

2025 Program Results and Impacts Snapshot

Summary of key program outputs, outcomes and learnings from 2025

August 2026



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
CANADA

Introduction*

The 2025 Results and Impacts Snapshot is a companion to SOS Children's Villages Canada's 2025 Annual Report. It provides a detailed overview of international projects supported by Canadians across our five program pillars: Care and Protection, Family and Community Strengthening, Education and Livelihoods, Health, and Humanitarian Assistance.

While the Annual Report highlights the breadth of our work and overall organizational results, this document offers additional details on program outputs, reach, outcomes, lessons learned, program adaptations, and 2026 and longer-term targets. It is intended to help donors, partners, and stakeholders better understand how Canadian support is contributing to practical change for children, young people, families, and communities.

The information presented is drawn from project reporting, program monitoring data, and updates shared by SOS Children's Villages teams and partners. It focuses on a snapshot of key outputs and outcomes from major projects supported by Canadian donors in 2025. Figures are rounded where noted, and methodological details are provided at the end of the document to clarify how reach and beneficiary figures are calculated.

*Cet addenda est disponible uniquement en anglais. Pour toute question ou information supplémentaire, veuillez communiquer avec nous à comms@soschildrensvillages.ca.

*This addendum is available in English only. For questions or additional information, please contact comms@soschildrensvillages.ca.

SOS Children's Villages global reach

In 2025, the SOS Children's Villages global federation reached 7,913,900 children, young people and adults in over 130 countries and territories through its programs, helping ensure that children and families around the world were safe, healthy and thriving. SOS Children's Villages Canada played a key role in supporting this federation-wide impact, with Canadians contributing to more than 300 projects in over 100 countries and territories.

Care and Protection

Type of care provided	2025	2024	2023
SOS family-like care	28,200	31,100	35,200
Supervised independent living	14,500	16,200	19,900
Foster family care	9,700	8,600	6,400
Small group homes	6,200	5,500	3,500
Other forms of alternative care ¹	11,700	3,900	4,000
Overall total*	70,300	65,300	69,000

*Includes direct project participants only.

Family and Community Strengthening

	2025	2024	2023
Family strengthening	516,400	526,400	541,500
Community strengthening	2,083,400	3,651,100	8,300
Overall total*	2,599,900	4,177,500	549,800

*Includes both direct participants and indirect direct beneficiaries, see methodology for additional detail on how indirect beneficiaries are calculated.

Education and Livelihoods

	2025	2024	2023
Early childcare and development	138,100	142,900	30,300
Primary and secondary education	947,900	765,300	174,400
Employment and entrepreneurship	173,600	142,100	34,200
Overall total	1,259,600	1,050,300	238,900

Health

	2025	2024	2023
Health promotion and prevention	48,500	60,100	37,500
Medical care	40,800	53,000	85,400
Mother and child hospital, Somalia ²	0	0	531,000
Overall total	89,000	113,100	654,600

Humanitarian Action

	2025	2024	2023
Number of children and adults reached through humanitarian services	3,826,800	2,268,600	1,385,800

¹ Includes care in transitional settings for unaccompanied minor refugees awaiting legal decision and support to other service providers to improve the quality of their care.

² In 2024 and 2025 the participants reached through the mother and child hospital in Somalia were reclassified as humanitarian program participants rather than medical participant.

Care and Protection

In 2025, SOS Children's Villages Canada provided quality alternative care to 3,351 children who had lost parental or family care, while actively working to reunify children with their families whenever safe and appropriate.

Key project results in 2025

SOS Children's Villages Canada supported 378 alternative care projects across 105 countries in 2025. These projects provide children who have lost parental or family care with access to safe and nurturing support tailored to their unique needs. SOS Children's Villages is committed to ensuring children have access to a range of quality alternative care services depending on their individual circumstances and needs; this can include SOS family-like care, kinship care, foster care, small group homes, short-term care and semi-independent living for youth transitioning out of care.

