

# ANNUAL REPORT

INTERNATIONAL  
RESCUE  
COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT  
2019

# ANNUAL REPORT



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# CONTENTS

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CHAIRS OF THE IRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ADVISORS



*Timothy F. Geithner*  
**Timothy F. Geithner**  
Co-Chair  
IRC Board of Directors



*Sally Susman*  
**Sally Susman**  
Co-Chair  
IRC Board of Directors



*Eduardo G. Mestre*  
**Eduardo G. Mestre**  
Chair  
IRC Board of Advisors



*David Miliband*  
**David Miliband**  
President and CEO

Dear Friends,

We are writing as we survey the growing wreckage of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the people served by the International Rescue Committee, this is truly a “double emergency.” Health and livelihoods are at risk as never before. Our organization is at full mobilization, using creativity and resilience built over decades to help our clients survive, recover and gain control of their lives.

In that context, 2019 looks like the calm before the storm. But of course it was anything but. From Syria to Bangladesh, El Salvador to Mali, Los Angeles to New York, the challenges of 2019 demanded creativity, adaptability and perseverance—just the qualities that have allowed the IRC to adapt to COVID-19. IRC staff and our clients faced bombs, criminal gangs, abusive governments, toxic rhetoric. Yet what they achieved together is remarkable.

A summary is here in this 2019 Annual Report, which showcases the life-changing work of our 30,000 staff and volunteers in more than 40 countries around the world and in 20 cities across the United States. In 2019, the IRC provided health services to more than 19 million people and improved water supplies to more than 1.7 million people. We ensured nearly 1.5 million children

could access quality education and provided more than \$42 million in cash assistance to help vulnerable populations purchase essential items.

Since our founding more than 85 years ago, the IRC and our supporters have responded to the world’s worst humanitarian crises, helping people to make lasting change in their lives. In 2019, those crises included a protracted civil war in Yemen, a climate change-induced natural disaster in Zimbabwe, and a deadly Ebola outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo. Our experience shows that planning, creativity and high-quality staff deeply rooted in their local communities are keys to a successful humanitarian response.

From our world-leading emergency response unit ready to deploy within hours of a crisis, to our investments in data and evidence and our expanded mechanisms for feedback and input from the people we serve, the IRC’s never-ending effort to improve the efficacy and equity of our work is why we are well-prepared to respond to new and unexpected emergencies.

The foundation that allows us to respond quickly and effectively to emerging crises was strengthened over the past five years as part of our 2020 Strategy. In the fall of 2020 we will build on our progress to date by launching Strategy100,

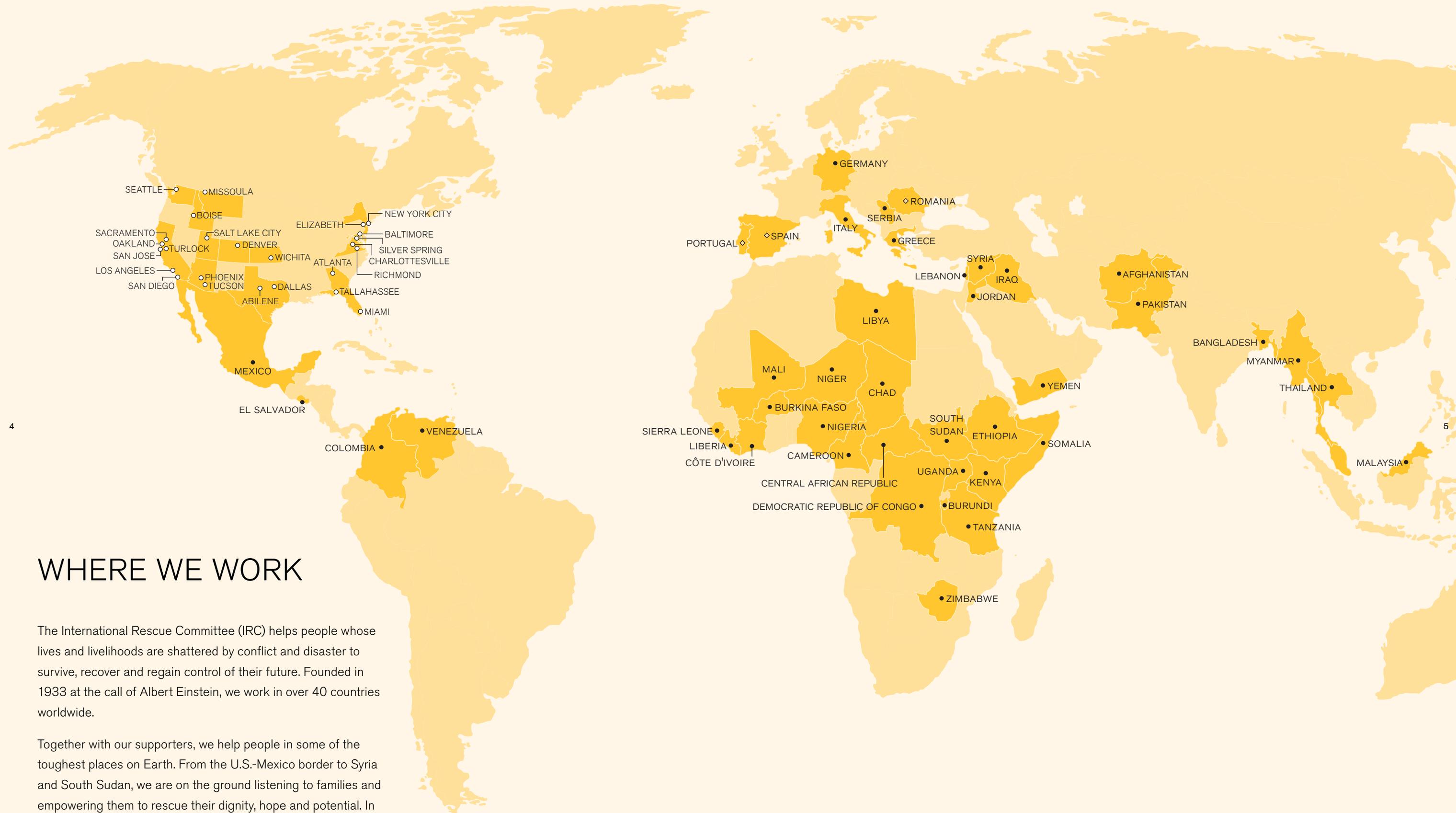
a 13-year vision (up to our centenary in 2033) for the future of our organization. Its aim will be to build on our strengths by adding greater influence over humanitarian program design and delivery to the people we serve, greater scale through a network of local partnerships with civil society organizations in communities around the world, and greater racial and gender equality in both our programs and our staffing.

