communities have been very generous in contributing towards my growth both personally and professionally. While like sponges they were eager to absorb knowledge and always keen to use skills to change their way of doing things, they generously contributed to enhance my confidence, knowledge and skills. Whether faced with aerial strikes, bombings or an IDP (Internally Displaced Population) situation, like bees Afghans continue with their life. Children continue to go to schools, employees continue to go to work, new day care centers for children come up, families continue to go shopping, shops remain open for business, businessmen continue to invest and it is common to see new buildings and shopping plazas coming up. I have also worked in Pakistan, Tajikistan, Sudan and Nepal, but nowhere I have seen such resilience among people to continue to survive and develop despite the insecure and complex environment – nowhere I have seen the passion, enthusiasm and love for their country as Afghans have.

Q: War Child has been in Afghanistan for many years but the program is growing at a great rate. Can you tell us briefly what do we do there?

War Child Canada has been implementing programs focused on access to justice for GBV survivors, juvenile justice, psychosocial assistance, child protection and empowering women through vocational training.

Q: What are the challenges managing that kind of a growth?

War Child has indeed seen a rapid and huge growth.

Some challenges are:

- Continuing to do good quality programming, generating evidence on what worked for Afghan children and what did not. The need for stronger leadership to continue to represent War Child with government, ministries, donors and other stakeholders and continue to ensure that we are seen as a credible organization that does important work for Afghan children.
- The need for stronger monitoring and evaluation that has more female staff and a solid fool-proof remote monitoring system (there are places one cannot go when the security deteriorates).
- Conflict proofing our programs so that despite the security situation programs continue. Build the capacity of community based volunteers and staff – further embed the programming within communities.

Q: What can ordinary people in North America do to help?

What should we do so that North Americans do not forget Afghanistan? I fear that if Afghanistan falls off the public agenda, they will forget us and would not push their government to continue to fund and support Afghanistan. I think as War Child we need to continue to work with donors and also come up with a way to engage with North Americans directly through stories, case studies, visit universities, talk shows, etc.

Q: How do you see Afghanistan's future?

Despite the internal forces and the negative effects of global politics, with a little support I see Afghans continuing to survive and do best for their families. I am optimistic a day will come when Afghans will push out the violent forces.

A photograph showing the back of three children in the foreground, looking towards a teacher in a classroom. The child on the left wears a blue shirt, the middle child wears a red shirt, and the child on the right wears a green and yellow patterned shirt. A teacher in a light-colored shirt stands at the front of the class, gesturing. A person in a green headscarf is also visible in the background. The classroom has a brick wall on the left and a chalkboard in the background.

Children in an Accelerated
Learning Class in Northern Uganda.

Fundraising



GOING FURTHER WITH THE HELP OF AEROPLAN

With each year, War Child's relationship with Aeroplane grows stronger. The generosity of Aimia (Aeroplane's parent company), and from Aeroplane members across the country, never ceases to amaze us. The support goes far beyond Miles though. Skills-based volunteering, education offerings, and networking are a sampling of other ways this partnership has strengthened War Child's ability to deliver on our mission to protect children in war zones. In 2016, Aimia was named one of Corporate Knights' Best 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada which followed receiving the Guardian Award for Social Impact. War Child is proud to be partnered with a corporation that is a model for corporate citizenship, philanthropy and volunteerism in North America. If you want to donate Aeroplane miles to War Child, you can do so at aeroplane.ca/donate. Every mile helps support our work, keeps operations cost-efficient which means your cash donations go further.



EXPLORING NEW IDEAS WITH DISNEY VOLUNTEARS

In August of 2016 War Child kicked off a skills-based volunteering initiative with a team of Disney Voluntear cast members. The expectations from the outset were to put the skills of the cast members to work tackling a specific, technical challenge inside War Child that could be completed in a relatively short period of time. The challenge we decided to tackle was to audit and strengthen our internal communication systems, because as War Child's programming and teams expand, our internal systems have struggled to keep pace. The War Child requirement of an internal communication platform that is global reaching is something the team here is very familiar with said Cindy Davis, Sr Business Systems Analyst at Disney Consumer Products & Interactive. Though War Child has a different set of challenges, the project was very unique with the inspiring work that War Child does. The Disney Voluntears were very engaged with the War Child team and all of us enjoyed the interaction. War Child is very appreciative of the continuing partnership that we have with Disney and their cast members and we look forward to what the future holds.



CHERISHING THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE

Amongst War Child's most generous and longstanding supporters is Nermine Elgammal, an Egyptian-born Canadian whose successful family business has afforded her the opportunity to give back. Canada has instilled in me a desire to help those who are less fortunate, now I am trying to teach and demonstrate these Canadian values to my children, to help others she shared with us. Nermine was introduced to War Child when she saw Dr. Samantha Nutt speak at a Toronto French School event while her children were still students. She was so passionate Nermine says, and she drew my attention to the need of children in war. I like to be sure that my gifts go to the right place, and War Child is very good at this. War Child would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Nermine and her entire family for their continued support for children affected by war.

THE ADVOCATES' SOCIETY GIVES BACK

The Advocates' Society chose War Child as their charity of choice for their 2015–2016 fundraising efforts and we were thrilled. Through their efforts, and through the generosity of their members, over \$135,000 was raised to support our legal aid programs for women and children seeking access to justice in Afghanistan and Uganda.