Output indicator	2023	2024	2025	2026 target
Number of SOS family-like care placements supported through child sponsorship	2,897	2,596	2,909	2,600

Country snapshot	2023	2024	2025	2026 target
Dominican Republic				
SOS family-like care spaces supported	66	84	72	66
Semi-independent living spaces supported	12	12	12	28
Short-term care spaces supported	-	8	16	8
Family reunification cases managed	5	30	58	-
Children and youth provided with alternative care	84	127	137	127
Namibia				
SOS family-like care spaces supported	126	120	84	69
Semi-independent living spaces supported	-	25	15	18
Short-term care spaces supported	-	1	2	-
Family reunification cases managed	12	69	26	21
Children and youth provided with alternative care	166	137	86	69

Key outcomes in 2025

Namibia

Four youth achieved self-reliance* and exited alternative care independently, compared with

15 in 2024 and three in 2023. The 2025 self-reliance rate was 95%, with a target of 100% in 2026.

Dominican Republic

Three youth achieved self-reliance* and exited alternative care independently, compared with one in both 2024 and 2023. The 2025 self-reliance rate was 75%, with a target of 80% in 2026.

*Self-reliance assessment information available in included definitions.

Lessons learned and programmatic adaptations

Namibia

Recruitment of foster families has remained below project targets over the past two years, limiting progress in strengthening family-based alternative care for children without adequate parental care. This challenge may reflect the limited support available to foster families, particularly amid significant cost-of-living pressures. In response, SOS Children's Villages Namibia will continue community-level recruitment and awareness-raising with families and community leaders, while strengthening coordination with government authorities to encourage suitable families to provide foster care.

Dominican Republic

In 2025, 49 children and young people accessed 16 short-term alternative care spaces, demonstrating demand for transitional care while highlighting the increasingly complex needs of participants. The program is now supporting more adolescent girls, including survivors of sexual exploitation, trafficking and violence, as well as young people transferred from other residential settings following protection concerns and Haitian participants facing additional barriers such as language. In response, SOS Children's Villages is adapting the model toward more specialized, trauma-informed care, including the addition of a psychologist, a new trauma-informed care protocol and training for an SOS family facilitator. Further adaptations planned include a male facilitator in 2027 and a dedicated adolescent recreation space.

Family and Community Strengthening

Children thrive when they grow up in safe, stable and supportive families. Yet poverty, violence, displacement, physical and mental health challenges, and other interconnected pressures can put families at risk of breaking down and children at risk of losing the care of their families.

Through our family and community strengthening programming we work with families, communities and local partners to prevent family separation and ensure that families have the support they need to provide for their children. In 2025, SOS Children's Villages Canada supported 3,538 children and parents through our family and community strengthening initiatives, including major initiatives in the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, India, Namibia, Nepal and Somalia.

Key project results in 2025

Los Mina, Dominican Republic:

- SOS Children's Villages social workers conducted 96 family welfare assessments to identify and admit families for direct family strengthening support, compared with 98 in 2024, and nine in 2023. In 2026, 56 assessments are planned.
- 250 positive parenting sessions were delivered to help parents strengthen their parenting skills and adopt positive practices, maintaining the same level of delivery as in 2024 and 2023. The project aims to deliver another 250 sessions in 2026.
- Direct family strengthening support was provided to 68 parents and 108 children, compared to 53 parents and 65 children in 2024, and 66 parents and 81 children in 2023. In 2026, the project aims to reach 32 parents and 39 children.

Keranyo, Ethiopia:

- Two positive parenting workshops reached 54 parents and caregivers, compared with 104 through two workshops in 2024, and 40 through two workshops in 2023. In 2026, we aim to reach 50 parents and caregivers through two workshops.
- Two child safeguarding and protection trainings reached 55 community partners, compared with 25 through one training in 2024, and 50 through two trainings in 2023. We aim to provide two child safeguarding and protection trainings in 2026.
- Direct family strengthening support was provided to 187 parents and caregivers and 205 children, compared with 104 parents and caregivers and 194 children in 2024, and 185 parents and caregivers and 194 children in 2023. In 2026, the project aims to reach 145 parents and caregivers and 150 children.