Our efforts to continually improve outcomes for refugees and vulnerable people, and our cost-effective stewardship of generous contributions from private and public donors, are why the IRC continues to earn top marks from charity evaluators: an A grade from CharityWatch; “meets all 20 standards” from the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance; and four stars from Charity Navigator for 13 consecutive years.

Your support for the IRC and the people we serve will be more important than ever this coming year as ongoing humanitarian crises are exacerbated and complicated by the health and economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. The challenges our beneficiaries are facing include the nine-year-long war in Syria, crowded and unsafe refugee camp conditions in Greece, an increasingly complex war in Libya, and a growing maze of legal

and physical barriers to asylum on the U.S. and Mexican sides of the border. In the coming year your support will allow us to change how the world treats acute malnutrition among children, deliver path-breaking educational content to children in the Middle East through our partnership with Sesame Workshop, and fight to revive the global refugee resettlement system.

We thank you for standing with us and ask for your continued support as we tackle the challenges and take up the opportunities that lie ahead.



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## WHERE WE WORK

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) helps people whose lives and livelihoods are shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover and regain control of their future. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, we work in over 40 countries worldwide.

Together with our supporters, we help people in some of the toughest places on Earth. From the U.S.-Mexico border to Syria and South Sudan, we are on the ground listening to families and empowering them to rescue their dignity, hope and potential. In the U.S., we are leaders in resettling refugees and worldwide, we help families integrate into their new communities.

◇ PARTNER SUPPORT PROGRAMS  
○ U.S. PROGRAM OFFICES

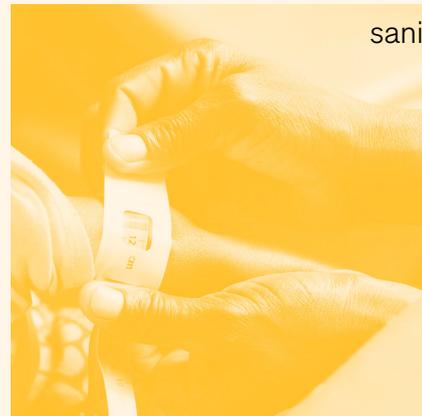


## HEALTH

The IRC provides essential health services to communities affected by crisis. We give vulnerable people access to health professionals, medicine and long-term resources that help build more resilient health systems.

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

- ➔ Investing in primary health to increase the quality and availability of services, including mental health support and care for people living with noncommunicable diseases.
- ➔ Strengthening community health systems to bring lifesaving care closer to families in their homes.
- ➔ Developing transformative strategies for treating malnourished children.
- ➔ Offering women and girls access to sexual and reproductive health care.
- ➔ Supporting skilled health workers that help keep women and babies safe during pregnancy and childbirth.
- ➔ Providing communities with access to clean water and sanitation while also promoting safe hygiene practices.



## HEALTH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

### YEMEN: HEALTH AND NUTRITION

In 2019, IRC health programs served children, women and men in 32 countries, including Yemen. Each year in Yemen, we reach more than a quarter-million people with health care.

The IRC's health programming in Yemen includes primary health services to address communicable and noncommunicable diseases; epidemic response, including for the cholera outbreak; and reproductive health care. In a country where 10 million people are one step away from starvation, our work treating malnutrition is vital: in 2019, we provided nutrition services to 94,325 children and pregnant and lactating women.

### GREECE: WATER AND SANITATION

Around the world, the IRC works with a wide range of government, civil society and private sector partners to address access to water and sanitation in communities and at health facilities. In 2019 alone, we helped 838,000 people access sanitation facilities.

One of the countries where we provide WASH services is Greece. Since 2015, we've provided this programming on the Greek mainland and on Lesbos. We ensure families have sanitation facilities like toilets and hot showers and provide hygiene information. In 2019, the IRC continued WASH services in Kara Tepe refugee camp on Lesbos, supporting displaced people who arrived by boat.

### BURKINA FASO: PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

The IRC's primary health programs work to ensure people affected by crisis, like the one in Burkina Faso, have access to a range of health services.

