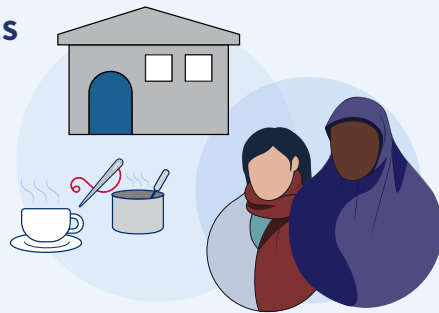


HOW USAID RESPONDS TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences. GBV disproportionately affects women and girls and can include physical, sexual, or mental harm, as well as threats, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty. USAID's programs focus on preventing and reducing the risk of GBV before, during, and after emergencies, as well as promoting community resilience and supporting women and girls in all their diversity to access care and services.

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES

Women and girls only locations provide a safe space to gather and access group activities, emotional support programs, and additional services and information.

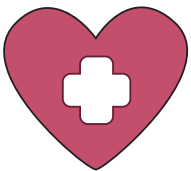


PEER SUPPORT GROUPS

These groups enable women and girls to help each other and re-establish social support networks that may have been destroyed by crisis or displacement.

SAFETY MAPPING

Staff work with women and girls to identify safe and unsafe places within their communities, develop plans to stay safe, and engage with community leaders to recommend ideas to create a safer environment for women.



IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES

Staff help connect women to life-saving health services. Our partners also train and support healthcare staff to ensure they provide quality care in safe and accessible health facilities. This is important, especially because gender-based violence can have significant and long-lasting impacts on physical and mental health.



SOCIAL WORK CASE MANAGEMENT

Case workers support survivors in identifying their needs, making informed choices, and accessing services to promote recovery. They provide emotional support, teach coping mechanisms, and develop plans with the survivor to help keep them safe.

BECOMING A SUPPORT TO OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY

These programs seek to increase women's participation in decision making and leadership positions. Many women who have benefited from such programs go on to volunteer or work with these or similar organizations to help respond to the needs of their community.



DIGNITY KITS

These kits typically contain menstrual hygiene materials, soap, underwear, and information on available gender-based violence services, including where and how to access those services. In some cases they also include radios, whistles, and lights.