Ondangwa and Windhoek, Namibia:

- Three positive parenting workshops reached 203 parents and caregivers, compared with six workshops each conducted in 2024 and 2023. In 2026, we aim to reach 375 parents and caregivers through 15 workshops.

- Three active fatherhood sessions were conducted in 2025, compared to two in 2024 and 2023. We aim to provide six active fatherhood trainings in 2026.
- Community family strengthening activities served 377 adults and 585 children compared to 68 adults and 540 children in 2024, and 339 adults and 291 children in 2023. The 2026 target is an ambitious 3,802 participants engaged in various activities including child safeguarding, health, gender-based violence and climate resiliency trainings and workshops.
- In 2026, the project aims to reach 60 families through direct family strengthening programming, a new area of programming for SOS Children's Villages Namibia.

Dhangadhi, Nepal:

- SOS Children's Villages social workers conducted 208 family welfare assessments to identify and admit families for direct family strengthening support, compared with 204 in 2024, and 41 in 2023. In 2026, the project aims to conduct 164 assessments.
- Direct family strengthening support was provided to 84 families, including 247 participants, compared to 83 families with 240 participants in 2024, and 77 families with 248 participants in 2023. In 2026, the project aims to reach 87 families with 269 participants.

Key outcomes in 2025

Dominican Republic

21 families achieved self-reliance*, compared with 19 in 2024. The 2025 self-reliance rate was 95%, with a target of 100% in 2026.

Ethiopia

54 parents (100% women) trained in positive parenting self-reported having improved or greatly improved their capacity to practice positive parenting post training.

Nepal

12 families achieved self-reliance* in 2025, compared with 6 in 2024 and 36 in 2023. The 2025 self-reliance rate was 86%, with a target of 100% in 2026.

*Self-reliance assessment information available in included definitions.

Lessons learned and programmatic adaptations

Dominican Republic

Following policy changes introduced by the national child protection authority (CONANI), children who have been reintegrated with their families following placement in alternative care are no longer eligible for key support services. This can leave families vulnerable during a

critical transition period and increase the risk of renewed family separation. In response, SOS Children's Villages has adapted its approach to provide continued direct family strengthening support after reintegration, while connecting families with available public services. In 2026, SOS Children's Villages aims to support 10 additional reintegrated families through its family strengthening services.

Ethiopia

In 2023, it was recommended to SOS Children's Villages by the local Women's and Social Affairs office to identify local community-based organizations that could partner in efforts to mitigate risks and vulnerabilities of children in the community. As a result, in 2023, 2024 and 2025, partnerships have been established and SOS Children's Villages has provided trainings annually based on the partners' needs for child safeguarding and protection. These partnerships have been helpful to spread awareness amongst leaders in the community on child rights.

Namibia

SOS Children's Villages Namibia observed that strong collaboration with government ministries and local community partners significantly improved child protection. Building on this, SOS Children's Villages Namibia will formalize additional partnerships in 2026 to expand community-based child protection interventions. As part of this effort, the organization plans to establish at least two new community child protection committees and strengthen four existing ones, building community capacity to identify, report, and respond to child protection concerns.

Education and Livelihoods

Globally, 273 million children and young people are out of school (UNESCO, 2026), limiting their opportunities to develop the skills they need to build secure and independent futures. Children and young people who have lost, or are at risk of losing, parental care face even greater barriers to education and often need additional support to successfully transition to independence. At the same time, parents and caregivers – particularly young parents with limited education and skills – can struggle to secure decent employment and stable livelihoods, increasing the risk of family breakdown and separation. SOS Children's Villages invests in education and livelihoods as both a pathway to opportunity for children and youth and a means of strengthening families. SOS Children's Villages runs 880 education and livelihoods projects worldwide, spanning early childhood development, formal education, vocational training and employment support. In 2025, SOS Children's Villages Canada supported major education and livelihoods initiatives in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Somalia (Green Growth and Keranyo), Jamaica and Mexico (YouthRISE), the Dominican Republic, India and Namibia.