Beginning in July 2018, attacks from militant groups in Burkina Faso led to displacement and 1.3 million people needing assistance. In the spring of 2019, the IRC launched an emergency response with WASH programming. Throughout the year, we established a primary health care program, which included reproductive health care and increased access to community-based services devoted to childhood illnesses and disease prevention.

### OUR 2019 IMPACT:

**18 million**

people were provided with access to health services.

**4,959,100**

people were offered outpatient consultations.

**1,756,800**

people were provided with clean water.



**OPPOSITE PAGE (TOP):** Silva, 7, gets water at the Alexandria refugee camp in northern Greece.

**OPPOSITE PAGE (BOTTOM):** A child is screened for malnutrition at an IRC mobile clinic outside of Aden, Yemen.



# IN ACTION

## HEALTH IN ACTION

IRC community health workers are a lifeline, meeting families where they are and providing them with immunizations, medicine and other health support. In our programs around the world, they teach communities how to advocate for themselves and secure assistance from skilled medical professionals. In addition to training health workers to provide in-person support, we've also developed a mobile health platform that enables health workers to register and track the immunization of children.

In 2019, the IRC supported more than 13,000 community health workers and 6,110 health care workers who delivered a total of 416,000 lifesaving treatments for malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea.

One of the many places where we provide community health worker support is Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, which hosts more than 1 million displaced Rohingya refugees. Our community health workers deliver health promotion, which enables people to increase control over and improve their health.



**TOP:** An IRC staff member provides free medication at the IRC's 24/7 health center in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

**BOTTOM:** One-year-old Abdur Rahim is treated for diarrhea at the IRC's health center in Bangladesh.

# VIOLENCE PREVENTION & RESPONSE



## VIOLENCE PREVENTION & RESPONSE

Displaced women and girls and other marginalized groups are vulnerable to violence, discrimination and lack of opportunity. However, with the right support—and access to opportunities such as education and work—they can reclaim their futures.

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

- ➔ Providing lifesaving information to marginalized and displaced people in emergencies.
- ➔ Supporting survivors of violence with safe and protective cash assistance in emergencies.
- ➔ Prioritizing safe spaces for women and children.
- ➔ Providing mental health services for adults and child survivors of violence.
- ➔ Providing violence prevention and response to women and children through case management, medical care, psychosocial support and legal aid.
- ➔ Incorporating clinical care for sexual assault survivors into health centers.
- ➔ Supporting women and girls in having healthy and safe relationships, and working with men to change violent behavior and stop intimate partner violence.
- ➔ Helping caregivers with parenting skills and services that support their own well-being and mental health.



# VIOLENCE PREVENTION

## VIOLENCE, PREVENTION & RESPONSE PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

### VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN MEXICO

In 2019, we began our violence prevention efforts in Mexico, one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a woman. To assist women fleeing gang violence, the IRC works with local partners and shelters to help women and girls access medical care. In Ciudad Juarez, we are working with partners to meet the immediate needs of primarily female migrants, asylum seekers and deportees. This includes work to aid migrants and asylum seekers stuck in border towns.

### SIGNPOST PROJECT

The SignPost Project is a digital platform offering accurate, accessible and timely information for people in times of crisis. Our teams answer refugees' questions, and help them access the specific resources they need. SignPost has become especially valuable in places where the IRC cannot provide direct community engagement, such as parts of El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. Through SignPost, we've helped 2 million people make lifesaving decisions in eight countries on three continents and in six languages.

### SAFE SPACES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

When an emergency occurs, the IRC immediately goes to work creating safe spaces. Safe spaces for women and girls and safe healing and learning spaces for children are essential to our gender-based violence prevention programming. For women, these spaces allow them to safely report protection concerns, express their needs, access vital services, engage in empowerment activities and connect with the wider community. The IRC provides safe spaces for women and children in almost every country where we work.

### OUR 2019 IMPACT:

**165,700**

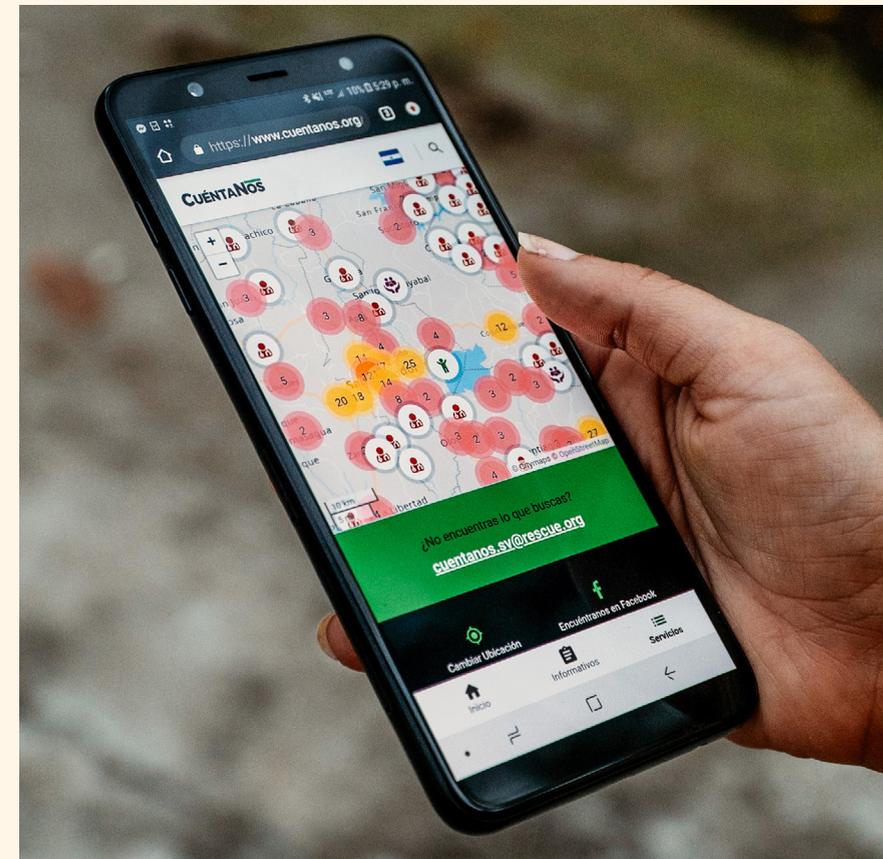
women, girls and boys were provided with safe spaces.

