



Dear Pastor Lara,

As parents, grandparents and leaders who care for the most vulnerable, we treasure the comfort of watching our children grow in safety and hope. But imagine if that security vanished – if your family were forced from home or if your backyard became a battlefield. How would you tell your children it was going to be okay if you didn't know it would be?

For millions of children, this nightmare is their reality. As a congregational leader, you understand the sacred responsibility to protect and nurture the most vulnerable. And the heartbreaking truth is that in crisis, **the heaviest burdens fall on the smallest shoulders.**

Your congregation's love can help carry that weight.

These children's burdens are not theirs to bear alone. Your compassion and action can be the turning point in their story. **Today, I ask you to lead your congregation in making a special gift of \$5,000 to Lutheran World Relief by July 1 to help children in crisis.**

In **Lebanon**, over one million people have been displaced by escalating violence. Families are crammed into overcrowded shelters, struggling to access food, health care and safety. **Children are left deeply traumatized, their dreams of a brighter future slipping further away each day.**

In **Ecuador**, asylum-seekers turned away from the U.S. are being relocated here without resources or support networks, facing prolonged uncertainty. **Children are especially vulnerable, at high risk of homelessness, hunger and exploitation.** Without urgent intervention, they remain trapped in devastating limbo.

These crises weren't part of the plan when our budget was created last fall. **The scale of these emergencies has grown beyond what we can respond to alone.** But with your congregation's help, we can reach children and families in crisis with:

- **Safe places to live** through immediate shelter support.
- **Nutritious meals and clean water** to ensure children's health and dignity.
- **Health and psychosocial care** to address both the physical and emotional needs of children living through unimaginable trauma.
- **Access to educational resources** so that children have the chance to reclaim their childhood and future.

Children shouldn't have to carry this crushing weight another day more. With your congregation's love, they won't have to.

In gratitude,

Lisa Kipp
REV. LISA KIPP
Director of Congregational Engagement
lkipp@lwr.org

We are so grateful for your leadership. As challenges deepen this year, I pray you will consider an emergency gift from most vulnerable neighbors carrying so much. Please be with you -

P.S. LWR has national and local partners and staff on standby in Lebanon and Ecuador, ready to scale up our response as soon as resources are available. Please give by July 1 using the enclosed envelope or online at lwr.org/children.