Key project results in 2025

SOS Children's Villages Canada supported more than 5,863 children and youth with financial assistance to access education from early child development to post-secondary education.

Ondangwa and Windhoek, Namibia:

- 67 early childcare spaces were provided through one early childhood development centre, compared with 81 spaces in 2024, and 79 spaces in 2023. In 2026, the target is 155 spaces across four centres.
- 41 bursaries for post-secondary education were provided to youth, compared with 55 in 2024, and 40 in 2023. In 2026, the target is 18 bursaries.
- Six start-up capital grants were provided to youth-led businesses, compared with 17 in 2024 and 12 in 2023. In 2026, the target is 15 grants.

Keranyo, Ethiopia:

- 94 early childcare spaces were provided through one community-based early childhood development centre, the same level as in 2024 and 2023. In 2026, the target is 150 spaces.
- 159,900 meals were provided to support the nutrition and healthy development of 205 children, compared with 151,320 meals in 2024 and 2023. In 2026, the target is 151,320 meals.
- 24 start-up capital grants were provided to parents and caregivers to launch small businesses, compared with 10 repayable loans in 2024 and no start-up funding in 2023. In 2026, the target is 25 grants.

YouthRISE (Mexico and Jamaica):

- 20 grants were awarded to support the development and growth of youth-led small businesses in 2025, compared with 13 in 2024. In 2026, the target is 10 grants.
- 108 employment skills training sessions were delivered in 2025, compared with 38 in 2024. In 2026, the target is 118 sessions.

Green Growth (Ethiopia, Rwanda and Somalia):

- Three gender-sensitive labour market assessments were completed.
 - One vocational training curriculum on electric vehicle maintenance was developed in collaboration with the Ethiopian Ministry of Labour and Skills, industry partners and educational institutions. In 2026, the target is 10 additional curricula, and 14 additional curricula by 2027.
 - 71 private-sector partnerships were established to provide internships for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) students in green and emerging sectors. In 2026, the target is 106 private-sector partnerships.
 - 110 internships and job placements were made available to youth. In 2026, the target is 350 opportunities, and 4,900 by 2030.
 - 388 bursaries were awarded to youth for vocational training in green trades. In 2026, the target is 1,723 bursaries, and 5,900 bursaries by 2030.
-

Key outcomes in 2025

- 355 youth* secured employment or started or scaled a small business. In 2026, the target is 2,022 youth.
- 2,148 youth accessed post-secondary education through bursaries.
- 260,100 hours of unpaid childcare were saved by parents through access to our early childcare development centres.

Keranyo, Ethiopia

29/30 participants reported increased income, with 21/30 starting a business and 28/30 reporting greater involvement in household financial decisions. Parents have used these gains to meet basic needs and invest in their children's education.

YouthRISE

57 project graduates secured employment or started a business within six months of completion, while 85 demonstrated increased knowledge, skills and confidence in managing their personal finances. The target for 2026/2027 is 85 project graduates secure employment or start a business, and 128 demonstrate increased knowledge, skills and confidence in managing personal finances.

*Note: The 110 youth who secured employment or started or scaled a small business through the Canadian-funded Green Growth project were not included in the 2025 Annual Report because the data was not available at the time of reporting.

Lessons learned and programmatic adaptations

Academic performance and attainment

Educational assessments across several alternative care projects found that a minority of children are not achieving expected academic outcomes. Previous instability, trauma and gaps in education can create additional barriers to learning for children entering care. In response, projects will expand tutoring and strengthen academic monitoring in 2026, with a goal of achieving an 80% pass rate among children in alternative care.