**700,000**

people were provided with violence prevention programming.

**46,500**

people were trained on gender-based violence and child protection services.



**TOP:** Congolese women dance outside a community space designed to support women and girls in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo.

**BOTTOM:** Cuéntanos is an interactive platform that provides vulnerable families in San Salvador with information on services, such as shelter and legal assistance.



# IN ACTION

## VIOLENCE PREVENTION & RESPONSE IN ACTION

Case management at the IRC helps survivors of gender-based violence to navigate their options for services, ensuring they have all the information they need along their path to healing. Our case managers are there to provide emotional support along the way.

In Hagadera camp, part of the Dadaab refugee complex in northern Kenya, case managers work with women and girls who have suffered from intimate partner violence, sexual violence, early and forced marriage and emotional abuse. At the support center, women can access multiple services. For example, if they've survived sexual violence, they will have access to medical doctors, counseling and teams that liaise with partners to help women access legal support. The IRC center is the only one supporting women and girls in this camp.



**TOP:** Maryan works as a volunteer community health worker for the IRC in Korsan District, Somalia.



**BOTTOM (LEFT-RIGHT):** Cristelle Zaninka Chirimpuhwe is the women's protection and empowerment manager for the IRC's Ebola response in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Andrea and her family fled Venezuela for Colombia. They are at the home where they have since lived in Cúcuta.

# IN ACTION

# ECONOMIC RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

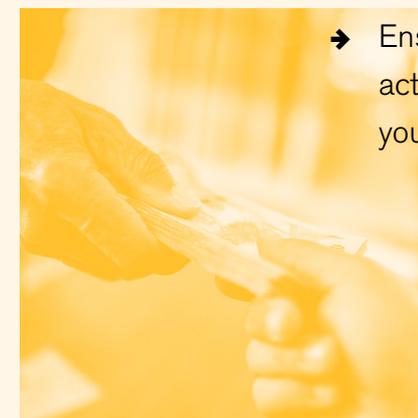


## ECONOMIC RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT

The International Rescue Committee improves the economic well-being of people affected by crises, from youth in urban environments like Nairobi, Kenya, to farmers in remote villages in Myanmar.

### WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

- ➔ Providing cash assistance so people in a humanitarian crisis can buy what they need themselves while also supporting the local economy.
- ➔ Scaling up food production and strengthening food production systems in the face of climate change and other risks.
- ➔ Providing people with business, technical and vocational skills training.
- ➔ Encouraging new entrepreneurs and helping local farmers and businesses to grow through mentorship, financial management training, technical support and access to grants and loans.
- ➔ Helping entrepreneurs to be innovative, for example, by introducing new technologies.
- ➔ Ensuring our economic programming safely supports and actively engages all those in need, but especially women, youth and other marginalized groups in crisis settings.



# ECONOMIC RECOVERY

## ECONOMIC RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

### CASH ASSISTANCE

Cash and voucher assistance is the strongest evidence-based intervention helping to meet people's basic needs in humanitarian crises. In addition to its effectiveness, cash assistance gives people choice and allows them to maintain their dignity. Moreover, it impacts not just the people we serve, but the local markets where cash is spent.

Given the strong evidence behind it, cash assistance is a priority intervention in IRC's emergency response and recovery efforts. In 2015, the IRC set a target of delivering 25 percent of international material assistance through cash. We exceeded this target for the first time in 2018, and in 2019 we continued our efforts to increase the scale of cash assistance.

### WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

The IRC is dedicated to enhancing women's economic opportunities and providing them with safe spaces to develop support networks and life skills. Recognizing the specific barriers that women and girls face in improving their economic well-being, we have designed our services to be gender-sensitive. For example, we adjust our services to accommodate women's schedules and provide stipends for transportation or childcare. These services can be an essential component as to whether women and adolescent girls can participate in our programs.

### FOOD SECURITY

The IRC promotes agriculture programming that improves access to diversified foods for the most vulnerable, addressing a key underlying cause of malnutrition.

### LABOR MARKETS

The IRC does not practice a one-solution-fits-all approach for expanding and improving access to employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. We develop and deploy a wide range of programs that address people's multi-faceted needs and deliver the greatest impact. By visiting the IRC's Livelihoods Centers, for example, job seekers are able to access multiple services—job matching and referrals, business and vocational training, legal counseling, entrepreneurship support and life-skills training—in one place.

