



Your support will ensure that our far-reaching, life-saving advocacy for refugee women, children and young people continues. Your gift is fully tax-deductible, in accordance with the law.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like to be listed in recognition of your donation)

I would like my gift to be anonymous.

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State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\* If credit card billing address is different from mailing address, please include both.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my credit card  
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Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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Gifts can be made online at [womensrefugeecommission.org](http://womensrefugeecommission.org)

- Please send me regular email updates on the latest news from the Women's Refugee Commission.
- My employer will match my contribution. I have enclosed a matching gift form.

**Mail to:**

Women's Refugee Commission  
 122 East 42nd Street  
 New York, NY 10168-1289  
 212.551.2943

The Women's Refugee Commission is affiliated with and is legally part of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), a non-profit 501(c)(3). We do not receive direct financial support from the IRC.



When Kulah Borbor was growing up in Liberia, her parents refused to send her to school—only prostitutes go to school, she was told. Like most girls in her country, she underwent female genital mutilation (FGM), which has resulted in great difficulties and severe pain during the births of her four children. When war broke out, her father was killed, her son died and her mother was raped. Kulah cut off her hair and dressed as a man to avoid being raped. While she was living as a refugee, she learned more about the consequences of FGM and about the benefits of education. She is now a peer educator, teaching communities about the dangers of FGM and the importance of education for girls. And she is in school, sitting among six- and seven-year-olds, learning to read and write.

Kulah was a Women's Refugee Commission Voices of Courage Award winner in 2008.

Photo credits: front—Gerald Martone; Kulah—Micaela Walker; inside—Lauren Heller.

# Women's Refugee Commission



*I have seen the pain on the faces of people who have lost everything and depend on our compassion to give them a voice. This is why the Women's Refugee Commission was formed and this is why it is still so desperately needed. We are all needed, every single one of us.*

*Liv Ullmann*

**Liv Ullmann**  
 Honorary Chair and Co-founder



**WOMEN'S  
 REFUGEE  
 COMMISSION**

Research. Rethink. Resolve.

**Women's Refugee Commission**  
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 New York, NY 10168-1289  
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# MORE THAN 40 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DISPLACED BY ARMED CONFLICT AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

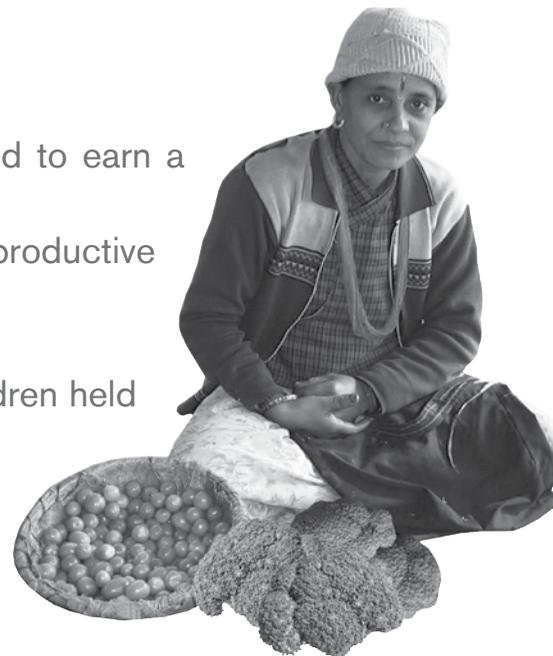
Four out of five refugees and internally displaced people are women, children and young people. Most are in long-term situations that last an average of 17 years. Those who seek asylum in the U.S. are often held in inhumane conditions, with restricted access to justice and protection.

Displaced people are often vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Lacking opportunities, they may resort to dangerous behaviors, such as exchanging sex for food or becoming child soldiers. Asylum-seekers may be separated from their families and held in detention.

## WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE WORK TO RESTORE HEALTH, SAFETY AND SELF-RELIANCE TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE LOST NEARLY EVERYTHING.

### Our work has led to changes in programs and policies that:

- help refugees, including adolescents, get the skills and education they need to earn a living and become self-reliant;
- save lives by ensuring that displaced people have greater access to reproductive healthcare;
- protect women and girls from rape and assault when they collect firewood;
- improve access to legal and physical protection for families, women and children held in immigration detention.



SINCE 1989, THE WOMEN'S REFUGEE COMMISSION HAS KEPT THE WORLD'S ATTENTION ON THE NEEDS OF REFUGEE AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED WOMEN, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AND THOSE SEEKING ASYLUM IN THE UNITED STATES.

### HOW?

#### Research

We conduct on-the-ground research to identify the issues affecting the health, safety and livelihoods of displaced women, children and young people, and uncover their most critical needs.

#### Rethink

We work with refugees, humanitarian agencies and other organizations to rethink solutions and identify best practices for long-term change.

#### Resolve

We vigorously advocate for change in refugee policy and practice on Capitol Hill, at the United Nations and with humanitarian organizations and host governments.

