

# ISLAMIC RELIEF USA CHILDREN IN NEED PROJECTS: SUMMARY

In a world full of upheaval, children are the most vulnerable community members—vulnerable to hunger, to illness, to deprivation and to exploitation. Children are disproportionately affected by many illnesses, and in some countries, as many as 1 in 10 die before their fifth birthday. Around the world, 153 million children are orphans, and often they are the most vulnerable of all. To make matters worse, for many children suffering deprivation, school is often a luxury—and many times, that keeps them from ever breaking free of the cycle of poverty.

Improving children's daily lives by safe-guarding them against illness; providing them with educational opportunities; and by giving them access to proper nutrition, water and sanitation services, can also provide a cushion that would help alleviate suffering in emergency situations. Perhaps most important, those basic resources can provide a world of hope to children—including orphans—for a brighter future. The primary focus of this group of IRUSA projects are the children who need our help the most.

## SUMMARY OF COMPLETED IRUSA CHILDREN IN NEED PROJECTS SINCE 2009

- WIDOWS AND ORPHANS INTEGRATED PROJECT IN BLUE NILE, SUDAN
- LIVELIHOOD AND CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENT IN ETHIOPIA
- ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTH AFRICA
- ASSISTING ORPHANS THROUGH EDUCATION IN AFGHANISTAN
- STRENGTHENING CHILD PSYCHOSOCIAL RESILIENCE IN GAZA
- DROP OF HOPE: PROVISION OF DRINKABLE WATER FOR RURAL SCHOOLS IN TUNISIA
- TO EDUCATE A LEADER IN SOUTH AFRICA
- RIGHT START EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN GAZA
- INTERVENTION TO SUPPORT ORPHANED CHILDREN IN GAZA
- YOU MATTER TO ME: ORPHAN SUPPORT IN TUNISIA
- ORPHAN FAMILY SPONSORSHIP THROUGH SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN BANGLADESH
- EMERGENCY PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AND EDUCATION FOR DISPLACED CHILDREN IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
- PROTECTION OF SYRIAN CHILDREN IN LEBANON, PHASE I
- PROMOTING HEALTH SERVICES TO PREMATURE BABIES AT AL AHLI HOSPITAL IN PALESTINE (WEST BANK)
- LIVELIHOOD AND CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENT IN ETHIOPIA
- ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN IN SOUTH AFRICA
- IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOOD OF YOUTH IN GAZA: JOB PLACEMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS IN PALESTINE, PHASE I
- HOUSE REHABILITATION FOR ORPHAN FAMILIES IN PALESTINE
- STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS TO IMPROVE MATERNAL, NEONATAL, AND CHILD HEALTH IN KENYA
- SMALL GRANTS FOR THE CHILDREN OF WAR IN CHECHNYA
- PROVISION OF QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ORPHANS IN AFGHANISTAN (PHASES I AND II)
- EMERGENCY SCHOOL MEALS IN GAZA, PALESTINE
- ENHANCING EDUCATION AMONG DADAAB REFUGEE CHILDREN THROUGH INFORMAL SCHOOLS IN KENYA
- BAKERY FOR ORPHAN HOUSEHOLDS IN CHECHNYA
- HELP POOR STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL IN PALESTINE

- PROVIDING ADEQUATE EDUCATION IN THE WEST BANK, PALESTINE
- EARLY INTERVENTION AND REHABILITATION CENTER FOR DISABLED CHILDREN IN EGYPT
- AL-ASKAR SCHOOL EXTENSION PROJECT IN PALESTINE
- PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT IN PALESTINE
- ESTABLISHMENT OF NEONATAL AND PEDIATRIC ICU IN PAKISTAN
- AZHAR AKKAR EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP IN LEBANON
- SUPPORTING SCHOOL FEEDING IN JORDAN
- SCHOOL AND SHELTER REHABILITATION IN HAITI
- PLAYGROUND FOR THE GVARDEYSKO ORPHANAGE IN CHECHNYA
- SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD THROUGH VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR ORPHANS IN AFGHANISTAN
- SCHOOL MEALS FOR STUDENTS IN GAZA, PALESTINE
- CHILD FRIENDLY VILLAGE IN MALI
- LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO ORPHAN FAMILIES IN CHECHNYA
- ONE-TO-ONE ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP

# IRUSA CURRENT PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

## PROTECTION OF SYRIAN CHILDREN, PHASE II

## AUGUST 2015 - FEBRUARY 2017

LOCATION: Lebanon

This project aims to improve access to both education and psychosocial support for Syrian refugee children and youth.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

- 350 schoolchildren will receive school supplies, uniforms and psychosocial support
- 3 classrooms will be rehabilitated, furnished and equipped
- 650 children will receive psychosocial support in Bekaa informal settlements
- 250 parents will take part in mental health awareness sessions in Bekaa settlements
- 250 Syrian refugee youth and parents will take part in mental health awareness sessions in Saida
- 30 Syrian youth will receive one-on-one psychiatric care
- 13 Syrian and Lebanese volunteers will be trained in psychosocial activities and mental health issues.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:**

- 13 Syrian and Lebanese volunteers are being trained in psychosocial activities and mental health issues
- 3 classrooms have been rehabilitated, furnished and equipped
- 256 students have been assisted with uniforms, books and supplies
- 210 students have completed the psyhcosocial support cycle
- 353 parents in Bekaa registered for mental health awareness sessions and action plan completed
- 230 youth and parents/caregivers in Saida registered for mental health awareness sessions and action plan completed
- 3 Syrian youths referred for one-on-one psychological care
- 210 children in Bekaa informal settlements completed the psychosocial support cycle

## IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOODS OF YOUTH: JOB PLACEMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS, PHASE II

## SEPT. 2015 - MARCH 2017

LOCATION: Gaza. Palestine

This project aims to facilitate livelihood opportunities and access to virtual jobs for youth.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- 135 of 150 enrolled youth (90%) will graduate from program, and 81 (60%) will be placed into internships or jobs within 6 months of graduation
- 5 university partnerships will be created to implement "Finding a Job Is a Job" training, and 15 professors and administrators will be trained
- 600 university students will complete "Finding a Job Is a Job" training
- 6 alumni events held to facilitate networking for graduates

## CONSTRUCTION OF ONCOLOGY WARD FOR NELSON MANDELA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

## **APRIL 2014 - MAY 2017**

LOCATION: South Africa

This project will help construct a complete oncology ward in Johannesburg as part of the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital to improve the treatment of cancer in children in Gautend province.

### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

To construct an oncology ward with the following:

- 6 beds
- An outpatient unit that has room for 6 patients
- Assist an estimated 72 children annually
- The ward will cater to children exclusively and will be child-centered in its approach

### **ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:**

- Structural work is nearing completion
- Oncology center outpatient and inpatient sections are completed and only awaiting commissioning.
- Lounge area is under construction
- The walls of the "cage" where the advanced radiology equipment will be fitted is lined with aluminium and cooper sheets and the wall left open from the outside to allow for access when the equipment is to be delivered. Due to this construction of the wall may only be completed after the expected date of the handover
- Water and Sewer connections are in progress

## ALTERNATIVE ORPHAN FAMILY SPONSORSHIP THROUGH SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

## MARCH 2015 - MARCH 2019

LOCATION: Lalmonirhat, Bangladesh

This project seeks to pilot an alternative approach to the one-to-one sponsorship program to ensure children and their guardians, including widows, are able to graduate from the sponsorship program within 4 years. This will be achieved through through integrated sustainable livelihood approaches while ensuring access to education and protection.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- Enhance wellbeing of orphans, including survival, protection, participation, mobilization and healthy development to continue their education
- Improve the status of the orphan families and livelihood through economic productivity, income, asset, food accessibility and consumption, and improved living status of 700 orphan and widow households
- Increased community awareness and established community organization linkage with local government institutions for establishing social dignity through participation and social inclusion

## **ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:**

- 650 orphan households were selected, where 910 children are orphans.
- Opened 650 individual bank accounts
- 600 beneficiaries identified for literacy and numeracy education
- 910 orphan children enrolled in formal school; among the children, 91 were totally out of school and most of the children were irregular in school

## THIS PROJECT HAS BENEFITED 1,560 PEOPLE TO DATE.

## TO EDUCATE A LEADER

## NOV. 2015 - NOV. 2019

Location: Western Cape, Cape Town, and Manenberg, South Africa

This project aims to facilitate free education for 200 vulnerable high school students in a safe, productive environment.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