Keranyo, Ethiopia

While vocational and business training generated strong interest, caregivers identified access to start-up capital as a key barrier to applying their skills and starting businesses. In 2024, the project provided 10 small loans through a local savings and loans cooperative; in 2025, it shifted toward higher-value grants, which participants found more responsive to their needs. Following government consultations confirming that financial services must be delivered through established cooperatives, SOS Children's Villages is finalizing an agreement with a local microloan and grants cooperative, with expanded access to loans and grants planned for November 2026.

YouthRISE

Formally registering a business in Latin America and the Caribbean, including Mexico, remains complex and costly, creating significant barriers for young entrepreneurs from vulnerable circumstances. YouthRISE is therefore supporting young people not only to start and grow businesses, but also to navigate the registration process and understand their rights and protections as entrepreneurs. In 2026, the program will provide a second round of seed capital grants in Mexico to promising youth-led enterprises, alongside legal support to help participants overcome registration barriers and progress toward formalization. For young people working in the informal economy, the program will also promote decent work conditions and key workplace protections, helping ensure that employment and income-generating activities provide greater security and opportunity where formalization is not yet possible.

Partnerships to address barriers

In Somalia, labour market assessments involving local stakeholders identified literacy and numeracy gaps among some participants, particularly young women. In response, SOS Children's Villages connected participants with a complementary World Bank-funded literacy, numeracy and life skills program, creating a pathway into future Green Growth vocational training.

Private-sector partnerships

Establishing formal partnerships with businesses for internships and job placements takes longer than anticipated as some businesses are hesitant to commit to formal agreements. While 71 private-sector partnerships were established for the Green Growth project in 2025, it was learned that moving from interest to formal agreements requires sustained relationship-building and follow-up. In response, the project has allowed more time for partnership development and increased ongoing engagement with interested businesses to support the transition to formal partnerships.

Health

Our physical and mental health has a significant impact on our overall wellbeing. For children and young people, good health is essential to their development, learning and ability to thrive, with poor health potentially having lifelong consequences. When parents and caregivers cannot access the physical and mental health services they need, their ability to care for their children can be compromised, increasing the risk of family separation. Yet 4.6 billion people globally still lack access to essential health services (WHO, 2025). Poverty, displacement, disability, stigma and other challenges can further increase vulnerability to poor physical and mental health outcomes. Children and young people who have lost, or are at risk of losing, parental care may face additional barriers to accessing appropriate health and psychosocial support, while parents and caregivers may lack the services, information and resources they need to support their own health and that of their children.

In response, SOS Children's Villages integrates health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and health promotion into its programs, helping children, young people, parents and caregivers access the services they need, strengthen healthy behaviours and build resilience and wellbeing. In 2025, SOS Children's Villages Canada supported health and health promotion initiatives across its international programming, strengthening access to care and promoting the physical, mental and psychosocial wellbeing of children, young people, families and communities.

Key project results in 2025

Los Mina, Dominican Republic:

- Six community health sessions were conducted on three topics (nutrition, mental health, and preventive health) compared to one in 2024 and none in 2023. In 2026, the target is six health promotion sessions.

Ondangwa and Windhoek, Namibia:

- Nine community health sessions were conducted on three topics (nutrition, water and sanitation, and reproductive health) compared to 10 in 2024 and none in 2023. In 2026, the target is four health promotion sessions.
- 100 mental health counselling sessions for children and caregivers provided, compared with 170 in 2024, and 213 in 2023. In 2026, the target is 83 mental health counselling sessions for parents and caregivers.

Keranyo, Ethiopia:

- 388 child health and nutrition assessments were conducted, compared to 388 in 2024 and 776 in 2023. In 2026, the target is 300 health and nutrition assessments.

