

THE MIGRANT and REFUGEE CRISIS

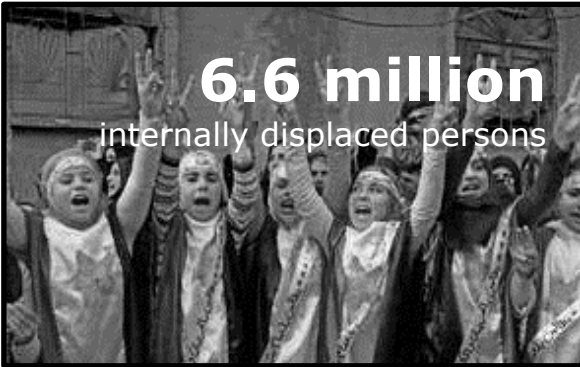
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“SYRIA is the biggest humanitarian and refugee crisis of our times.”

Filippo Grandi, UNHCR High Commissioner



In the nearly 10 years since the crisis in Syria began it is estimated that more than 300,000 people have died, and more than 11 million Syrians (close to 50% of the population) have been forced to flee their homes in search of safe haven. The country is literally in ruins.



From October 2015 to February 2018, Canada sponsored more than 50,000 Syrian refugees, and invested hundreds of millions of dollars in settlement services.



At 3.3 million, Turkey hosts the largest number of registered Syrian refugees. The vast majority of Syrian refugees in the neighbouring countries live in urban areas, with around only 8% in refugee camps.



In Lebanon, Syrian refugees have little or no financial resources and around 70% live below the poverty line.



There are no formal refugee camps with Syrians scattered throughout more than 2,100 communities, often sharing small basic lodgings with other refugee families in overcrowded conditions.



At a major EU & UN DONOR conference in March 2019 delegates pledged over US \$7 billion in 2019 for the critical life-saving response inside Syrian and for support to refugees.

Please look for more refugee information, education and advocacy in the weeks ahead and please consider supporting the work of the refugee ministry with your Lenten givings.



St. Andrew's-Wesley Refugee Ministry