



HEART
FOR **LEBANON**
قلبنا مع لبنان

DESPAIR *to*
HOPE



The Crisis

THE DESPAIR...

THE SYRIAN CRISIS HAS ACCELERATED MORE DRAMATICALLY THAN ANY CRISIS SINCE WWII. Syrians continue to be the largest forcibly displaced population in the world. Now in eight years of fighting, more than half of the pre-war population has been internally displaced or forced to seek safety in neighboring countries such as Lebanon. That's more than 11 million people on the run, including some 6.3 million people who have escaped across the borders. It's estimated that 2 million Syrians are now living in Lebanon as refugees. The war is not over in Syria; while the mass exodus has ended there is still a trickle of people coming into Lebanon each month.

THE DESPAIR IS FUELED IN PART BY...

- The fact that in 2011 Lebanon adopted an open-border policy that allowed more than 1.5 million Syrians to enter the country. But Syrians who fled to Lebanon were left without a clearly defined and consistent policy, legal, or administrative framework.
- By the end of 2014, the Lebanese government began to introduce aggressive policies starting with closing the borders and requiring Syrians to pledge not to work or to secure a Lebanese sponsor and to pay for a residency permit every 6 months.
- In May 2015, the government officially requested that the UNHCR stop registering refugees.
- Inside Lebanon, the rights of Syrians were not protected by international law. As such their access to mobility, education, employment, and healthcare was completely left to non-profits to fill or political parties and local municipal councils.
- Syrians fled to informal Tent Settlements, mainly in the Bekaa Valley and the South of Lebanon, and faced haphazard unregulated local practices, such as work without pay and gender-based violence.
- While Lebanon was hailed as an international model of resilience for hosting the highest number of refugees per capita worldwide, the absence of a rights-based refugee policy makes their stay turbulent at best and dangerous at worst.
- The most vulnerable are the women and children, many of whom have lost husbands and fathers, typically their main protectors within Syrian culture. Women and children comprise the majority of the refugee population who have fled Syria.
- No formal UN refugee camps exist in Lebanon.
- 76% of Syrian refugee families live below the poverty line, 53% of Syrian refugee families live in substandard shelter conditions, and 74% of Syrian refugees aged 15 and above do not have legal residency.
- Overlapping national, regional, and international events are preventing Syrian refugees in Lebanon from being able to return home or to seek refuge and protection elsewhere.

THE HOPE

Our Vision – Driven by the compassionate heart for Jesus Christ, Heart for Lebanon exists to see lives changed and communities transformed.



The pyramid above shows you the road map Heart for Lebanon is using to stay focused on our mission and vision.

Heart for Lebanon is a non-denominational Christian organization that is creating faith-defining environments that give under resourced families and children in Lebanon the chance to encounter God and grow spiritually.

While the Syrian refugees are in Lebanon as temporary guests, Heart for Lebanon's Family Care starts with meeting the physical needs of each refugee family to sustain life in a hostile environment. Our Children at Risk environment allows us to

reach children with solid academic and spiritual education through the H.O.P.E (Helping Overcome Poverty through Education) program. The Hope On Wheels environment allows us to reach many children right where they live on a consistent basis - in the tent settlements. These access ministries (Level 1) allow us to build trust and create a relationship with the people we serve (Level 2). Both are done unconditionally and holistically.

What follows soon after is a personal invitation to join a Bible study environment (Level 3). This environment is where we talk about relationships, peace building, reconciliation, dignity, respect, and many more life topics from a biblical perspective. Many come to faith in Jesus Christ and most of them desire to join one of our two Worship Gatherings (Level 4). It's in this environment that we encourage them to deepen their faith. Each person can begin to discover and use their gifts, talents, and pray for one another.

Out of this group of believers we are building a new community of servant leaders (Level 5). Converts from Islam, believers in Christ as their personal savior, are leading others to believe in Him and are disciplined to grow in their faith and to follow Jesus with humility and integrity. Heart for Lebanon is committed to help equip leaders from within the refugee population who will lead their respective families and communities into a brighter future for Syria.

Heart for Lebanon's commitment is to raise up new communities of faith; loving, caring, forgiving communities lead by Godly leaders. Someday they will return to Syria with God-like character and the skills necessary to help rebuild Syria with Biblical servant leaders.



HOPE

starts with our Access Ministries:



WHAT IS THE SYRIANS' GREATEST NEED IN LEBANON?

First and foremost they need to be loved with a compassionate heart, listened to and respected. Children need a safe environment to be children and to receive an education. Everyone needs to see and know the love of Jesus Christ and the restored Hope He brings.

Many Syrians fled their homes because of the conflict without having time to plan for life stability in a new place. They thought they would return home in a short period of time and life would go on as before. What they didn't know was that they might never be able to return to their homes and old way of life.

Heart for Lebanon's Family Care provides physically for families as the first step through which we are able to connect and begin a relationship that allows us to invest in lives on a deeper level. We distribute all kinds of family care such as diapers, mattresses, hygiene items, winter clothes, rugs, supplemental food, etc. that is vital to basic health and survival. This care is given to families regardless of religion or personal belief – we insure that these families fit the vulnerability criteria and are indeed in need.



CHILDREN AT RISK

Fifty-two percent of the 1.5 million Syrian refugees living in Lebanon are children under the age of 18. These children have seen and experienced horrific things in their young lives. Without an education they will not develop the academic, social, or spiritual capacity necessary to establish a better future for their families and communities. Most of our students are orphans by Middle East standards. Heart for Lebanon provides learning activities on a consistent basis in the classroom and the tent settlements to reach as many refugee children as possible.