- 10 traditional coffee ceremonies engaged parents and caregivers on key child development topics, including health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, family planning, and water and sanitation – maintaining the same level of delivery as in 2024 and 2023. In 2026, the target is 10 coffee ceremonies.

Dangadhi, Nepal:

- One health promotion session was organized for secondary school students on reproductive health, reaching 35 students and maintaining the same level as 2024. In 2026, two reproductive health promotion sessions are planned.
- One community awareness session was hosted on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), reaching 38 participants about essential hygiene practices such as handwashing, safe food handling, using clean drinking water, liquid and solid waste management, and preventive measures against communicable diseases. One session was also provided in 2024. In 2026, two sessions are planned.
- One first aid training was provided, reaching 39 participants and maintaining the same level as 2024. In 2026, two training courses are planned.
- One emergency preparedness training was provided, reaching 47 participants and maintaining the same level as 2024. In 2026, three trainings are planned.

Key outcomes in 2025

- Through our mental health and psychosocial support services we increased access to critical mental health services for 4,861 people. In 2026, we aim to reach 5,000 people.
- We improved access to primary health care services and nutritional assistance for 3,878 people. In 2026, we aim to reach 4,000 people.

Lessons learned and programmatic adaptations

Dominican Republic

SOS Children's Villages Dominican Republic identified increasing health and mental health needs among participants and greater case complexity. This has led to a gradual strengthening of the approach to health and wellbeing. In 2023, there were no dedicated health and wellbeing sessions, while support was introduced in 2024 on a one-off basis through a single session. As the organization recognized the growing need for this type of support, the approach was expanded in 2025 to six sessions throughout the year, delivered by external specialists contracted as needs arose.

Building on this learning, in 2026 the approach has become more structured and proactive. Rather than contracting specialists when needed, SOS Children's Villages Dominican Republic has established an agreement with an external consultant and developed an annual calendar of sessions including topics such as nutrition and mental health. Having the schedule and topics available allows participants and families to plan their attendance, helping increase participation. It also enables social workers to reinforce the topics during regular family visits, creating greater continuity between the group sessions and the individualized support provided to families.

Keranyo, Ethiopia

Routine health assessments have identified a small number of children requiring additional nutritional or specialized support. Maintaining a dedicated budget for food assistance and strong community partnerships has enabled the program to respond to these needs as they arise, including providing specialized support for a child with autism in 2025. This reinforces the value of combining early identification with flexible resources and referral partnerships.

Namibia

A recent community needs assessment identified suicidal ideation as a serious concern among both adolescents and parents and caregivers in the community. Parents and caregivers most often linked their distress to financial strain and the inability to provide for dependents, while adolescents described pressures related to social exclusion, appearance, material possessions, and experiences of abuse. Respondents also raised concerns about peers using binge drinking as a way to cope with poverty-related stress. These findings underscored the need for accessible mental health and psychosocial support for adolescents and caregivers facing overlapping pressures related to poverty, loss, and abuse.

In response, SOS Children's Villages has scaled up mental health and psychosocial support services integrating them into our family and community strengthening and education programs. In 2025, we provided mental health awareness sessions for adolescents and parents and caregivers to increase awareness of mental health, available resources, and warning signs. We also provide training to community stakeholders, teachers, social workers and care workers to increase awareness of mental health and psychosocial first aid.

Humanitarian Assistance

Protecting children in crisis is at the heart of what we do. In an emergency, children are always the most vulnerable. SOS Children's Villages helps children and families in emergencies get the support they need to survive and build resilience for years to come. We specialize in the protection and care of children, working with unaccompanied and separated children, reuniting families, and ensuring children receive the support they need to recover. To protect children and prevent family separation during humanitarian emergencies, our local teams and partners provide life-saving healthcare, nutrition, clean water, shelter, and education to those who need it most. We stepped up our humanitarian efforts in 2025 to aid more than 3.8 million people in crisis across 42 countries and territories and protect children and families against the impacts of extreme conflicts, climate change, and natural disasters.

