

SPECIAL REPORTS



SUMMER 2025



You rushed to the front lines to help families who lost everything to the tragic earthquake...and you remain there as they rebuild.

Your Love Continues to Help Çağla Rebuild From the Rubble

Survivors of the horrifying earthquake that ravaged Türkiye in February 2023 describe the aftermath as “apocalyptic.” The earthquake claimed the lives of 50,000 children, women and men, and affected 20 million of your neighbors.

Entire cities were shaken to their core — left with nothing but rubble.

Immediately following the catastrophic event, you rushed your love packed into emergency supplies, like food, tents, personal care kits, baby care kits and quilts.

You may remember your neighbor Çağla, who suffered incredible heartbreak and loss when the earthquake hit her homeland. Her mother’s home collapsed, and she lost her husband, her mother and her pregnant sister in a single night.

She was grieving for her family but had to find courage to move forward — her four young children were depending on her.

For half a year, they lived in a tent with very little possessions and no running water ... and “there was filth everywhere,” Çağla remembers. The only thing they felt they had in surplus was loss, loneliness and grief.

Then your love touched their hearts and things began to change.

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A MESSAGE FROM DANIEL

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your deep commitment to loving your neighbor.

I am humbled to share these updates with you and hope you feel a great sense of peace in knowing you are making a real difference in the lives of God's children who are struggling.

You are part of a great legacy of supporters that started 80 years ago to help with WWII relief. Today, you carry on their tradition of rushing to the front lines with compassion and support and remaining there until every neighbor feels Christ's warm light shining upon them.

Through jungles and under rubble ... across rivers and floodwaters ... over mountains and in valleys ... and deep into the unknown, your love always finds a way — and we are forever grateful you share it with us.

God bless you,

Daniel Speckhard

Ambassador Daniel Speckhard
President and CEO

Called to Love Our Neighbors

"But I will sing of your might; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been a fortress for me and a refuge in the day of my distress." — Psalm 59:16 (NRSV)

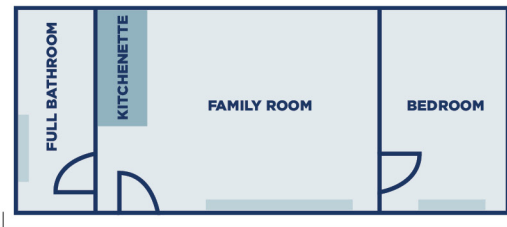


Your Love Continues to Help Çağla Rebuild From the Rubble (continued)

Because your generosity and love remained in Türkiye long after the cameras left and the headlines faded away, Çağla and her family felt the comfort of home again.

Thanks to your faith-filled gifts, Çağla and her children were able to move into a container home with their own kitchen and a working toilet. They now have a safe and secure roof over their heads and a dry place to sleep.

You welcomed them home with everything they needed, including beds, mattresses, furniture, dishes, pots and pans, a refrigerator and even rugs, an air conditioner and curtains.



226 SQUARE FEET
4-6 people • \$5,300

Her children had often been injured in the rubble while trying to play outside or searching for a working toilet. Now, in their new container city, they have their own outdoor area and play areas where they can play safely with other children.

Your impact has reached worried mothers, like Çağla, who can finally start feeling hopeful after suffering so much pain. ○



EACH 226 SQUARE FOOT CONTAINER HOME INCLUDES:



Electricity



Plumbing



Toilet



Furniture



Heating/
Cooling



Sinks



Shower



Cleaning
Supplies

Thank you very much for making my children happy. God bless you.
—Çağla





Then and Now — An 80-Year Legacy of Love

This year, Lutheran World Relief celebrates our 80th anniversary. While the world has changed and evolved, I'm so proud to share that our core mission has remained the same after all these years. We dutifully love our neighbors, wherever they are, and stay with them for as long as we're needed.

This was the driving force that started Lutheran World Relief in 1945, when neighbors across the globe needed love and support after WWII. Lutherans banded together and were some of the first to arrive and last to leave — walking alongside their neighbors until they walked on their own.

Thank you for your support and commitment to this loving legacy of helping God's children in need — no matter how far or how long it takes.○



Lutheran World Relief feeds refugee children in Germany, 1940s



Collecting clothes for neighbors in need, 1958



Feeding hungry children in Guatemala with sustainable solutions, 2021



Helping God's children in Ukraine find shelter, food and hope in wartime, 2022-Present

YOUR LOVE IN ACTION AROUND THE WORLD

United States

You delivered hope when all seemed lost. After the devastating Los Angeles wildfires ravaged whole communities, your love reached the most vulnerable families by supporting donation drives, relief stations and direct cash assistance to empower families who lost everything to pay for their own transportation and temporary lodging.

Lebanon

Your kindness rushed lifesaving aid. Terrified families caught in the deadly crossfire of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East were given hygiene kits, warm meals and fuel thanks to your generous gifts. You helped them feel safe and protected while surrounded by violence.

Mali

Your love provided comfort and care. When violence hit their doorstep, children and families fled their homes and tried to rebuild at a displacement camp with little food, water and shelter. Your generous gifts provided Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits to let them know they were not alone as they began to rebuild their lives from scratch in a new place.

Your steadfast support is saving lives.

LET YOUR LOVE FLOURISH, AND JOIN

Partners in Lasting Promise

By leaving a share of your estate to Lutheran World Relief, your love can leave an enduring footprint into the future and create a better world for children around the world.

Planning your estate is easy when you use **FreeWill** our free, online will-writing service. From the comfort of your own home, you can turn your love for your most vulnerable neighbors into a lasting promise for the future.



Create your free and legally-binding will today at **LWR.ORG/FREEWILL**.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**



Jake Lyell for LWR

Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of U.S. Lutherans serving neighbors with the very least who are living in some of the most remote and forsaken regions of the world.



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