HOPE ON WHEELS

includes a mobile ministry truck traveling between tent communities offering hundreds of refugee children an opportunity to play and learn in a safe environment and enjoy being children again. The truck arrives in a tent community and pulls out a stage, sets up an area for the children to gather and presents skits, music, videos, and games based on Bible stories. The Hope on Wheels program also includes opportunities for children to participate in sports activities, Bible clubs, health awareness and other educational opportunities.



"Malak's mom was watching her daughter with loving eyes, then she told the staff: 'My daughter who is disabled, greatly enjoys these programs. She can't be accepted at school, but this is also learning.' She continued: 'Thank you for coming here, I really appreciate what you are doing for these children, you are teaching them about God, you are teaching them good manners and ethics, you are drawing smiles and hope among children lacking of it!'"



H.O.P.E.

Helping Overcome Poverty through Education

The H.O.P.E. (Helping Overcome Poverty through Education) Program provides non-formal education for refugee children who are unable to attend local schools because of cost and/or availability. Most of the children have been out of school for years and some have never been to school, which has made them prime targets for radical groups to exploit. This program gives children the opportunity to learn basic Arabic, English, math, science and health awareness, biblical character development instruction, and leadership skill training. There are also special opportunities for art, music, and tutoring. Each one of our students also receives care for their families.

A student in his first year in our educational program, even with learning difficulties, integrated very quickly... shares:
"I learned to pray here, and I want to learn more about Jesus. My life changed when I came to this school, everything in this school makes me feel happy".

When asked about what he would pray for, he said:
"I want to pray for each child in the camp to know about Jesus".



"I learned to speak English so well at the HOPE center, I have learned many other important things as well! I am so grateful to God, for this great opportunity to have been a HOPE student!"



"I am so proud that my daughter is able to help the other children in the camp with their studies. The majority of the people here are illiterate, and unable to help their children in their duties. So the students help each other and ask the teachers for help."

HOPE

Develops through relationships

Our Access Ministries never end because of the living conditions of the refugees. Providing for physical needs is foundational, unconditional, and holistic in its nature. What flows out of that are relationships that run deep, conversations that are honest, yet culturally sensitive, building trust and dignity, leading to a path of emotional and spiritual healing.



HOPE

is strengthened

BIBLE STUDIES

It's in this environment that we study topics on peace building, reconciliation, forgiveness, dignity, community respect, life-style & health. Its here where a new community is being established.

A 68-year lady said - "What have you done to my husband, he is a completely different man now!"

Another said, "My life changed when I decided to be obedient to the Lord and to His teaching. The Word of God changed me, I am born traditional Christian, I used not to know God, now I can say that I know Him! It's because of your work with us at the Bible Study."



CHAPEL

Chapel is the environment where a new character trait (self-worth, courage, kindness, self-control, gratitude, etc.) is introduced each month and is woven into all subjects and activities. We also introduce Biblical servant leadership skills by developing a servant leadership model in front of each student. In chapel they learn new worship songs and are inspired by creative teaching methods.

"Before attending the Hope Center I used to have a horrible stressful life but now after learning about God and accepting Him as savior, I feel there is Hope in my life."





EARLY IN 2018 HEART FOR LEBANON STARTED TWO CHURCHES

(Worship Gatherings) for Muslim Born Believers. The spiritual growth of those attending is amazing. It is in this setting, along with our Bible studies, that we deal with peace building, reconciliation, forgiveness, and many other topics in the discipleship journey. We believe spiritual discipleship is a process and not an event.

As these churches grow and mature we are discipling and training a key group of Muslim Born Believers to return to Syria with a lifestyle that is so compelling that the local church in Syria will begin the rebuilding process using the church as the hub.



"I used to know nothing about Jesus, but when I learned of Him, it was like I knew Him for a long time. The teaching of the Bible is what I was searching for all of my life, if everybody follows this teaching there will be no war on earth, no hatred! Attending these meetings made a massive difference in my life."

YOU'RE INVITED

to be part of this unprecedented opportunity

Heart for Lebanon believes that your time, prayers, and finances are really investments. You should expect us to give you a return on your investment and we will do our best to exceed your expectations.

- Prayer is the most powerful way to invest with us. Our monthly Prayer Points are available by email at prayer@heartforlebanon.org.
- We have two accounts for those who would benefit from a Donor Advised fund: National Christian Foundation and at The Signatry Fund.
- Monthly financial investing.





FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY:

We believe that transparency and accountability are critical for an effective ministry. As Christ followers we believe we are accountable to one another in all aspects of our faith. The Heart for Lebanon Board is very engaged in praying and financially investing.

FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Core Ministry Expenses	\$17,337,486	87%
Administration	\$1,494,954	7%
Fundraising	\$1,215,391	6%

Your financial investment and prayers are taking us beyond aid to cultivating transformation among people. It is more than a donation, it's an investment given with the expectation of a return. This pushes Heart for Lebanon to honor our investors by planning for long-term success and remaining accountable in how we steward our resources. Every dollar counts.

Those supporting Heart for Lebanon are investing in people who are the next generation of believers to return to Syria and rebuild the nation as followers of Christ.



Dixon Hughes Goodman, an independent accounting firm provides the Board of Directors with an annual audit. A copy of the most recent financial audit is available upon request



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