The Advocates' Society Gives Back campaign included a very successful Donate Your Rate appeal to their members, and a sold out fundraising event, *Making a Fundraiser*, which featured a special conversation with lawyer Dean Strang, best known for his work as one of Steven Avery's trial lawyers, as featured in the Netflix documentary *Making a Murderer*. War Child was also the recipient of funds raised at the Young Women in Law fundraising gala, which featured Marie Henein as the keynote speaker.

A special thank you to Martha McCarthy, The Advocates Society, Marie Henein, Dean Strang, and to those who attended and sponsored the events.



ALICIA KEYS *LET ME IN*

To mark World Refugee Day 2016, Alicia Keys and her We Are Here movement, in partnership with War Child, CARE and Oxfam, released a short film entitled *Let Me In*, directed by Jonathan Olinger from HUMAN. The film stars Alicia Keys, features her song, "Hallelujah" and was produced as part of a campaign designed to shed light on the struggles faced by millions of refugees worldwide as they flee conflict, disaster and persecution.

Let Me In reimagines the refugee crisis on America's shores, displacing thousands in the Los Angeles metropolitan area who must seek safety and well-being by crossing the border into Mexico.

Let Me In takes you through the journey of a refugee and provides you with a glimpse of the torturous decisions – and sacrifices – too often made along the way.



"Creating this film really allowed us to imagine, what if we were the refugees? What if we were the ones torn from the arms of our families and loved ones? How would it feel if this were happening to us?" Alicia Keys



TED Talk: The Real Harm of the Global Arms Trade



Photo: TED Ryan Lash

The proliferation of small arms exacerbates conflict the world over, making the need for War Child's programming all the more urgent. From Afghanistan through the Middle East to the civil war in South Sudan, the consequences for the children War Child works with are all too obvious.

In her powerful TED Talk, War Child Founder, Dr. Samantha Nutt, discusses how the circulation of cheap, available weapons perpetuates the cycle of injustice and violence experienced by children and their families in war zones around the world. The talk was filmed before a live audience in New York, was featured in the PBS special, TED Talks: War & Peace, and was a home page feature on TED.com in June 2016. It has been viewed over one million times.

The question I was asked to specifically help answer – which is one that is asked by aid workers in war-zones the world over – is “what the hell do we do now?”

Dr. Samantha Nutt

Thank you to Our Supporters

\$100,000+

IKEA Foundation
Slaight Family Foundation

\$25,000–\$99,999

Unifor Social Justice Fund
Pearl Jam's
Vitalogy Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Gary &
Donna Slaight
The Giselle Fund
The Advocates' Society
Paliare Roland Rosenberg
Rothstein LLP
The Rooney Family
Young Women In Law
Jackson-Triggs Niagara
Estate Winery

\$10,000–\$24,999

Rotman Family
Foundation
Nermine El Gammal and
G.A. Paper International
The David and Patricia
Morton Family Foundation
Paul Mitchell
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Sony Music Entertainment
Canada Inc.
Elementary Teachers'
Federation of Ontario
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of Calgary South
Manitoba Council For
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Financials

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at December 31, 2016

CHARITABLE REG. #872374426RR0001

Assets

Current assets

	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
Cash	\$ 1,248,553	\$ 1,343,519
Investment	838,490	1,358,809
Accounts and grants receivable	1,605,373	1,008,045
Prepaid expenses and deposits	102,809	95,986
	<hr/> 3,795,225	<hr/> 3,806,359
Intangible asset	125,202	92,688
Capital assets	27,656	35,897
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,948,083	\$ 3,934,944
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Liabilities

Current liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 353,270	\$ 455,923
Deferred contributions	1,736,722	1,532,544
	<hr/> 2,089,992	<hr/> 1,988,467
Guarantees and commitments		
Net assets	1,858,091	1,946,477
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,948,083	\$ 3,934,944
	<hr/>	<hr/>

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
year ended December 31, 2016

Revenue

	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
Grants	\$ 11,572,539	\$ 9,040,358
Foundations	547,329	382,259
Donations	844,981	787,542
Special events	200,510	339,880
Corporate	107,906	334,456
Other	38,034	98,081
Donations-in-kind	634,368	525,983
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 13,945,667	\$ 11,508,559
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Expenses

Program		
International programmes	\$ 11,715,295	\$ 9,164,049
Programme support	688,048	793,407
Operations		
General administration	300,113	278,101
Fundraising	685,826	686,692
Donations-in-kind	634,368	525,983
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 14,023,650	\$ 11,448,232
	<hr/>	<hr/>
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses before the undernoted	(77,983)	60,327
Less: amortization	(10,403)	(14,189)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses for the year	(88,386)	46,138
Net assets, beginning of year	1,946,477	1,900,339
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,858,091	\$ 1,946,477
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The Statement of financial position as at December 31, 2016 and the Statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended have been extracted from the 2016 audited financial statements of War Child Canada. A full version of the audited financial statements and notes is available upon request.

Families who fled from the fighting in Mosul,
collecting water at a displaced person's camp
in Northern Iraq.



"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot
change. I am changing the things I cannot accept."

Angela Y. Davis



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