Key project results in 2025

Mental health and psychosocial support mobile unit, Ukraine:

- SOS Children's Villages supported the operation of a mobile mental health unit in Kharkiv for a 12-month period, providing children and families impacted by the conflict with access to three psychologists and one social worker. The same level was provided in 2024 and planned for 2026.
- 1,523 counseling sessions were provided by the MHPSS unit, compared to 886 in 2024. In 2026, the unit aims to provide 443 sessions.

Colombia emergency response to Venezuela migrant crisis:

- SOS Children's Villages supported two child-friendly spaces, compared with three in 2024 and two in 2023. In 2026, the target is one child-friendly space.
- 6,800 meals were provided to crisis-affected children and parents and caregivers, compared to 7,810 meals in 2024, and 8,400 meals in 2023. In 2026, the target is 6,120 meals.

Hurricane Melissa response, Jamaica:

- Four child-friendly spaces for children affected by hurricane melissa.

Gaza and the West Bank:

- Multi-purpose cash assistance was provided to 11,257 crisis-affected individuals. In 2026, the target is cash assistance for 5,952 crisis-affected individuals.
- Non-food items and protection assistance, including shelter kits, winterization support and food parcels, was provided to 5,014 crisis-affected individuals. In 2026, the target is 2,850 crisis-affected individuals.

- Mental health and psychosocial support, including group, individual and family counselling, psychological first aid and recreational activities, was provided to 21,608 individuals. In 2026, the target is 4,716 individuals.
 - Alternative care was provided to 183 unaccompanied and separated children through kinship and interim family-like care. In 2026, the target is 1,266 children.
 - Education in emergency services, including temporary learning spaces, educational support, mental health and psychosocial support, and teacher capacity building, were provided to 2,490 individuals. In 2026, the target is 1,100 individuals.
 - Emergency shelter and accommodation support was provided to 250 crisis-affected individuals through temporary camps and shelters. In 2026, the target is 290 crisis-affected individuals.
-

Key outcomes in 2025

Kharkiv, Ukraine

93% (3,075 individuals) reported an improvement in their psycho-emotional state following participation in counselling services.

Colombia

774 children had improved access to child protection services through child-friendly spaces. In 2026, the target is 600 children.

Palestine

11,257 crisis-affected individuals were able to cover their food, non-food and WASH needs through cash-based assistance. In 2026, the target is 5,952 crisis-affected individuals.

Lessons learned and programmatic adaptations

Kharkiv, Ukraine

Intensified and ongoing active conflict in Ukraine raised serious concerns for the safety and wellbeing of staff who were working to provide mental health services in areas at risk for active conflict. In response, staff were provided with Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT). Six project specialists participated in the four-day intensive training: three psychologists, a social worker, the mobile team manager, and the project lead. The practical safety program was designed for humanitarian aid workers, NGO staff, and journalists deployed to high-risk, remote, or conflict-affected areas, and covered checkpoint navigation, mine safety, actions during shelling, and first aid theory and practice.

Another key lesson from this project was the need for reliable, alternative power sources to sustain children's access to distance learning. Frequent power outages caused by the conflict were disrupting children's online learning. In response, the mobile health unit began

distributing portable power banks alongside non-food item kits, enabling children to charge tablets and have lighting for virtual lessons. Additionally, EcoFlow portable power stations were procured and installed in child-friendly spaces, ensuring children and staff had continued access to electricity.

Colombia

The project highlighted the significant barriers that children face in accessing education, particularly when migration results in documentation gaps or interrupted schooling. Venezuelan children arriving in Colombia may lack required documentation, including birth certificates, which can create barriers to school enrollment, while periods of migration can also result in children missing significant amounts of schooling. In response, SOS Children's Villages Colombia is strengthening advocacy with government authorities and schools to promote inclusive access to education and ensure that documentation or migration status does not prevent children from their right to education. At the same time, child-friendly spaces have expanded their educational support, including math and language classes, helping children address learning gaps and maintain continuity of learning while they transition into or back into the formal education system.