### OUR 2019 IMPACT:

## 9,544

people were provided with business grants.

## 226,100

people were provided with job and business support, including entrepreneurship and vocational training and job counseling.

## 159,900 households

were trained with cash assistance or vouchers.



**TOP:** Domitila Kaliya started her own clothing business after joining an IRC VSLA group in Kampala, Uganda.

**BOTTOM:** A man is siphoning grains in Kandihar village, Badghis Province of Afghanistan.





## ECONOMIC RECOVERY & DEVELOPMENT IN ACTION

### RESCUING FUTURES

The IRC and the Citi Foundation came together in 2017 to launch an initiative that helps young refugees living in urban environments to generate a reliable income and contribute to their local economies.

Throughout the initial two-year project, nearly 1,000 young people in three cities—Athens in Greece, Amman in Jordan and Yola in northeast Nigeria—were supported as they started their own businesses. In 2019, we expanded the partnership to 1,300 more young business people in Nigeria, Greece and Jordan, and now Germany, Lebanon and Cameroon.

### RESCUEWORKS

Whether fleeing a war zone or resettling in a new country, refugees need sustainable incomes and dignified work that allows them to meet their needs. We launched an innovative, evidence-based initiative intended to help refugees rebuild their lives while contributing to their communities.

IRC's RescueWorks collaborates with local businesses, governments and communities to provide displaced people with short- and long-term job solutions. The goal is to provide them with sustainable and dignified options, whether they are starting a business in a refugee camp or learning new skills to launch a career in the U.S. and other developed economies. In 2019, the IRC supported more than 9,200 new Americans, helping them prepare for, enter and advance in their careers. Through this work, we placed individuals in jobs with more than 1,000 employers across 25 U.S. cities.



**TOP:** Tarek, a Syrian refugee, set up a hair salon in Jordan after being a part of the IRC's Rescuing Futures program.

**LEFT:** Rehab is a refugee from Syria who has started a tailoring business in Jordan.



## EDUCATION

The IRC ensures children and youth affected by conflict and crisis have access to safe, quality education.

### WE DO THIS BY:

- ➔ Working at all stages of conflict and crisis, from the onset of emergency through long-term development.
- ➔ Educating across age groups, from early education through post-primary.
- ➔ Supporting a range of education options, including formal and non-formal opportunities such as community-based education, accelerated learning programs for children who have missed years of schooling and technical/vocational training.
- ➔ Partnering with communities, teachers and ministries of education.
- ➔ Building skills to benefit the whole child, including reading, math and social-emotional education needed for well-being and success in school and beyond.
- ➔ Ensuring programs are evidence-based and evidence-generating, so we know and adhere to the most effective ways to achieve learning outcomes, and are always learning and improving ourselves.



## EDUCATION PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

### TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The IRC supports quality teaching through collaborative, continuous professional development. In Pakistan, the IRC provided 94,000 teachers in our largest-ever reading project with books and classroom materials, in-person training with support from mentors, coaches and peers; and training materials such as tablet-based professional development videos and guides.

### HEALING CLASSROOMS

The IRC's Healing Classrooms approach ensures education programs foster a supportive teacher-student relationship and a safe, predictable classroom environment to mitigate the impacts of severe adversities on children's developing brains. The IRC integrates social-emotional learning into traditional subject curricula and includes it as a standalone subject to promote pupils' well-being alongside academic development.

In Nigeria, the IRC created an explicit social-emotional learning curriculum and conducted teacher trainings on developing children's skills such as communication and perseverance.

### GIRLS' EDUCATION

The IRC is committed to removing the barriers that prevent girls from attending school, as well as ensuring that they are safe and learning in school. In Democratic Republic of Congo, through the Girls Education Challenge Project, the IRC has increased parents' financial capacity to support girls' schooling, improved the quality and quantity of reading and math instruction and promoted community involvement in ensuring safe, quality education for all girls.

### OUR 2019 IMPACT:

## 1,474,900

children were provided with schooling and education opportunities.

## 18,400

teachers and facilitators were provided with teacher development.

## 9,200

schools and learning facilities were supported.



**TOP:** Children in Maiduguri, northeast Nigeria are taught in a classroom by IRC learning facilitators.

**BOTTOM:** Anas, an IRC Reach Up & Learn volunteer and Syrian refugee, plays with Shaman and his mother Amal at their home in Mafraq, Jordan.



# IN ACTION

## EDUCATION IN ACTION

Since 2018, the IRC and Sesame Workshop have worked together to give refugee children in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq the support they need to learn, grow and thrive. Ahlan Simsim is a program that combines IRC's critical early childhood services for the youngest children living in crisis zones, with a new Arabic-language version of the TV show *Sesame Street*—supporting their development in person and via mass media.

The *Ahlan Simsim* TV show features new Muppets with stories and experiences refugee children can relate to: Jad, who had to leave his home; Basma, who befriends the newcomer; and Ma'zooza, a baby goat who follows Jad and Basma wherever they go.

In 2019 we reached 52,000 children and caregivers with our direct services, including preschool programming and home visits.

In 2020, we've adapted our in-person programs in coordination with Sesame Workshop. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we're providing remote learning opportunities to young children and their caregivers, a target group continuously overlooked in national responses. Using characters and animation from the *Ahlan Simsim* TV show, we're providing age-specific digital activities that focus on language skills, hygiene, social-emotional learning and physical movement—to ensure these children emerge from the pandemic with a bright future ahead of them.



