



Where There is Life, There is Hope

Life Link

2013 NEWSLETTER

Life along with its partners provided hot meals to families that were affected by Hurricane Sandy in Brooklyn and Staten Island, New York. A food cart was rented to go through neighborhoods where volunteers handed out hot food to families whose homes were damaged or destroyed during the storm. Many homes, schools and public buildings were damaged or destroyed.

New textbooks and library books donated by Pearson and McGraw-Hill Publishing were distributed in partnership with Brother's Brother Foundation to schools that were damaged in Staten Island.

Hurricane Sandy Victims Receive Aid

Over \$6 Million Dollars in Emergency Aid for the Syrian People

Life staff, volunteers and partners on the ground inside Syria are working night and day to distribute aid to the people most in need throughout this crisis. We thank our donors and partners for providing the funds for Life's emergency food distributions in Syria. Life remains committed to providing emergency relief to the people of Syria throughout this crisis.

Winter Aid Distributed to Palestinian Families

Life completed its winter warmth campaign by distributing high quality winter blankets to poor Palestinian families in the West Bank and Gaza to help them survive the winter cold. Many Palestinian families living in the West Bank and Gaza suffer from a lack of proper heating and good quality blankets to protect themselves from the cold during the winter months.

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From the Desk of the CEO

Dear Respective Donors,

Over the past 20 years, Life has been consistently committed to our mission, working reliably and dependably to serve humans in need. Although the challenges are many, our efforts nevertheless have reaped great success in bringing food, medicine, and emergency humanitarian supplies to the neediest throughout the world. Life always answers the call for help when emergencies strike, like hurricane Sandy in the U. S. and the humanitarian crises in Syria and Gaza.



Life's staff worldwide seeks to achieve the highest efficiency and maintain the utmost effectiveness in our work. With the added advantage of 20 years of experience, we look forward to expanding lifes outreach while building a stronger organization in order to better serve the humanitarian causes.

On behalf of Life's Board of Directors, Staff and beneficiaries, allow me to express our sincere gratitude to each donor without whom this organization would not function nor deliver the much needed assistance for those less fortunate.

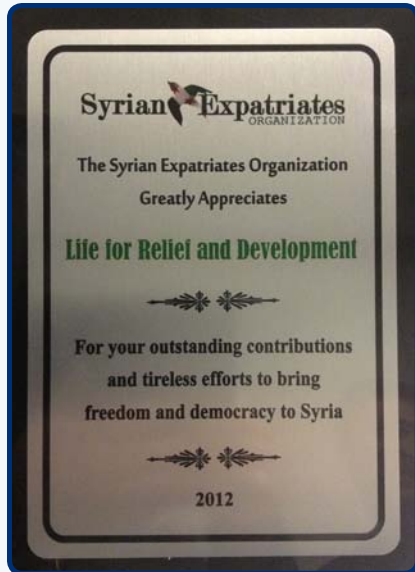
I would also like to express my thanks to Life staff world-wide, whose lives are on the line on a daily basis in their mission to deliver urgently needed humanitarian assistance to those in need. Additionally, I would like to thank all of our partner organizations contributed in the many successes of our humanitarian efforts worldwide.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abdallah Boumediene'.

Mr. Abdallah Boumediene
President & CEO
Life for Relief and Development

Life's Achievements



Syrian Expatriates Organization Presents Award to Life

The Syrian Expatriates Organization awarded Life in 2012 for its ongoing humanitarian emergency relief campaign to help the Syrian people during the current crisis.

A \$3.5 Million Agreement Signed With MBRC in the UAE

Life and Mohammad bin Rashid Al-Maktoum Charity and Humanitarian Foundation (MBRC) signed a \$3.5 million agreement to build schools and health clinics in Iraq. MBRC is working to improve the health and education sectors in Iraq as part of its response to humanitarian issues in the Arab World.



Over \$58 Million In-Kind Donations Distributed in 2012

Life sent and distributed over \$58 million dollars in medical, educational, agricultural and miscellaneous relief items in the United States, Africa, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Yemen, Palestine, Jordan, Guatemala, Pakistan, Libya, Ghana, Somalia and Egypt.



Orphan Program

Food and Back-to-School Items Distributed to Orphans in Afghanistan

In September, Life Afghanistan provided 420 orphans in Kabul, Laghman and Jalalabad with fabric to sew new school uniforms and food packages that included flour, cooking oil, beans and tea which was enough food to last for three months. Life also donated new cabinets, furniture, floormats, white-boards and large water thermos bottles to the school that Life orphans attend in Laghman. The recipients of these supplies were delighted and appreciative.



Orphanage Renovated in Sierra Leone



Before



After

This past summer [2012], Life completely renovated the entire orphanage at Mile 91. The roof, floor and walls were repaired and painted throughout the facility. The toilets and bathing areas were repaired and painted. The dining hall and kitchen were painted and new mattresses were provided for each bed.

The orphans returned to a more inviting and pleasant facility which made their daily lives more enjoyable.



Orphan Program



In 2012, Life's worldwide orphan program increased dramatically especially inside Syria where it went up by nearly 95%. The significant increase is due to the rise in the number of orphan sponsorships in countries where Life has orphan programs and from the generosity of Life's donor's.

