



# Empowering Syrian Refugee Women

Dining for Women and UNICEF USA Join Forces For Good

## Background

Sustained conflict and violence in Syria has led to a steady influx of refugees to Jordan settlement camps and other locations at the Jordan-Syria border. As of January 2017, 655,496 Syrians were officially registered as refugees in Jordan.

This massive influx of refugees has placed strain on public services, with women and children being the most affected. Many Syrian refugee mothers and their infants lack access to appropriate maternal and newborn health care. Workforce exclusion further compounds the problems faced by refugees. Women in particular are unable to access the employment that would allow them to secure basic necessities for their families.

## The Project

Dining for Women's \$100,000 partnership grant will provide safe and lawful employment opportunities for Syrian refugee women so that they do not have to resort to exploitative and high-risk jobs. The project will also address the need for maternal and newborn health care services for new mothers and their infants.

UNICEF will identify vulnerable women within the refugee camps and host communities and train them to produce lifesaving newborn kits. These kits contain vital items for both the mothers and babies such as clothing, cots, diapers, baby blankets, and hygiene items. The women will receive monthly payments in line with national standards and regulations.

The newborn kits will be distributed to promote



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maternal and child health care in conjunction with prenatal and postnatal counseling visits that promote essential care that can save lives.

## Projected Impact

This Dining for Women (DFW) and UNICEF partnership is expected to reach an estimated 1,030 vulnerable women in Jordan. DFW's funding will provide 30 vulnerable women with employment for a one-year period, while supplying 1,000 mothers and their newborns with critical health care packages.

This partnership will empower Syrian refugee women — providing them with opportunities to participate in the workforce and make a meaningful difference in the lives of vulnerable mothers and their newborns. ●

## About UNICEF

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works in 190 countries and territories to put children first. UNICEF has helped save more children's lives than any other humanitarian organization, by providing health care and immunizations, clean water and sanitation, nutrition, education, emergency relief and more. UNICEF USA supports UNICEF's work through fundraising, advocacy and education in the United States. Together, we are working toward the day when no children die from preventable causes and every child has a safe and healthy childhood. For more information, visit [unicefusa.org](http://unicefusa.org).

To learn more, contact Veena Khandke, DFW Director of Grants and Partnerships at [veena@diningforwomen.org](mailto:veena@diningforwomen.org) or visit [diningforwomen.org](http://diningforwomen.org).