



Dear friends,

Caritas Jerusalem endeavours to enrich the lives of the Palestinians in the Holy Land. We constantly strive to upgrade and improve our services on the ground in order to serve our community in the best way possible.

Regardless of the hardships we remain steadfast in our mission- we aim for sustainable development and improvement in the fields of health, social welfare, food security, livelihoods and youth development.

Fr. Raed Abusahlia
General Director
Caritas Jerusalem

*The Case of Ali is the Case of
Thousands of Children in Gaza*



Ezbet Beit Hanoun is one of the most marginalized and poorest areas in the Gaza Strip. It is located north of the Gaza Strip very close to Erez crossing where the majority of its residents work as farmers and shepherds.

Many of the houses and lands in Ezbet Beit Hanoun were destroyed by recent wars and the vast majority of the population lives below the poverty line. The area is densely populated and it is not uncommon for families of 14 to 15 members to share the same room.



Ali is a 6 year old boy from Ezbet Beit Hanoun; his families of 8 members live in a small two-roomed house. His father has a donkey and cart and works in moving rubble of the destroyed houses from one place to another.

Ali's mother registered her son in the de-worming program and brought his specimen for analysis. The lab technician was shocked to find that Ali had 3 different worms: Entameba histolytica cyst, Entrobilus vermicularis, and Hymenolepis Nana which is very dangerous and rare in Gaza.



Caritas Jerusalem's medical staff visited the family in order to find out the reasons of this high infestation level. They found that the donkey lives in a room with the family! When they asked the reason, his father replied rapidly "It will get stolen outside. The donkey is the only source of our income; without it we would starve to death."

Caritas medical team provided the whole family with medicines in order to prevent them from getting infected by the same worms. They gave Ali the necessary medicines and explained to his mother how to administer them.

After the follow up examinations at Caritas Gaza Medical Center, the result was negative for Entameba histolytica cyst, Entrobilus vermicularis and Hymenolepis Nana. This is good news for Ali. However his specimen tested positive for Gardia Cyst, a different infection to what was first discovered but not as dangerous. He was treated for this infection as well and further tests are due to make sure that Ali is completely cured.

The story of this one little boy is typical of the children who live in Ezbet Beit Hanoun where the Trocaire-funded de-worming program was implemented. Some of the children that we treated will be re-infected, but by de-worming them now we give them a chance to grow, to become strong, and for their brains to develop during these crucial early years.



Solving the underlying problems of abject poverty, raw sewage, and poor nutrition needs peace in the region, open borders and strong government, all of which we hope for.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Trocaire for funding this essential intervention in Gaza; through their support we were able to cure more than 3,700 people from intestinal parasites.

Celebrating the International Day of Older Persons in nature

A quote from Pope Francis:

“In the west, scholars present the current century as ‘the century of old age’: there are fewer children and an increase in elderly people. This imbalance is a great challenge to contemporary society. And yet, a certain culture of profit insists on making the elderly appear to be a burden, an extra weight. They are not only unproductive; they are an encumbrance, and are to be discarded. And discarding them is sinful...Where there is no honor to the elderly, there is no future for the young.”

The International Day of Older Persons is celebrated every year on the 1st of October; this day is dedicated on the importance of taking care of the senior citizens who sometimes are neglected in our community. It is an opportunity to highlight our responsibilities towards them in order to make their lives happier.



Caritas Jerusalem through its different programs tries to build not only communities but also connections and friendships.



On the 4th of October 2016, Caritas Jerusalem’s Elderly Day Care Center in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs in Ramallah organized an entertainment trip for the senior citizens to celebrate the International Day of Older Persons in Kufer Nimeh; a Palestinian town, located northwest of Ramallah.



45 elderly together with other senior citizens from different organizations and villages traveled to Kufer Nimeh to visit the town, enjoy the nature and exchange laughs, stories and jokes.

“Spending a day in nature gives hope, faith and happiness” said one of the elderly



Our participation in this trip was very essential to show the world that the elderly can do activities, enjoy life and be active members in the society. They have visited the whole town, chatted with the residents and enjoyed a hot meal before heading back home.



Developing the dental services in our Medical Centers in Taybeh and Aboud



Caritas Jerusalem operates three medical centers: two in West Bank and one in Gaza. This month we have concentrated our efforts to develop the services that we provide in dental healthcare.

In Taybeh Medical Center we have recruited a young dentist, Dr. Issa Amash who is originally from Gaza and completed his studies in Egypt-Dr. Amash is very active and has already launched awareness campaigns in schools, women associations and other institutions around the village.



Caritas Jerusalem has also newly equipped a dental technical laboratory in Taybeh and we have hired another young orthodontist, Dr. Elias Salman, who is originally from Bethlehem and completed his education in Armenia. He is involved in both of our clinics in Aboud and Taybeh.



Introducing young blood in our medical centers does not only provide opportunities but also enhances a high quality medical care to the community at large.

We hope that by the end of the year we would develop and extend our services to the surrounding villages offering affordable and highly professional dental care especially to students, women and children.



Our dream is to transform these centers into colleges where we could teach dentistry... this might be big but not impossible!

How can you help?

Support our activities
Your support is essential to provide long-term assistance to our beneficiaries.

Please see below our bank details to make a donation:

Bank Name: Arab Bank

Swift Code: ARABPS 22110

Account number: 457793/0/510 USD

Credit Account: Caritas Jerusalem

Branch No: 9110

At Arab Bank in Al-Ram

P.O.Box: 2445-Al-Ram