



Refuge Egypt Bulletin



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Joy for our youngest patients

Refuge Egypt clinics provide quality, culturally sensitive primary health care to 1000 children under 5 every year. Our comprehensive service includes routine screenings and wellness visits, sick child clinic, treatment of malnutrition, health education sessions, psychosocial support, and food bag distributions. We believe that by regularly following children starting at birth, we can prevent many negative health outcomes, such as severe malnutrition and subsequent disability.

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Unfortunately, life in Egypt presents unique challenges for refugee children's development. Most refugee families reside in low income neighborhoods where there is little outdoor space to play or exercise. They often live in crowded apartments with little sunlight and poor ventilation and parents struggle to afford nutritious food for their kids. Parents who cannot afford the cost of nursery leave their child home with older siblings, locked in their apartment while they are at work, exposing them to protection risks.



In an effort to give our patients the recreation and socialization they desperately need for proper development, our clinics implemented three Child Fun Days last month. During these Fun Days, staff organized games and activities for children and their families, such as arts and crafts and face painting. Performers put on folklore shows, a magic show, and skits that included moral lessons. Disney characters mingled with the children, and each child received a small gift. Parents remarked how delighted they were that their children could play with other kids in a safe and warm environment, as recreational and social opportunities for their children are few.



Stories from the Clinic



Learning to Smile Again

Aliza* is a Sudanese woman who attended with her nine-year-old son John*. When he was 8 years old, he started having tumors in his neck. Aliza brought her son to several hospitals in search of a diagnosis. Unfortunately, even after visiting several different hospitals, she was still at a loss for the cause of her son's tumors. After hearing from a friend about our clinic, we were able to diagnosis and treat her son for TB with extra pulmonary manifestations. After four months, John is completely healed and his tumors are gone. Aliza was grateful for her son's treatment and that his joy has returned as he met and played with new friends at the Child Fun Day.

**All names have been changed to protect the safety and privacy of our clients and photos are not of the individuals in the stories.*