Refuge-Egypt Update

The Anglican/Episcopal Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

December 2013

Refuge-Egypt serves people from Sudan and other African countries who have fled their country of origin due to war or disaster. We seek to provide humanitarian assistance and development programs to prepare refugees for repatriation, resettlement or integration into Egyptian society.

How Can You Help?

* Make a Christmas donation.
* Pray for Refuge-Egypt and refugees in Cairo.
* Consider coming to Refuge-Egypt and volunteering!

To Donate

Refuge-Egypt accepts cheques and bank transfers from all over the world.

To donate from the UK: Gifts can be given through the Egypt Diocese Association. Contact Joseph Wasef: edasecretary@gmail.com

To donate from the USA: Gifts can be given through Friends of the Anglican Diocese of Egypt (FADE). Contact Randi Wood: blessfade@gmail.com

A Joyful Shout!

The Lord calls us to rejoice in every circumstance, and to praise the Lord for His mighty deeds. As individuals in the workplace, as a staff team, and as an organization, we have faced times of extreme joy and times of frustration and exasperation— and all in the space of a year! Yet, our God remains the same. This newsletter reflects back on God’s faithfulness these last 12th months...

12%

The percentage of new registrations at Refuge-Egypt from Ethiopia so far this year. The majority of new registrations come from Kordofan (35%) and Darfur (23%). We register refugees from African origin up to a year after their arrival in Egypt in order for them to access services and receive assistance.

New employees at Refuge-Egypt!

As much as possible, we try to employ a healthy ratio of Egyptian staff and staff from the refugee community. This enables us to keep up to date with the challenges facing refugees, and provides a very vibrant workplace. The office functions in both English and Arabic, with heavy doses of Sudanese flair!

The average number of refugees a week that our Job Placement Programme found work for in November.

Our Capacity & Livelihoods Team work hard to match refugees seeking employment with suitable local employers. As employment opportunities are scarce, refugees often end up working in the informal sector in poorly-paid and often dangerous jobs. Our Team offers training and support for people pursuing employment. We believe this to be a crucial element in the lives of refugees. It is easy to provide physical/material assistance to refugees. However, we believe that programmes which build their self-esteem, equip them with valuable skills, and prepare them for successful employment are activities which are truly worthwhile.

9am

The time the Happy Child Preschool faithfully opens its’ doors every day to serve 60 preschoolers.

Ma’adi is an area with an extremely high density of African refugees. Our Preschool registers children from refugee families and provides them with a nutritious lunch, an education, and an opportunity to grow and develop. However, this does not come without it’s challenges! In addition to a growing waiting list, we struggle to reconcile parents expectations with a Montessori-based learning approach, and to continually diversify our meals within a limited budget.

The average number of children coming to the Well Baby & Well Child Clinics for the first time every day. These clinics provide primary healthcare and screening for 0-5 year olds. The average number of Follow Up Con-

*Some statistics taken from Jan-Nov and therefore subject to change depending on results from Dec.
Note from the Director...

We are aware of the command given by Jesus to love one another. It is your adhering to this command that has allowed us to do what we are purposed to do.

We thank God for your faithful partnership during a season of political turmoil in Egypt. Through a team effort, we have succeeded in streamlining the registration process of beneficiaries so as to shorten their waiting time for our services. The reception area has also reorganized and a drinking fountain installed.

Even though the price of food has increased considerably we were still able to provide food and clothing to beneficiaries from a wide range of backgrounds and nationalities. Through your support, they are seeing your love.

God has blessed us this year with two volunteers to help in the Family Support Department and Donor Relations. Next year we will have a new volunteer as Department Head of Capacity & Livelihood. We are grateful to the Lord we serve for each staff member and volunteer.

Next year, starting with the Medical Department, we hope to start using a computer database which connects all our clinics. This integrated system will enable us to have a clearer picture of our beneficiaries and the services they access. This network will be implemented as the budget allows, and as we have access to IT personnel.

Please pray for the staff here, and for our beneficiaries. Pray that we would be relevant to the needs of refugees and that our projects would benefit them in the long term, not just the short term.

I thank God for His Faithfulness and for you. May He bless you and your families richly.

Peace to you this Christmas and a joyful New Year!

GS Tan

3rd July

The day that the Egyptian Army responded to protestors and removed President Morsi from power, thus suspending the constitution. We praise God that despite the enormous political upheaval Egypt is going through, His love is enduring and we are still able to serve in this country.

The number of Syrian refugees registering with UNHCR in Egypt every 30 minutes. (7.2, in fact)

(Well, actually 5.8) The number of refugees arriving in Egypt and registering with the UNHCR every hour from African countries.

The number of contents in an average Food Parcel distributed by our Humanitarian Assistance Team. The contents are lentils, rice, powdered milk, sugar and peanut butter. Refugees suffering from malnutrition, HIV and TB receive additional contents. By November this year, our Humanitarian Assistance Department had distributed 8,595 food bags.

The number of English Literacy classes held every week for refugees through our Adult Education Programme. Classes are in the late afternoon and there are approximately 20 students in each class.

The number of new medical clinics opened this year in Greater Cairo. We now have primary care clinics serving African and Syrian refugees in 6th October and Sanabel. In addition to these, we have also opened a Natal Care Unit in Alexandria.

One body. Many parts. The same Lord

1 Corinthians 12

You are part of this body—Thank you!

If you’d like more information, are curious about volunteering, or want to pay us a visit, please get in touch! Email donor.relations@refuge-egypt.org

Find us on facebook for regular updates.