**TOP:** Children take part in activities at a play and learning center in Azraq refugee camp in Jordan.

**BOTTOM (LEFT-RIGHT):** Darin gets ready for school in her house in Sinjar, Iraq. Darin participates in summer activities at a public school supported by the IRC.

Refugee children spend time at the Sesame caravan, where they paints, draw and learn.

# IN ACTION



## GOVERNANCE

The governance team amplifies the voices of people whose lives have been impacted by crisis. We help them regain control of their future by championing their right to influence the issues that affect their cities, towns and communities.

## TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE:

- ➔ Empower people to have a voice in how decisions are made in their communities.
- ➔ Enable governments, civil society organizations, community representatives and the IRC to respond to their voices and provide effective and inclusive services.
- ➔ Promote communication between leaders and the people they represent so that actions are meaningful and lasting.





**OUR 2019 IMPACT:**

**198,000**

people participated in awareness-raising sessions on governance-related topics.

**23,900**

people were trained on governance themes ensuring they have a voice in how decisions are made in their communities.

**400**

organizations were trained with development support focused on improving their leadership, management and how they connect to the public.

**TOP:** Violeta Sr. and Violeta Jr., asylees from El Salvador, shop for groceries at a market in San Jose, California.

**BOTTOM:** Amira, 49, is from Tarmala village in southern Idlib, Syria. She fled with her family to Qah village in northern Idlib.



**TOP:** Assadullah Mohammadi is learning tailoring at a vocational training center in Qala-e-Naw, Badghis, Afghanistan.

**BOTTOM:** Sahar washes dishes inside her family home in East Mosul, Iraq. IRC helped her obtain civil documents for her children.



**TOP:** IRC President and CEO David Miliband speaks to staff in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo.

**BOTTOM:** Young women gather outside an IRC facility in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. They are volunteer advocates for safe reproductive health practices.



# IN ACTION

## GOVERNANCE IN ACTION

In Democratic Republic of Congo, the IRC helps women to have a say in how their communities are managed and how decisions are made. The Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding project addresses conflicts between Twa and Bantu communities in Tanganyika province. The Twa have long been marginalized and discriminated against, which has created a vicious cycle of poverty, illiteracy and limited access to basic services, including education and health care. Women and girls are especially vulnerable.

To address this, we have increased women's meaningful participation in Local Peace Committees (LPC) and worked to improve the quality of health services. LPC members are trained in conflict analysis, community dialogue and mediation, helping to improve social cohesion within their communities. Women also received literacy training and were supported in generating incomes for their families.

Because of our governance work, the communities saw a reduction in violence and an increase in access to health services for women. The program built trust with displaced families, convincing them to return safely to their villages, and empowered women to play a vital role in mediating conflict within their communities.

# IN ACTION

# RESETTLEMENT, ASYLUM & INTEGRATION



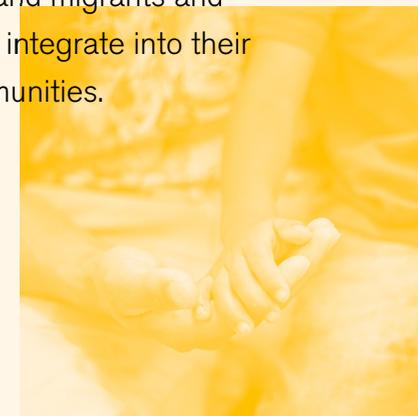
## RESETTLEMENT, ASYLUM AND INTEGRATION (RAI)

The IRC Resettlement, Asylum and Integration team creates opportunities for refugees and other vulnerable migrants to survive and thrive in the United States and in Europe.

In the United States, we are the largest refugee resettlement organization and in Europe we utilize our expertise to advocate for refugees and migrants and help them integrate into their new communities.

## WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

- ➔ Ensuring that the most vulnerable asylum seekers and migrants have the necessary support to feel safe and well, get the services they need day to day, and become financially independent from the time they arrive, throughout their journeys, and in their new homes.
- ➔ Sharing our expertise with governments, nonprofit organizations and community leaders in order to improve protections and services for refugees.
- ➔ Promoting innovative solutions to address growing resettlement and asylum needs in high income countries.
- ➔ Engaging talented, dedicated staff and volunteers. We are distinguished by our highly experienced personnel, many of whom come from immigrant communities themselves.



# RESETTLEMENT, ASYLUM

## RESETTLEMENT, ASYLUM & INTEGRATION PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

### RESETTLING REFUGEES

In those first pivotal months, we provide assistance with everything from housing to employment, school registration, culture orientation and English language classes. For the past five years, the IRC has earned the U.S. Department of State's top rating among resettlement agencies for its implementation of the Reception & Placement program.

### SUPPORT FOR SEPARATED CHILDREN AND ASYLUM-SEEKING FAMILIES

We provide emergency assistance for people recently released from border processing or immigrant detention centers, and those recently reunited with their families. In three border cities, this includes safe, temporary housing, basic necessities, and help with travel to final destinations within the U.S.

### INTEGRATION INTO NEW COMMUNITIES

We help ensure refugees and immigrants achieve lasting self-sufficiency and contribute to the economic vitality of their communities. In Greece, many refugees and asylum seekers may not be able to travel farther into Europe and will likely remain in the country. Therefore, integration is key to ensuring they build successful lives in their new home. The IRC partners with the Municipality of Athens and local nonprofits to deliver business skills training, small grants, and mentoring and employment services to over 1,500 people in Greece.

### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

In the U.S., the IRC assists more than 14,000 refugees and immigrants each year with legal services. The IRC's immigration programs strive to ensure equal protection under the law and civic integration of refugees, asylees and other immigrants by assisting them in obtaining critical benefits, including the adjustment of status, employment authorization and citizenship.

### OUR 2019 IMPACT:

**50,000** people were helped in refugee and immigrant communities in the U.S.

**7,627** refugees were resettled across the U.S.

**5,595** asylum-seeking families in the U.S. were provided with safety and wellness support through our welcome center and other emergency services.

**900** education professionals in Germany, Italy and Greece were trained on the importance of a safe and positive school environment for refugee students.



**TOP:** Lincy was granted asylum in Phoenix, Arizona and is building a new life as a fashion designer with the support of the IRC.

**BOTTOM:** Dave Kurz, a retired IRC staff member, has become like family to Robert Sebatware, a Congolese refugee, and his wife and children.



# IN ACTION

## RAI IN ACTION

At the U.S.-Mexico border, the Asylum-Seeking Families program is the IRC's first emergency response to a migration crisis in the U.S. This program was created in response to the unprecedented numbers of families fleeing persecution, violence and poverty in Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador and other countries while simultaneously facing a wave of U.S. policy changes severely restricting access to asylum.

As part of our response, in July 2019 we opened a welcome center in Phoenix, providing 24/7 services to asylum-seeking families. There we provide warm meals, clothing, transitional shelter, travel coordination and crucial legal orientation. Studies have shown that having a lawyer yields a positive outcome in 74 percent of cases in immigration court, while cases without a lawyer are successful only 13 percent of the time. The IRC is working in close collaboration with partners to improve access to legal counsel through both full legal representation in merits hearings as well as through workshops and legal orientations that help people navigate an exceedingly complex system.

We are also working alongside partners to respond to asylum seekers' urgent needs in California, Texas, New York and New Jersey.



**TOP:** At the IRC Welcome Center in Phoenix, the IRC and its partners provide food, shelter, legal counseling and other assistance to families seeking asylum.

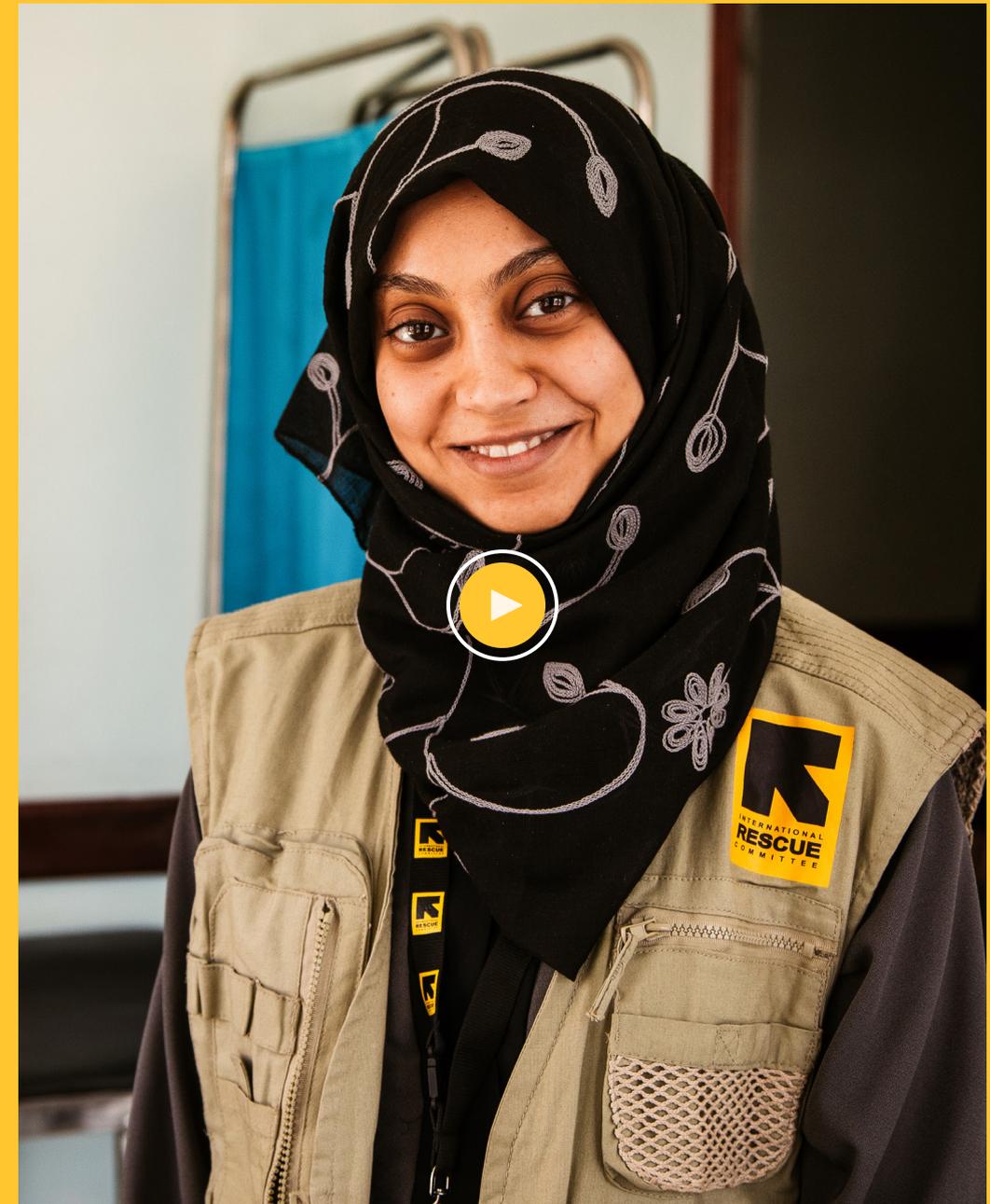
**BOTTOM:** Alejandra left Mexico to seek asylum in the U.S. She is hopeful that she will find safety for her daughter.

