



Information about MM Campaign and demand for support

About Mercy in Motion

Mercy in Motion is a campaign of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) with the goal of providing 100'000 refugee children and youth with access to education. The campaign, launched on 8 December 2015 with the Holy Year of Mercy, will continue through the end of 2016 and is expected to raise \$35 million. Mercy in Motion is supported and blessed by Pope Francis.

Today, more than 140'000 young refugees benefit already from educational programs of the JRS. Mercy in Motion will expand these educational projects spanning from primary school to university, and including vocational and teacher training. To give access to education to one single kid will cost 100 \$ per year.

Nearly 60 million people worldwide have been forced to flee their homes, with almost half of them are children and minors. They are constantly in motion: taking trucks, rafts, boats and trains; taking children, blankets, clothing and, most often, taking nothing. But for people living in motion, even those who cannot carry things can take thoughts. Memories, terrifying and good ones, and knowledge are the essential, and often only, things they can carry forever – the things which can never be taken from their minds and hearts.

War stops education – education stops war

One question is asked very often: “Why educate refugees if they cannot work?” The question goes to the core of why educate anyone. Education is to fight ignorance and unawareness. It can help to build peace and foster the development of more resilient and cohesive societies. Schools provide the stability that children need to cope with the loss, fear, stress and violence experienced during times of crisis. Being in school can keep children safe and protected from risks, including gender-based violence, recruitment into armed groups, child labour and early marriage. The funds of the campaign will offer access to quality education, and will give refugees the tools to contribute to their new communities, and to rebuild their own ones.

But refugees face a variety of barriers trying to access education: from overcrowding in schools to xenophobia in host communities. Their fundamental right to education is often lost. [Upwards of 2.6 million Syrian children are out of school.](#) Among refugee children, only 36 percent globally go to secondary school and less than one percent has the opportunity to pursue a higher education.

What can you do?

- Tell and talk about Mercy in Motion to everyone and everywhere
- Call for donations and sponsors to finance MM-projects and programs (Corporate Social Responsibility)
- Take the chance to turn your conferences, meetings and seminars to platforms for discussions about global migration, MM issues in alignment with the ideas of the Holy Year of Mercy
- Try to identify testimonials: We are looking for people, trustworthy and successful in their resp. fields, who are willing to promote the MM message in their individual and business networks. The testimonials will be published in the internet www.mercy-in-motion.org
- Get young alumni involved: Maybe the MM projects are appropriate for your Experience Projects for young alumni/ae

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Contact MM in your country

Pope Francis – putting our Mercy in Motion

When speaking out on the current refugee crisis, Pope Francis has said the world is suffering from a “globalization of indifference,” ignoring those who cry out for mercy. It is time to change that. “We can no longer take the suffering of others for granted,” he said. We must come together and mobilise our compassion to make a globalized difference. It is the role of each one of us to ensure those who have lost their homes do not lose their hope.

Reflecting on the upcoming Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Pope has pointed out that mercy “is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality... We are called to look beyond, to focus on the heart to see how much generosity everyone is capable of.”