Definitions

SOS family-like care

Family-like care provides individualized care and promotes the development, education and health of each child and young person. Girls and boys of different ages live together in small groups resembling a family. Care is provided by a full-time, trained SOS parent/caregiver with the support of social workers and councilors.

Semi-independent living

An alternative care service designed for young people in transition from a formal care setting to independent life in the community. Support and setting can take different forms according to the needs and circumstances of the young person and gradually decrease with the young person's increasing maturity and autonomy.

Short-term care

Places of safety in situations when a child or young person is separated from or needs to be removed, at short notice, from the care of their family. They are cared for by child and youth care practitioners. This is a temporary arrangement while the causes of family separation are assessed and addressed.

Self-reliance

SOS Children's Villages uses self-reliance as an indicator to assess the ability of an alternative care participant or family in direct family strengthening services to sustainably meet their needs once project support ends. Participants are considered self-reliant when they are assessed by social workers to meet the following criteria:

- **Economic capacity:** ability to meet basic needs through sustainable livelihoods and access to financial resources;
- **Care and protection:** ability to provide a safe and stable environment, including safe shelter and access to protection services, for families, especially children and women.
- **Food security and nutrition:** ability to access sufficient, safe, and nutritious food, and sustain food security over time.
- **Access to health and education services:** ability to ensure continued access to essential health, education, and developmental opportunities.
- **Social inclusion and emotional wellbeing:** strengthened relationships, confidence, mental health, access to social networks and social inclusion.
- **Resilience and risk management:** ability to anticipate, manage, and recover from challenges.

Child-friendly space

Safe, structured, and nurturing environment set up during crises – such as natural disasters, wars, or displacement – where affected children can play, learn, socialize, and receive vital psychosocial support. These temporary centres help restore routine and protect children from harm.

Methodology

What we mean when we say “people reached”

The figures presented in our global reach data represent the combined total of people reached directly (participants) and, in certain programs (family and community strengthening, education, and humanitarian assistance) people reached indirectly (or “indirect beneficiaries”).

A participant is defined as everyone who receives direct services provided by SOS Children’s Villages and/or partners. Partners are individuals, organizations and other stakeholders working in collaboration with SOS Children’s Villages to fulfill the needs of our participants by providing services within the scope of a project.

Indirect beneficiaries are children, young people and adults who do not receive support personally but still indirectly benefit from services provided by SOS Children’s Villages or its implementing partners.

People reached directly

People reached directly are children, young people and adults who personally received support services from SOS Children’s Villages or its implementing partners.

People reached directly may include, for example:

- Children living in an SOS Village (family-like care)
- Young people in supervised independent living arrangements
- Young people receiving employment training
- Members of households receiving counselling
- Parents, caregivers or community members participating in awareness-raising events or training workshops
- Members of households receiving cash, voucher or non-food assistance

Implementing partners are defined as individuals, groups or organizations working with SOS Children’s Villages to provide services within the scope of a specific project. The collaboration is based on a partnership agreement outlining each partner’s role. A formal agreement is required for partnerships with organizations and recommended for all other partnerships. Implementing partners may include community groups, community-based organizations, civil society organizations, national or international non-governmental organizations, or governments.

People reached indirectly

People reached indirectly are children, young people and adults who do not receive support personally but still indirectly benefit from services provided by SOS Children’s Villages or its implementing partners.

People reached indirectly may include, for example:

- The household members of a young person receiving employment training

- The household members of a parent taking part in a workshop
- The household members of a child enrolled in kindergarten

We calculate the numbers of people reached indirectly only for our community strengthening and education programs.

To estimate the number of people reached indirectly, we multiply the number of people reached directly by the average household size in the country or area (or, where national or local data is unavailable, the global average household size) and then subtract the number of people reached directly.