Number of Sponsored Orphans

Country	2011	2012
Afghanistan	411	446
Ghana	67	79
Iraq	689	740
Jordan	732	1049
Lebanon	43	51
Sierra Leone	236	225
Syria	204	1459
Total	2382	4049

Crisis in Syria

Over \$6.0 Million Dollars in Emergency Aid for the Syrian People

Since the crisis began in Syria, Life has been working to provide emergency relief for the Syrian people. So far, Life has distributed over \$6.0 million in emergency food aid to families in places like Idlib, Aleppo, Der Azzour, Homs, Hama, Dera'a and Damascus.

Life staff, volunteers and partners on the ground inside Syria are working night and day to reach and distribute aid to the people most affected by this crisis. We thank our donors and partners for providing the funds for Life's emergency food distributions in Syria. Life remains committed to providing emergency relief to the people of Syria while the crisis continues.



Blankets Distributed to Syrian Refugees in Egypt

Life distributed heavy winter blankets to over 400 Syrian refugee families living in Al-Sheikh Zayed and 6th October City areas in Egypt. Over 1000 blankets were distributed and most families received 2 or more blankets.



Ongoing Campaign to Distribute Aid to Syrian Refugee Families in Jordan and Lebanon

Life has been actively working to provide Syrian refugee families, arriving by the hundreds daily, in Jordan and Lebanon with food and other items through a campaign that started at the onset of the conflict. Life Jordan provides food baskets, cleaning/hygiene materials, kitchen items, mattresses and pillows to Syrian refugee families living in the Zaatarie camp and refugees in Ramtha and Al-Mafraq areas in Jordan and to refugee families in Al-Bekaa, Jabal, Al-Karoub and Tripoli in Lebanon.

West Bank & Gaza



Emergency Relief Distributed in Gaza



Life staff in Gaza distributed emergency aid to families displaced by the recent conflict in Gaza in November 2012. Life's staff mobilized to give 500 displaced families 30kg bags of flour as part of Life's fresh bread campaign. This flour was given to families in Rafah, Khan Younis, Qarara East, Al-Balah, Nusseirat, Zawaida, Buriij, Zeitun, Shijai, Sabra, Jalaliya and Beit Lahiya. Recipient families expressed their joy and appreciation to Life and its donors after receiving this much needed food staple.

Life completed its winter warmth campaign by distributing high quality winter blankets to poor Palestinian families in the West Bank and Gaza to help them survive the winter cold. Many Palestinian families living in the West Bank and Gaza suffer from a lack of proper heating and good quality blankets to protect them from the cold during the winter months.

In Gaza, blankets were distributed to 665 poor and needy families. In the West Bank there were 1070 blankets distributed, 370 single blankets and 700 double blankets. Recipient families very appreciative of this gift.

Horn of Africa

Food, Laundry Tubs and Jerry Cans Distributed to Eritrean Refugees in Ethiopia

In Eritrea, the oppression by the dictatorial government has forced many refugees to seek asylum in Ethiopia. The Asaita camp lies about 800km from the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa in the Afar region. The situation in the camp is exacerbated by the lack of funding available for refugees in the area and exposure to the elements because of inadequate shelter. Many children and lactating mothers are suffering from malnutrition. Life provided rice, flour, cooking oil, milk powder, Plumpy Nut (supplement for children), laundry tubs and jerry cans to 500 families in the camp.



Clean Water Projects

New Water Filtration Units Installed in Three Iraqi Schools



Life recently installed large water filtration units in 3 Iraqi schools in Diyala, the Yaqout Al-Hamawi School, Abu-Hanifa Middle School and the Al-Tomeh Middle School. The filtration systems were definitely needed for the schools to provide filtered water which will benefit the health of the students and teachers at each school. The students and faculty members gave their sincere thanks to Life and to Veteran's for Peace for funding this project.

First Deep Water Well Dug in Gaza

In May, Life dug its first deep-borehole water well at the Abu Daoud Mosque in the Al-Nusyrat village in Gaza to serve many families in the area. A heavy equipment borehole digging company was contracted to dig the water well outside of the Mosque. Everyone living in the village and those attending the Mosque were all very happy to finally have fresh water to drink. In Gaza and the West Bank water is a luxury for most families. Water is usually purchased and supplied to families by water tankers.



Clean Water Projects

Ten More Wells Dug in Somalia

Life received funding to dig 53 water wells in Somalia; from this project 10 wells were recently dug in Hiran, Somalia. Thousands of families and their livestock benefitted from the ten wells dug for this project. The overall objective of the program is to help families rebuild their lives after returning home from displacement camps and cities where they lived during the famine. The people living in these communities will benefit from these wells for decades.



Three More Water Wells Dug in Afghanistan



This past summer, Life dug three new water wells in villages which are near the road that connects Kabul and Paghman. The new wells mean that families will no longer need to travel long distances with mules in order to retrieve water from other wells. The new source of water will also help small farmers and herders and is expected to provide an economic boost to the area.

