

Without these funds, we simply cannot meet the costs of staffing, safeguarding, development work, fundraising and governance. Ultimately, that means the heart of Mothers' Union being torn out by the ravages of COVID-19, so I am asking for your help.

If you are able, and please, only if you are able – could I ask you to make a donation so that we will still be here after the crisis has passed?

Tragically, quarantine, self-isolation and staying at home are putting vulnerable people at risk of other dangers. **Home is not always a safe place to be, for victims of domestic abuse, or children in families living on the breadline.** Crowded in flats and houses, in a state of prolonged tension, the threats to their safety are especially serious, and relationships everywhere are under pressure.

These are areas where, inspired by faith, Mothers' Union members have always been strong, leading the way in supporting those in need.

But by the end of 2020, the £1m gap means Mary Sumner House, the core of Mothers' Union, may simply not be there to provide support to our movement.

I'm sure you feel, as I do, that we must ensure Mothers' Union can continue to serve God and show God's love, just as we have done for almost 150 years.

As Paul taught the Corinthians: *'Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.'* – 2 Corinthians 8:10-11.

I also know that some of you and your loved ones are yourselves affected by this virus, or are concerned about unique challenges to your own day-to-day life. So please only support this appeal if you really feel you can.

In challenging times like these, I draw on my faith for strength, and I encourage you also to remain full of Hope, Confidence, Strength and Love. Whether you have loved ones with you at home or not, you don't pray alone, because we all pray together as a worldwide family.

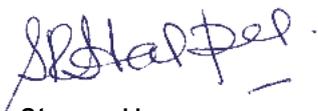
Online, we are streaming midday prayers on our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/MothersUnion

There are more online resources to help through periods of isolation at www.mothersunion.org

Please, if you can, give a gift to this Urgent Appeal, and if you choose you can send a prayer of your own along with your donation. With your help, we shall continue to bring God's love to those who need us most. Thank you, and remember not to be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Yours in Christian love,



Sheran Harper

Worldwide President

PS. Because this Urgent Appeal must take precedence, we are withdrawing the Summer of Hope Appeal and the Christmas Raffle this year. I pray that, strong in our faith together, we can continue the work that Mary Sumner began, both during this crisis and when the worst has passed, and serve our loving Lord into the future.

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URGENT APPEAL
Coronavirus: a difficult ask

Please use this space to leave a prayer or message of strength with your donation
