

SUMMARY

The February 2023 earthquake destroyed not only homes and businesses, it destroyed lives. Ten-year-old Amir* lost his parents and all three siblings when their house crumbled around them. Though he was rescued, the once-lively child turned inward, to a world that held enormous pain and little hope for the future.

Taken in by a loving uncle in the days following the earthquake, Amir began spiraling due to his loss, while his uncle scrambled to provide basic necessities. When the boy quit attending school, a concerned teacher contacted a World Vision partner. Action for Humanity arranged a full psychological assessment and developed a plan for Amir’s recovery.

Timely psychological care plus food, school supplies, and household goods began to slowly make a difference in Amir’s life and he began to heal. He went back to school, and his uncle was better able to create a space that

felt like home. Amir describes the change this way: “I am happy now. I am back in school with my friend, Saleem*, and I have other friends ... I love the [psychological and educational] activities.”

Amir’s uncle sees a difference, too. “When his family passed away, he used to isolate himself. But after the support [he received], his personality is brighter. He laughs. I feel that he feels better,” his uncle says.

You have made a difference

Alongside partners in Syria and Türkiye, we reached over 1.8 million people with emergency essentials such as food, water, clothes, shelter, household items, health and psychosocial services, and spaces to take care of personal needs. That’s nearly double our target of bringing critical care and God’s love to hurting people.

Your support has been crucial in helping to comfort grieving communities and rebuild lives.



Amir engages in play therapy with a worker from Action for Humanity—a World Vision partner in Syria—as she helps him begin to heal from the loss of his parents and siblings.

*Name changed to protect identity

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



484,722

Syrians visited health centers, received visits from healthcare workers, or used mental health and psychosocial support services.



56,000

people in Syria and Türkiye received shelter, food, household goods, and cash or vouchers to buy needed goods and services.



1,031,249

people in Syria and Türkiye gained access to clean water, showers, and latrines, and/or received hygiene and dignity kits (for women and girls).

CHALLENGES AND KEY LEARNINGS

The devastating losses experienced by families in February made this response a daunting one. An early needs assessment showed that more than 90% of respondents' homes were damaged, and 44% had at least one family member needing specialized medical care. This assessment helped us design outreach activities focused on basic needs such as water, sanitation, and hygiene. It also helped ensure health facilities had sufficient fuel and supplies to care for the chronically ill and those injured in the quake.



This map shows where World Vision and our partners have been working to care for and support children and families in the aftermath of the disaster.



A Turkish woman impacted by the earthquake receives an infant care kit, with items such as diapers and sanitary wipes.

PLANS FOR THE COMING MONTHS

While most of our emergency response activities have closed out, World Vision's focus is now on recovery and stabilization efforts. In Syria, these are being integrated with our ongoing work to help families impacted by the war there.

A comprehensive nutrition project will target underserved areas in Northwest Syria, providing outpatient therapeutic programming at three special centers, and through eight rapid response teams that deliver services to communities. This project will serve the region's most vulnerable children and adults.

Life in Fullness Together, a pilot project in Türkiye, will focus on child protection, early childhood development, education, and mental health for children, adolescents, and their families. This holistic approach aims to create a stable environment for the longer term.

THANK YOU

Your generosity enabled us to respond like the Good Samaritan, reaching people who are hurting due to the loss of family members, homes, jobs, and life as they once knew it. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many children and their families in Syria and Türkiye. May you be richly blessed for sharing your blessings with neighbors a world away.

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For more information visit:
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