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Use your smart phone camera:



• **SCAN**
• **GIVE**
• **GO!**

Mercy-USA News

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Mercy-USA delivers food and water inside Gaza

Since October 2023, more than 40,000 Gazans have been killed. This number includes at least 17,000 children. To put this information on a more devastating scale, 2.6 percent of Gazan children have been killed since the beginning of

this crisis.

Mercy-USA is doing what's possible with the support of our donors by distributing daily hot meals, fresh bread, produce and clean water. Our partner on the ground, the Agricultural Continued on page 2...

Mercy-USA for Aid and Development

is a nonprofit relief and development organization dedicated to alleviating human suffering and supporting individuals and their communities in their efforts to become more self-sufficient.

Incorporated in 1988, Mercy-USA's projects focus on improving health, nutrition and access to safe water, as well as promoting economic and educational growth around the world.

- Special Consultative Status with the United Nations
- Member of InterAction

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Tripoli, Lebanon
Mogadishu, Somalia
Antakya, Turkey



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Mercy-USA for Aid and Development

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Delivering Basics for Survival in Gaza

Continued from page 1...

& Environmental Development Society (AED) is cooking, packaging and distributing hot meals to families every evening. Whenever possible locally-produced fruits and vegetables are also being harvested and distributed to these families. Additionally, through our newly sponsored traditional bakery, ten loaves of bread per family are being distributed daily.

In Gaza, many families are saving whatever little fresh water they can find for drinking and using untreated sea water for cooking and sanitation—a recipe for disaster. In Gaza, sea water is not safe for use since sewage is now being pumped into the ocean after the waste water treatment plants have been made inoperable. Mercy-USA has upgraded the distribution capacity of a well by installing a solar powered pump, storage tank, piping and spigots providing desperately needed fresh water to displaced families in the Bahr al-Nuseirat area in central Gaza.



Lebanon Under Attack- Mercy-USA Provides Relief

At the end of September, 2024 Israel Defense Forces began attacking Lebanon—as far north as Beirut. Families fled from their homes for safety in the north. Hundreds of families arrived in Wadi Khaled, in Akkar Governorate, a much cooler and mountainous part of the country where the infrastructure and people have been struggling before this latest influx of needy families. Mercy-USA has been providing free medical care via our mobile medical unit for years in Wadi Khaled.

Mercy-USA Lebanon mobilized our medical team to the area where the newly displaced families arrived and began offering immediate medical interventions.

Ready to eat meals were distributed to these families who arrived hungry, cold and traumatized.



A mobile kitchen was dispatched to three public schools in Akkar Governorate to serve daily meals to families who have taken shelter there. Hearty, freshly cooked recipes were a warm and welcome change from shelf-stable emergency food.

Running in Fear and Looking for Help

As they arrived in Akkar from the south of Lebanon, Salam brought his toddler, Fatima to our mobile Medical Unit asking that she be checked. As they waited for their turn, Salam passed out. Fatima, clearly traumatized by their journey, was almost inconsolable when he went unconscious. It turns out that Salam was the one who needed help.

Our medical team treated Salam and made sure he was well enough to make it back to where they were sheltering. Little Fatima received loving hugs and calming reassurances while her beloved father was being treated. She was also examined by a Mercy-USA doctor and found to be well. The war on Lebanon has created thousands of traumatized children like Fatima. Mercy-USA's team in Lebanon was at the ready to help during this crisis.



A New Mother's Story

On September, 23, Roa was giving birth in the south of Lebanon at the same time the bombs began dropping around her hospital room. "Just as my pain block was wearing off, the windows began to shatter, and lights were exploding all around us."

She went on to say, "We managed to escape, it took us four hours to get up here to Wadi Khaled. The hardest part is that we had to leave everything behind. We are relying on the kindness of strangers for shelter. We don't have enough food, or drinking water, plus it gets really cold here at night!"

Roa came to our mobile medical clinic to have her newborn assessed by our medical team. "Because we left everything behind, I don't have clothing, diapers or anything else I need for her. The team examined my baby and gave me some very valuable advice on caring for her in this situation. They were so kind and helpful, it lifted my spirits a bit."

"All I can ask for right now is for the bombing to stop. We need peace for the sake of our children and their future."



Lanterns for Literacy



Empowering Young Readers in SE Michigan

Children who grow up with books in their home are more likely to be gainfully employed as adults, have higher reading, math and digital skills than those without books of their own in their home. Sadly, nearly a third of American homes have less than a total of 25 books. Poverty, a lack of experience with books for children, or little or no access to nearby public libraries or reading programs contribute to this problem.

Because Mercy-USA believes that helping to build resilient communities begins with children, and because strong literacy skills are crucial for a child's success, our Lanterns for Literacy program was launched to provide thousands of books to young readers in Michigan.

Taking advantage of the overlap between National Reading Month and Ramadan, our Lanterns for Literacy



program was able to provide more than 8,300 new and like-new books to emerging readers in Wayne County.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the local community, over 60% of these books were donations from bookstores, schools, student groups and houses of worship. As a Scholastic Literacy Partner, Mercy-USA contributed the rest by purchasing over 3,000 books.

Through multiple events, more than 60 volunteers sorted and packaged these books into Mercy-USA Literacy Kits. Each kit contained at least 15 books, and thanks to the collective effort of our volunteers, the kits had books for students to improve on their own as well titles that families would enjoy reading together. We hope that these books will be a catalyst toward bringing and enjoying more books into the home either through bookstores or the public or school libraries.

Our partnerships with Detroit Public Schools, local mosques, and shelters allowed us to distribute these kits to 500 families, directly benefiting children in their communities.



Where We Work • mercyusa.org



Albania

English and computer skills training for orphans
Read to Succeed program for school-age children and teens



Bangladesh & Rohingya Refugees

Emergency Relief
Livelihood Support
Seasonal food aid



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Vocational and career training for orphans, at-risk teens and young adults
Assistance to special needs students
Read to Succeed program for school-age children



The Gaza Strip

Food Aid
Emergency Relief
With grant funding to UNRWA, support for a special school for blind and visually-impaired elementary school-aged children.
Health and vision screenings



Kenya

Seasonal food aid
Emergency Relief



Lebanon

Mobile Medical Clinic for Syrian Refugees and their hosts in Wadi Khalid
Nutritional support for mothers and children
Emergency Relief
Seasonal food aid



Pakistan

Seasonal food aid
Emergency Relief



Somalia

Approximately 800 new or rehabilitated wells and other water resources for access to clean drinking water throughout Somalia including emergency drought relief
Nutritional support and health services for mothers and children
Hygiene and sanitation training and promotion
Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention



Syria

Semi-permanent homes for Syrian families
Nutritional support and health services
Hygiene and sanitation training and promotion



United States

Seasonal food aid
Support for refugees
Support for Detroit area disadvantaged students
Emergency Relief



Yemen

Food aid
Emergency Relief

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