With your support and commitment, International Medical Corps is a premier First Responder to conflict, natural disaster or disease. No matter where, no matter the conditions, International Medical Corps is there.

Throughout 2016, we scaled up our response to ongoing and new emergencies, bringing training, healthcare and hope to millions of men, women and children around the world. As we maintained our support for those affected by Syria’s tragic civil war, we also responded to Hurricane Matthew in Haiti; the conflicts in Yemen, Iraq and South Sudan; polio outbreaks and violence in Nigeria; drought and food insecurity in Ethiopia—and much more.

We answered the need in some 30 countries around the world. And, with your help, we did so with strength, speed and efficiency. Our deepest thanks go to you—our most committed supporters—because you help to make our work possible. We are grateful for the trust and confidence you have in us; together, we have a positive impact on millions of lives.

Training underpins all that we do. While International Medical Corps is well known for its swift and efficient deployments to assist survivors of disaster—no matter where in the world—it is our commitment to training that sets us apart and enables us to bring new and lasting strength to communities as they rebuild for a better future.
More than 4.8 million Syrians have fled to neighboring countries and some 7.6 million people are displaced inside the country. International Medical Corps is in Syria and surrounding countries, delivering lifesaving medical services and training local health care workers so refugee and host communities can be their own best First Responders. We support the millions of Syrian refugees and the communities that host them in Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon. We provide emergency medical care, primary health care, mental health and psychosocial support, protection, clean water, improved sanitation and more.

**SYRIA CRISIS**

The human toll of Syria’s civil war is unimaginable: more than 13.5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance.

![Image of child on swing]

Amal’s back was broken when the blast of an airstrike on the house next door threw her from her roof—she couldn’t walk.

“Tanks were shelling the houses. You didn’t know where they’d hit—maybe your house, maybe your neighbor’s. We decided to leave. The village was surrounded. There was no time to pack our belongings. The only thing I took with me is my bracelet—it was a present from my sister.”

With help, Amal eventually reached the relative safety of Sanliurfa in Southern Turkey, but the family became separated along the way and her sister remained behind in Syria. Amal explains that due to the weak internet connection she is only able to speak to her sister every two or three months. “I just need to hear her voice—just to see if she’s still alive.”

To this day Amal only takes off the black beaded bracelet during surgeries on her spine and it is the first thing she asks for when the anesthesia wears off. “The bracelet gives me strength. When I am wearing it, I feel like my sister is still with me. She’s in my thoughts all the time.”

Since Amal started coming to International Medical Corps’ rehabilitation center, her mental wellbeing and physical strength have improved. “To my physiotherapist I am not just a patient—we are friends. He accepts me when I’m angry, when I’m weak. Before I was always sleeping late, I wouldn’t exercise—I was very tired. Now I’m much better.”

Amal was studying finance before her injury; she now dreams of going back to school. “If I could go back in time and take something again I would take my university books, but when the explosions begin, you don’t have time to think about what you will take.”

“I feel like my sister is still with me.”
We provided emergency relief and medical care, including cholera treatment and prevention, in some of the hardest hit areas, like Sud, Grand’Anse, Les Anglais and Tiburon. In addition, through operational and logistical expertise, we supported Haiti’s Ministry of Public Health and Population to roll out the largest emergency oral cholera vaccination campaign in history, vaccinating some 729,000 people. Health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene programs will be an ongoing focus into the future.

HURRICANE MATTHEW

International Medical Corps’ Emergency Response Team was on the ground in Haiti within 48 hours of a Category 4 storm—Hurricane Matthew—that hit the island on October 4.

Haiti is no stranger to disaster—and when it strikes, nurse Christine is there. Her work with International Medical Corps began in 2010 after the devastating earthquake. She traveled with mobile medical units, caring for the injured, many of whom were children. It was a deeply personal cause for Christine—she lost her seven-year-old child in the earthquake.

Last year, when Hurricane Matthew slammed into Haiti, Christine joined our emergency response team once again. She deployed to Les Anglais, a seaside community in southwestern Haiti that had been torn apart by the storm.

Les Anglais was also facing a silent killer: cholera, a disease that can kill within hours if left untreated. Our team set up a cholera treatment center in Les Anglais, where Christine worked day and night to care for patients. She also ventured out into surrounding communities to reach those who could not travel. She helped so many people around Les Anglais that people began to affectionately call her “Mamie.” “Cholera excludes no one,” Christine says, “but it is the poor and vulnerable who suffer the most.”
The ongoing violence has uprooted some 2.4 million people from their homes and sparked a catastrophic food crisis, as farmers have not been able to plant for years, while other services—such as health and education—have been disrupted. The conflict created fertile ground for resurgences in diseases like polio, which reappeared in the country last summer. International Medical Corps is working in the most volatile regions of Nigeria, providing emergency health, nutrition, food security, water and sanitation, and protection services.

Last August, two children were reported paralyzed from wild poliovirus in Borno state in northeastern Nigeria—the epicenter of the ongoing fight against the Islamic insurgency Boko Haram. The return of the disease came after more than two years without any cases of poliovirus—a window that allowed Nigeria, and with it all of Africa, to declare itself polio-free. The two new cases are tragic ripple effects of the Boko Haram insurgency, which continues to drive people from their homes and leaves people without access to even the most basic services such as health care.

International Medical Corps is working with local and international partners to eradicate polio from Nigeria, often traveling into communities as soon as they are freed from Boko Haram to vaccinate children against the disease. We brought our training expertise to local government and non-government workers, community volunteers, providing them with the skills needed to increase polio vaccination rates in communities under control of Boko Haram. Our health worker Emmanuella Chizoba Unaeze often travels to these communities to support vaccination efforts. Despite the personal danger she faces, Chizoba is not deterred from her mission of “giving hope to those who need it most.” “If I need to do the work, I need to go where the work is,” she says.

“Giving hope to those who need it most.”
Failed rains have pushed Ethiopia and Somalia once again on the brink of potentially disastrous food crises. In Ethiopia, International Medical Corps is training refugees from Somalia on healthy child feeding practices in an effort to keep babies and young children healthy. “We are witness to the great benefits of breast milk,” says Fatima, a refugee in Ethiopia’s Melkadida camp. Her eighth child, Hamy, was breastfed exclusively and the benefits are clear—he has never suffered from malnutrition, unlike his seven older siblings. “Hamy is healthier, stronger, and happier than his older brothers and sister,” Fatima says. “Breastfeeding can make any child healthier and happier.”

“Ravine,” which means “escape” in Kurdish, was born on a mountainside as her parents fled a deadly attack by ISIS on their home. For 40 days, they stayed on the mountain, surrounded by death and cold, with no food or water. They eventually made it to a community outside Dohuk in the Kurdish Region of Iraq, but the conditions had taken a toll on Ravine: she had pneumonia. Her parents took her to an International Medical Corps mobile medical unit near their new home and, with their care, she quickly recovered—inspiring a new name, “Jian,” or “life.” Our health worker who treated her says Jian is “a true inspiration to me, to her family and to the world.”

Yemen’s ongoing violence has created a humanitarian catastrophe, with millions of children suffering from malnutrition as the country teeters on famine. Yemen country director Giorgio Trombatore visited the main hospital in Sa’da, a town roughly 100 miles from the capital, where International Medical Corps delivered medications and supplies by convoy last October. “Many had come from villages close to Yemen’s border with Saudi Arabia,” he says. “Most of the health centers there had been destroyed so these mothers had come to Sa’da. The pediatrician told me some of the mothers had waited too long. Many of the children had failed to survive the journey and had died along the way.”
30:1

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89%

of every dollar you contribute directly supports programs.