

# SPECIAL REPORTS



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



The life of the young girl above has been completely transformed by your generosity. Mado, now 8 years old, was severely malnourished when we first met her in 2016. You made her bright smile and bright future possible.

## Your love can save a child's life

Two-year-old Mado was on borrowed time. Severe malnourishment had taken a heavy toll and she didn't have long to live — until your love changed everything.

You may remember the story of how Mado got her second chance at life. It began when a local boy noticed her suffering and knew exactly where to turn for help. He ran as fast as he could and returned to Mado's home with two trained staff members from our local health clinic.

They gave Mado emergency treatment and showed her mother how to make a porridge that could save her daughter's life. This porridge included locally available ingredients, such as soy flour, corn flour and peanut meal. After receiving this recipe, she began making it for Mado.

"That's how she recovered her health," says

Mado's mother, Mamamadu. "Before, the child was ill all the time. Skinny. I believed that she would soon die. But then, I was given the porridge recipe to feed her."

This simple recipe saved Mado's life. In fact, by equipping our health clinics with the supplies and staff needed to support families around the world, you saved Mado's life.

And the story doesn't end there. Once Mamamadu saw the lifesaving effects of this porridge, she began sharing the recipe with other local mothers whose

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## A MESSAGE FROM DANIEL



With every gift you share, the impact of your generosity isn't limited to the neighbor you help. It ripples throughout their entire community and continues for generations.

For proof, look no further than Mado's inspiring story. After visiting Mado in the Democratic Republic of Congo and watching her transformation over the past six years, I can truly say that I have seen the effect of your support with my own eyes — and it's extraordinary.

Your impact grows and multiplies in ways that we may never even know or see. Mado's story shows us that one act of kindness can be the seed that transforms an entire generation. That's what this work is all about, and we're just so grateful to be partnering with you in it.

Thank you for bringing transformational hope to neighbors all over the world.

God bless you,

Ambassador Daniel Speckhard  
President and CEO

## Called to Love Our Neighbors

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

— Hebrews 13:16 4:7 (NIV)



Mado is 2 years old in the above photo. Seeing all the signs of severe malnourishment, Mado's mother was doing everything in her power to save her daughter.

Thanks to your compassionate generosity, Mado is now a healthy 8-year-old with a bright future ahead of her. For children like Mado, your love truly does change everything.

## Your love continues to save lives ...

children were malnourished. That means the impact of your support will continue rippling through this community for many generations to come.

Today, 8-year-old Mado is attending school and has learned how to spell her name. She has made a full recovery from the malnutrition she experienced as an infant and now dreams of becoming a nurse one day to help other children just like her.

All of this is made possible through your love, which reaches children and families in some of the poorest parts of the world. You are delivering lasting solutions that address life-threatening challenges. You are teaching mothers healthy infant feeding practices and ways to grow lifesaving foods at home.

Your love saves lives every single day, and there aren't enough ways to say, “thank you.” Children like Mado are alive today because you care. Because you made the choice to reach out with love and change their world. God bless you. ■

### Making service a family tradition



It's never too early to start serving neighbors in need.

Growing up in rural South Dakota, Kate Reuer Welton and her family didn't have much. In a pre-internet world, where news of hardships around the world didn't travel quite so quickly, Kate's compassionate heart drove her to serve neighbors right there in her community.

That compassion was modeled for her by her parents, who taught her what it meant to be faithful and generous by giving their time to help families in need through organizations like Lutheran World Relief. When she became a parent herself, she and her husband continued this legacy of service by modeling the same generosity for their own children.

Their children, Ben (8) and Eleanor (5), often brought their piggy banks to church after hearing about someone in need. Seeing the same compassion in her children that she had discovered in herself all those years ago, Kate helped Ben and Eleanor each select an organization that they could donate to monthly. Ben chose Lutheran World Relief and became one of our youngest *Faithful Neighbors* by committing to a monthly gift at the beginning of this year.

Ben said when he donates to Lutheran World Relief, he feels "happy" because he knows so many people need a helping hand. To find out more about how you can join our *Faithful Neighbors* community by making a monthly gift, visit [lwr.org/monthly](http://lwr.org/monthly). ■

### Your love makes running water and bright futures possible

**Yasa Subangin loved school.** She loved learning about new subjects with her classmates and playing during breaks. She even loved her daily 40-minute walk to and from school with her friends.

There's just one thing she didn't love — knowing that **the nearest working bathroom was four miles away.** This meant that Yasa and her classmates in Indonesia had no reliable place to wash their hands or use the restroom. The lack of clean water had a ripple effect on Yasa's education. Afraid of needing the bathroom during the day, Yasa would simply stay home, especially if she felt a stomachache coming on in the morning.

**Then, your love changed everything.**

Thanks to friends like you, the latrine facility at Yasa's school was rebuilt. It is now well equipped, with running water, two clean toilets and a handwashing facility. For Yasa, **access to running water transforms her life** by keeping her in school and allowing her to work toward her dreams.

**Thank you for all you do** to ensure that your most vulnerable neighbors worldwide have access to clean, safe water. Your love makes a life-changing difference. ■



Yasa and her classmates have clean water because of donors like you. ■

# YOUR GIFTS AT WORK AROUND THE WORLD

## Peru

Your love helped connect Venezuelan refugees with the critical information they needed when adjusting to life in a new country. A free digital platform called *Ven Informado* pairs refugees with mental health and legal employment resources, making a difficult transition just a little bit easier for newly arrived Venezuelans in Peru.

## Ukraine

You are helping provide food, shelter and health services to people who have been displaced by the war in Ukraine. Through your continued support, you're equipping health facilities with supplies like surgical and wound care kits, gauze, and oxygen masks, along with other essential hygiene items and critical health services.

## South Sudan

You helped ensure that children who lost their homes due to flooding had nutritious food to help them survive. Because of you, hundreds of families received fishing kits, vegetable and crop seeds, breeding chickens and more, which provided emergency food in a time of urgent need.

**Thank you for sending your love to your neighbors across the globe!**

LET YOUR LOVE FLOURISH, AND JOIN

## Partners in Lasting Promise

Leaving a share of your estate to Lutheran World Relief may be the most significant contribution you can make to extend God's love to our most forsaken neighbors.

Visit [LWR.ORG/JOIN](https://www.lwr.org/join) to learn more about the lasting impact you can make, and

- Request a free Guide to Leaving a Gift in Your Will
- Notify us if you've already designated a gift to neighbors in need in your will
- Or use our free online will writing service to create your will

Leave an enduring footprint into the future with a gift in your will or trust and join [Partners in Lasting Promise](#).



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Jake Lyell for LWR

Lutheran World Relief is a ministry of U.S. Lutherans, serving communities living in poverty overseas.



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