# THANK YOU

## THANK YOU

To our supporters and partners, thank you for making the work we do around the world possible. It is because of you that we were able to help so many families survive, recover and rebuild their lives in 2019.

**When we needed you, you stood up and helped us deliver lasting impact in more than 40 countries around the world.**



# THANK YOU

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF LEADERSHIP

The International Rescue Committee is governed by a volunteer, unpaid Board of Directors. The Board of Advisors provide advice on policy, advocacy, fundraising and public relations.

## IRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF LEADERSHIP

David Miliband  
President and CEO

Ricardo Castro  
Secretary

Timothy F. Geithner  
Co-chair, Board  
of Directors

Eduardo G. Mestre  
Chair, Board  
of Advisors

Oscar Raposo  
Treasurer

Sally Susman  
Co-chair, Board  
of Directors

Liv Ullmann  
Honorary Vice Chair,  
International

## CHAIRS EMERITI

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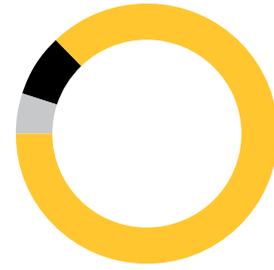
## FINANCIAL REPORT

## CONSOLIDATED AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended Sept. 30, 2019, and Sept. 30, 2018  
(in thousands)

	2019	2018
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>		
Contributions	\$ 174,707	\$ 148,856
Contributed goods and services	7,252	6,360
Grants and contracts	566,061	544,659
Foundation and private grants	37,631	34,402
Investment return used for operations	6,516	5,822
Loan administration fees and other income	4,314	4,340
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>796,481</b>	<b>744,439</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Program Services:</b>		
International programs	521,315	510,120
U.S. Programs	93,555	83,198
Emergency preparedness, technical units and other	64,110	56,940
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>678,980</b>	<b>650,258</b>
<b>Supporting Services:</b>		
Management and general	66,176	57,697
Fundraising	40,180	36,755
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>106,356</b>	<b>94,452</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>785,336</b>	<b>744,710</b>
Excess (deficiency) of operating revenues over operating expenses	11,145	271
Excess related to Unrestricted Funds	2971	152
<i>Excess (deficiency) related to Temporary Restricted Funds*</i>	8174	423
Endowment, planned giving and other non-operating activities (net)	-4073	2,695
Increase in net assets	7072	2,424
Net assets, beginning of year	222,676	220,252
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 229,748</b>	<b>\$ 222,676</b>

\* Unspent temporary restricted funds are carried forward and therefore may produce deficits in the years when expanded. Complete financial statements, audited by KPMG LLP, are available at [Rescue.org](http://Rescue.org)



## THE IRC'S EFFICIENCY

- Program Services **87%**
- Management & General **8%**
- Fundraising **5%**



## PROGRAM SERVICES

- Health **34%**
- Resettlement **13%**
- Education **12%**
- Livelihood **10%**
- Water & Sanitation **9%**
- Protection **9%**
- Distribution **9%**
- Other Programs\* **4%**

\* Includes shelter and community development



## IN ACTION

## YOUR HELP IN ACTION

## ADVOCATE

Text **RESCUE** to **40649** to sign up with the IRC's online global family and receive important advocacy alerts and news about the humanitarian issues that are important to you, or visit [Rescue.org/Act](http://Rescue.org/Act) to see our latest actions.

## VOLUNTEER

The IRC relies on volunteers to support its work helping refugees adjust to a new life in the United States. For information, visit [Rescue.org/Volunteer](http://Rescue.org/Volunteer).

## FUNDRAISE

Start your own fundraising campaign to support the IRC and make a difference. For information, visit [Rescue.org/DIY](http://Rescue.org/DIY).

## DONATE

Give online by visiting our website at [Rescue.org](http://Rescue.org). Make a tax-deductible contribution by calling **1 855-9RESCUE** or by mail to:

## Donations International Rescue Committee

122 East 42<sup>ND</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10168-1289

The IRC accepts gifts in the form of securities. For more information, please contact [Stock.Gifts@Rescue.org](mailto:Stock.Gifts@Rescue.org).

## FUTURE GIFTS

Help the IRC support refugee families in the future through a bequest to the IRC. Contact [PlannedGiving@Rescue.org](mailto:PlannedGiving@Rescue.org) for information or to indicate that you have already included the IRC in your estate plans.

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

- 🐦 @RESCUE.org
- 📘 @InternationalRescueCommittee
- 📷 @RESCUE.org

PHOTOS: ©International Rescue Committee

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