To facilitate free education for high school students in a safe, productive environment via the following activities:

- Payment of teachers' salaries
- Payment for needed school repairs
- Provision of uniforms, supplies and text books
- Extracurricular activities for students

### THIS PROJECT WILL HELP AN ESTIMATED 200 STUDENTS.

## ASSISTING ORPHANS THROUGH EDUCATION IN AFGHANISTAN

NOV. 2015 - NOV. 2017

LOCATION: Jalalabad & Bamyan Province

This project aims to provide quality education to orphans in Nangarhar and Bamyan provinces.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

To facilitate quality education for 658 orphans.

#### **KEY DELIVERABLES:**

- Provide quality education to 658 orphans
- Provide students with school uniforms, bags and other required supplies and learning materials
- Repair classrooms
- Provide recreational activities for children
- Provide child rights awareness sessions to orphans' families, project staff, and department of labor and social affairs

### THIS PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO HELP 658 ORPHANS.

## STRENGTHENING CHILD PSYCHOSOCIAL RESILIENCE IN GAZA

JAN. 2015 - JULY 2016

LOCATION: Gaza

This project aims to strengthen the psychosocial coping capacities of children and families affected by the summer 2014 hostilities and the ongoing protracted humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

- At least 504 children between 6 and 15 years old attending UNRWA schools will receive psychosocial support
  to enhance their ability to cope with their situation and their experiences during recent hostilities. The majority of
  these children are expected to be children who now have disabilities after the recent conflict and are in need of
  comprehensive support.
- 42 UNRWA school counselors and 4 supervisors will improve their capacity to work with children, particularly those with disabilities, from a holistic and person-centered approach based on the principles of case management.

## **INTERIM ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- In northern Gaza areas of Beit Hanoun and Jabalia, 357 children (214 boys and 143 girls, including 47 disabled children) received psychosocial support. The majority are showing signs of recovery, but still would need additional psychological rehabilitation.
- 101 students from Gaza area, including 95 injured (68 boys and 27 girls, including 3 disabled boys and 3 disabled girls), received counseling through 275 individual counselling sessions and 63 home visits.
- In the southern Gaza Strip areas of Khan Younes and Rafah, 72 children (49 boys and 23 girls, including 64 injured children and 8 disabled children) received psychosocial support to develop psychosocial resilience.
- 38 injured school children (13 girls and 25 boys) in the middle areas of Nusairat, Bureij and Deir Al Balah received psychosocial support through 383 individual sessions and 35 home visits. 3 out of 38 children had become physically disabled as a result of the 2014 hostilities.
- 850 meetings with parents and 811 meetings with teachers were held by the 42 counsellors to assist them in addressing the psychosocial needs of their children/students.
- Currently recruiting a Psychosocial Training Consultant who will develop a comprehensive and integrated training
  package and practice guidelines, primarily for counselors supporting children who have been affected or sustained
  war-related injuries. The training is intended to provide counselors with the knowledge and skills necessary to
  support the psychosocial needs of these children and their families.

## THIS PROJECT IS HAS HELPED 610 CHILDREN TO DATE.

## DROP OF HOPE: PROVISION OF DRINKABLE WATER FOR RURAL SCHOOLS IN TUNISIA

## JAN. 2015 - MARCH 2016

LOCATION: Jandouba, Beja, Sidi Bouzid, Bizert, Gabes, Siliana, Kef, Gafsa, Kasserine, Kairouan This project aims to increase access to drinking water to 20,000 students in disadvantaged rural areas.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- 110 Water tanks installed to be functional within 110 schools in 11 governorates
- 40 sanitation blocks maintained in 40 selected schools
- Water sources management training and hygiene promotion sessions provided for further effectiveness

## THIS PROJECT WILL HELP AN ESTIMATED 20,000 PEOPLE.

## RIGHT START EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## MAY 2015 - MAY 2016

LOCATION: Gaza, Palestine

This project aims to improve the quality of early childhood care, education and development for preschool children in Gaza.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

