



2021



JAN 2021

Thanks to the generous support of donors, Médecins Sans Frontières can provide independent medical humanitarian assistance to people living in extreme circumstances. Our teams are made up of tens of thousands of health professionals, logistic and administrative staff. Our actions are guided by medical ethics and the principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality.

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- **January 1st:** National Public Holiday
- **January 26th:** National Public Holiday



FEB 2021

South Sudan

The Médecins Sans Frontières hospital in Agok is the only healthcare facility providing secondary-level care in the entire Abyei region of South Sudan. A lack of specialised care in the surrounding states means patients must travel very long distances to get to Agok hospital, with some walking for up to 10 hours.

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February 8th: TAS Public Holiday



MAR 2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

A Médecins Sans Frontières mental health supervisor participates in a theatre and dance performance, together with a group of displaced women, outside of Mweso school — which has been turned into an internally displaced persons camp. Médecins Sans Frontières’ mental healthcare aims primarily to reduce people’s symptoms and improve their ability to function, with work often done by specially trained counsellors from the local community.

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March 1st: WA Public Holiday

March 8th: ACT, SA, VIC & WA Public Holiday

March 8th: International Women’s Day

March 25th: World Tuberculosis Day



APR 2021

Mediterranean Sea

On board the Ocean Viking, Médecins Sans Frontières' project coordinator prepares a rescued person for disembarkation in Malta. After nearly two weeks stranded at sea, 356 men, women and children on board the Ocean Viking were granted a place of safety. Médecins Sans Frontières is now working aboard Sea-Watch 4 in partnership with Sea Watch.

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- **April 2nd:** National Public Holiday
- **April 4th:** National Public Holiday
- **April 5th:** National Public Holiday
- **April 25th:** National Public Holiday
- **April 26th:** National Public Holiday * except NSW, TAS & VIC



MAY 2021

Afghanistan

Zakia has just given birth to twins, Abbas and Qasim, in the Médecins Sans Frontières maternity ward at Dasht-e-Barchi hospital in Kabul. Abbas, who came first, is also the smallest; he was hypoglycemic at birth and was placed in the incubator for a few hours. On 15 June 2020, a month after the targeted attack on the hospital that claimed 24 lives, Médecins Sans Frontières sadly announced its withdrawal from Dasht-e-Barchi due to ongoing insecurity and the risk of further targeted violence towards our patients and staff.

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- May 3rd:** NT & QLD Public Holiday
- May 5th:** International Midwives Day
- May 9th:** Mother's Day
- May 12th:** International Nurses Day
- May 31st:** ACT Public Holiday



JUN 2021

Mediterranean Sea

Every year, thousands of people fleeing war, persecution and poverty attempt the treacherous journey across the Mediterranean. Médecins Sans Frontières is working in search and rescue in the Central Mediterranean Sea and our on-board medical team treats violence-related injuries resulting from time in detention, torture and other ill-treatment, including sexual violence.

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- June 7th:** WA Public Holiday
- June 14th:** National Public Holiday * except QLD & WA
- June 20th:** Refugee Day
- June 24th:** World Blood Donor Day



JUL 2021

Tajikstan

As part of Médecins Sans Frontières’ holistic approach to care, our psychosocial care team supports patients with play therapy. Play therapy can be a way for patients to engage in a positive atmosphere providing them with emotional support, as well as to improve their education and development of motor skills as they grow.

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July 28th: World Hepatitis Day



AUG 2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

Two staff travel by motorbike and boat to reach health posts supported by Médecins Sans Frontières during a recent measles outbreak. Médecins Sans Frontières responds to the ongoing threat of measles epidemics by conducting mass vaccination campaigns for vulnerable children and providing routine vaccination as part of paediatric care, both in emergency settings and in areas where government immunisation systems do not function. During outbreaks we also provide supportive care for infected children, to prevent complications from becoming fatal.

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■ August 2nd: NT Public Holiday

■ August 19th: World Humanitarian Week



SEP 2021

Sierra Leone

The country has some of the highest rates of death among children under five years, and women due to pregnancy or childbirth. In Kenema District, Médecins Sans Frontières aims to reduce child deaths by expanding hospital care for newborns and young children, providing support to local community health centres with training, medical supply and infrastructure improvements, connecting with outlying communities via health promotion teams, and investing in capacity-building of nurses and midwives.

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- **September 05th:** Father's Day
- **September 10th:** World Suicide Prevention Day
- **September 27th:** WA Public Holiday



OCT 2021

Greece

The lack of safe, legal pathways for people forced to flee their homes and leave their country is painfully apparent. On the Greek mainland, thousands of migrants live in camps or in temporary accommodation. Médecins Sans Frontières psychologists are working to care for people suffering from mental health issues, including depression and, anxiety, and to rehabilitate survivors of torture.

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- October 4th:** ACT, NSW, QLD & SA Public Holiday
- October 10th:** World Mental Health Day
- October 15th:** World Handwashing Day
- October 24th:** World Polio Day



NOV 2021

Mexico

Médecins Sans Frontières runs a psychosocial and mental health care project to help survivors of sexual violence. Our social psychologists and health promoters also evaluate local needs and carry out community activities, including education on prevention and detection of sexual violence

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- November 1st:** TAS Public Holiday
- November 2nd:** VIC Public Holiday
- November 25th:** International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women



DEC 2021

Malawi

In Malawi the HIV prevalence is over 10 percent among people aged 15 to 64, one of the highest in the world. Médecins Sans Frontières is working to reduce mortality from HIV by facilitating earlier treatment and more advanced care, particularly for women, adolescents, and other vulnerable groups. We are achieving this through services such as decentralised outpatient clinics, ‘teen clubs’ for adolescents, point-of-care tests, counselling and inpatient care.

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- **December 1st:** World AIDS Day
- **December 25th:** National Public Holiday
- **December 26th:** National Public Holiday
- **December 27th:** National Public Holiday
- **December 28th:** National Public Holiday

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The coming year will see our team responding to new emergencies, while continuing to meet the urgent and ongoing medical needs of people living in extremely challenging conditions. **Your support makes all the difference. We simply couldn't do it without you.**

