



Run for Congo Women

Fundraising

Be brave. Be courageous. Make your first ask to sponsor a Congolese woman for a year. It only costs \$27 a month + a \$30 initiation fee. In a country without infrastructure, for a woman suffering from debilitating war trauma who has no other resources, the healing, business skills, and seed money to start a business received through sponsorship frequently and literally translate to lives saved among the woman and her remaining children. All funds (100%) go directly to Women for Women International's Congo program.

Why sponsor a Congolese woman? Since 1998, savage gang rape, torture, sexual slavery, and being forced to watch family members and neighbors being brutally murdered have been daily realities for Congolese women. Those who survive often require surgery to heal the physical damage and are abandoned by their husbands and community. Without means to support their own remaining children, 40% of the women we support have taken in orphans – a testament to their courage, immense compassion and character. These women have no other resources, which adds to the staggering death toll among children under 5 (6 out of 10 children die before the age of 5).

What a sponsored woman receives. In a country without infrastructure, a one-year sponsorship provides \$10/month in cash, healing group work with other women with similar experiences, women's rights and business skills training, and \$60 in seed money to start a business. That often literally translates to lives saved among the woman, her surviving children & orphans she has taken in.

The sponsorship program. The program is run by Women for Women International, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that assists heavily war-affected women to rebuild their lives. Rated a 4-star charity by Charity Navigator, Women for Women received the 2006 Conrad N. Hilton Award, equivalent to a Nobel Prize for non-profits.

Writing to your sister. Your letters are an emotional lifeline to your sister. You cannot know how much it means to a woman who has been made to feel completely worthless to know that someone half a world away cares whether she lives or dies. Women for Women will send instructions on writing your sister. Females need to sign letters to sisters.

Cost. Sponsorship costs only \$27 a month for one year, payable in monthly payments on your debit or credit card, with a \$30 fee paid at sign-up. Monthly payments begin after your sister is assigned. You can also pay by lump sum of \$354 for an entire year.

Tax Deduction: All donations are fully tax deductible. You will receive a tax deduction letter from Women for Women International in late January with the total contribution you have made during the previous tax year

Male sponsors. Due to strong cultural taboos, a man cannot sponsor a Congolese woman without also listing a woman co-sponsor, and the woman co-sponsor's name must be listed first. Single male donors can make a donation which will support men's education on women's rights and role in rebuilding society..

SPECIAL NOTE: If your donors mail in their own checks or sign up online, strongly urge them to do so by a certain date and to contact you as soon as they have done so. Set a date by which you will collect your pledges, let them know what it is, and call to follow up with all donors if you have not heard from them. Please send in your collected pledges promptly.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the women & children's lives you are saving.

How to sign up for sponsorships or donations:

Check or Credit: You may sign up for sponsorship or make a flat donation using the attached paper form. Make check payable to Women for Women International, and enter RUN FOR CONGO WOMEN in the memo line of your check. Mail to address provided at bottom of this page

Online sponsorships: Fill out the form at the web address provided below, being certain to:

- Select 'DEM. REPUBLIC OF CONGO' in *all 3 country choices*; and
- Write RUN FOR CONGO WOMEN in the "If referred..." line at bottom of form.
<https://secure.entango.com/donate/E5ibVyNjRpV?wfw=runcongo07web>

Online donations: Fill out the form at the web address provided below, being certain to:

- Select 'DEM. REPUBLIC OF CONGO' under Program choice and
- "Write RUN FOR CONGO WOMEN in the "If referred..." line at bottom of form.
<https://secure.entango.com/donate/kFgy9aTiESF?wfw=runcongo07web>



RUN FOR CONGO WOMEN

**DONATION / SPONSORSHIP SIGN-UP FORM
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ (h) _____ (c)

Email Address: _____

SPONSORSHIP/DONATION OPTIONS:

____ Please sign me up for a one year sponsorship of a Congolese woman with Women for Women International.
(\$354)

____ I would like to make a one time donation of \$_____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

____ Attached is my check for \$_____ (I will make monthly payments of \$27/month if only paying initiation fee now.)

____ Women for Women International may charge my credit/debit card (Circle):

*If paying by credit card, name & address must match your billing information

MC /VISA /AMEX/Discover _____ / _____ Exp Date

Please specify amount:

____ \$30 fee + \$27/monthly charged for 12 months / ____ \$354 Annual Sponsorship / \$_____ one time Donation

SIGNATURE: _____

MAIL COMPLETED FORM BELOW, WITH CHECK(S) TO:
Women for Women International
Attn: Run for Congo Women
4455 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington DC 20008