- Equip and renovate 10 preschools in Gaza (9 schools will be renovated, 1 destroyed school will be completely rebuilt)
- 50 teachers and head teachers in early childhood development will be provided with training and mentoring. Topics include early child development, active learning, positive discipline, child heatlh, protection, and nutrition.
- 1,500 children will benefit from summer camps that will incorporate sports, play, reading, and health

## **INTERIM ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- 5 preschools renovated and equipped with supplies including learning materials and toys
- 34 teachers and head teachers trained and mentored
- More than 500 caregivers provided with 3 positive parenting sessions
- "Hayya Naqra" ("Let's Read") materials developed and distribution of 1,500 packs have begun for children to take home and enjoy

THIS PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO HELP 3,050 PEOPLE. 1,309 PEOPLE HAVE BENEFITED TO DATE.

## INTERVENTION TO SUPPORT ORPHANED CHILDREN IN GAZA

## JUNE 2015 - SEPT. 2016

LOCATION: Gaza, Palestine

This project aims to facilitate a decent standard of living for children orphaned by the summer 2014 hostilities

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

Provide 1,000 children orphaned by the summer 2014 hostilities with the following: A monthly allowance for 12 months (equivalent of \$50)

- Clothing
- Recreational activities
- Monthly awareness sessions for orphan custodians on how to manage the physical and mental needs of children (96 monthly awareness sessions across all 5 Gaza governorates)
- Vocational training support for 100 orphans over 16 years of age. This will include a 6 month course for men and women at the Gaza Technical and Vocational Training Centers in Gaza City and Khan Younis. Course include hair dressing, child development, photography, electric and washing machine maintenance.

### **INTERIM ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- 8 community development social workers recuited in Jabalia, Gaza City, Middle Gaza, Khan Younis, and Rafah
- 385 home visits conducted to assess family needs
- Support provided to families through psychosocial counselling, legal, academic and health consultations
- 18 nongovernmental and community-based organizations visited to establish referral pathways
- 1,000 orphans receive \$300 per month cash assistance via bank transfers
- 13 mental health awareness sessions conducted for 377 orphaned children's mothers and relatives

# THIS PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO HELP 3,880 PEOPLE (ORPHANS AND GUARDIANS). 1,377 PEOPLE HELPED TO DATE.

## YOU MATTER TO ME: ORPHAN SUPPORT IN TUNISIA

JUNE 2015 - AUG. 2016

LOCATION: Mednine and Tatouine

This project aims to support orphans and widows through diverse support mechanisms.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Provide orphans and widows with the following:

- Bikes and protective gear to 100 orphans to facilitate transportation to school
- Bags, uniforms, school supplies for 300 orphans
- Hygiene kits to 300 orphans, rehabilitate 10 latrine blocks in schools, form 10 hygiene clubs and child hygiene training for 100 teachers, provide first aid kits to schools
- Eid clothing and shoes for Eid al Fitr
- Scout camp to help improve children's psychology and teach good citizenship through play and fun activities
- Business plan training and the distribution of assets needed to start small businesses for 50 widows

## **INTERIM ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- 300 orphans provided with school bags and equipment, eid clothing, and participation in cultural and educational camps that included hygiene promotion activities and distribution of hygiene kits
- 100 bikes distributed to orphans
- 50 orphans' guardians (widows) are being provided with vocational training and small business development
- 3 bathrooms rehabilitated in elementary schools and 1 bathroom constructed in elementary school in Mednine

## THIS PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO HELP 350 PEOPLE. 300 ORPHANS HAVE BENEFITED TO DATE.

## ONE-TO-ONE ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP

LOCATION: Various locations in Palestine (Orphans may be refugees in neighboring countries depending on need) This project aims to connect caring donors to orphans in need. Donors help provide the financial support necessary to help meet the child's basic needs including: food, clothing, medical care, shelter, school supplies, and education.

## DONORS CAN SPONSOR ORPHANS IN THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

AFGHANISTAN ALBANIA BANGLADESH BOSNIA CHECHNYA ETHIOPIA INDIA INDONESIA JORDAN KENYA KOSOVA LEBANON MALI NIGER PAKISTAN
PALESTINE \*
SOMALIA \*
SOUTH AFRICA
SRI LANKA
WHERE MOST NEEDED (ANY OF ABOVE)

(\*ORPHANS MAY BE REFUGEES IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES DEPENDING ON NEED)