Water Well Established in Ghana

In Ghana, Life recently hand dug a water well in the Nsawam village. The women and children from Nsawam were very happy to finally have a well dug in the village. Now, they do not have to travel long distances to collect water for their families.



Education

Higher Education Books Sent to Somaliland

Life sent a container of higher education books donated by McGraw-Hill Publisher's in partnership with Brother's Brother Foundation in Pittsburgh, PA to Somaliland valued at nearly \$640,000.

The books were distributed to 2 Universities, the Amoud University and Eelo American University both located in Borama. The students and faculty of both Universities were very happy to receive the books. Most of the books were related to subjects in Science, Mathematics, Economics and Business which will help enhance the knowledge of the students. During the distribution ceremony it was mentioned that the greatest gift that can be given is books to expand knowledge and thinking.



Books Sent to Schools and Colleges in Central America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia

This summer, Life and Another Joy Foundation in partnership with Brother's Brother Foundation sent books and educational materials donated by Pearson and McGraw-Hill Publisher's valued at over \$12.5 million to needy schools in Guatemala, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Libya, Lebanon, Palestine, and the Philippines. Through this program students and teachers in several countries throughout the world received brand new books and educational materials to use in the classrooms and libraries.

Life is working to improve literacy and encourage students to attend schools and colleges in many countries throughout the world.



Pre-K to 3rd Grade School Constructed in Haiti



Life constructed a Pre-K to 3rd grade school and Quran learning center, next to a displaced family's camp in Delmas 19 in Port-au-Prince Haiti. Since the earthquake struck Haiti there are still thousands of families living in tent camps and many schools still need to be constructed. The school has three large classrooms with room for expansion. There are 12-16 children in each class and to start with the school will educate around 50 students per year.

Education

Books Distributed to Colleges and High Schools in Ghana

In March, Life distributed books in cooperation with Brother's Brother Foundation, donated by Pearson Publishing to colleges and high schools in Ghana. Over 6,130 students and teachers benefitted from receiving books. The books were given to Unity College, Asesawa Senior High School, Nasirudeen Senior High School, Ghana Lebanon Secondary School, Medina Islamic School, Mercy Senior High School and Umar Ibn Khatab School.



Primary School Constructed in Ethiopia

Construction of a primary school located in Wabaro Village in Dallo Manno District, Bale Zone in Ethiopia is completed. Pastoralist children and youth who travel far from their parents to various towns to complete their education will be very happy to attend this school. The school will accommodate and enroll more than 900 students from Oromo and Somali tribes. Most of the children that will attend the school work in the coffee fields. Attending this school will break the socioeconomic barriers to give the children living in 3 neighboring villages a chance to receive a primary school education so that they can move on and further their studies by attending high school and college in the future.



Educational Support Given to Needy Students in Palestine

Life's regional office in Palestine distributed books and pens to a number of needy students in public schools and universities in Al Quds Open University in Jenin, University of Abu Dis in Jerusalem, Al Najah University in Nablus, Public Secondary School in the village of Romana and the Arab American University in Jenin. This project helped to ease the financial burden of buying school supplies on students and their families.

Health

Life Participates in a Healthcare Extravaganza at Toledo Islamic Academy

In November, Life participated in a healthcare extravaganza held at the Toledo Islamic Academy in Toledo, Ohio in partnership with Masjid Saad Foundation. The event was a huge success. There were many families that received free flu shots, blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol screening. There was also a cardiovascular station, a breast cancer awareness station a Neurology station, a nutrition table and dental screening. Life distributed complementary first aid kits, ibuprofen, Life 2013 calendars and other promotional items at the event. Many families were really happy to receive the items that Life distributed.



Local Community Health and Wellness Campaign

On September 19, 2012, Life for Relief and Development received nearly 6,500 first aid kits valued at nearly \$83,000 from Medical Teams International. The first aid kits were given to non-profit clinics, Women's institutions and students attending non-profit schools in Michigan and Ohio as part of Life's health and wellness campaign for children and families. Each kit contains several sizes of band aids, gauze dressings, tape, antibiotic ointments, antiseptics and an ice pack. There are 140 items in each kit that can be used for administering basic first aid at home.

Health

Container of Medical Supplies and Equipment Sent to Bethlehem

In February 2012, Life in partnership with Peace for Children organization sent a 40-foot shipping container filled with medical supplies and equipment. The container was donated to the Palestinian National Authority Medical Services Directorate in Bethlehem in the West Bank. The container was filled with a wide assortment of medical supplies and equipment that will be useful in diagnosing and treating patients living in Bethlehem and the surrounding communities.



Medical Aid and Relief Items Sent to Iraq



Life Iraq received a 40-foot shipping container filled with medical aid which included medical supplies/equipment, wheelchairs and other relief items such as clothing, socks and toothbrushes donated by AmeriCares, USA. The medical items were distributed to the Basrah Maternity Hospital and the relief items were distributed to families in the Kabasi area near the Shatt al-Arab, the Abul Khaseeb valley and Zubair near Basra, Iraq.

Wheelchairs Given to the Disabled in Sierra Leone



Life distributed 296 newly purchased wheelchairs to the handicapped and elderly people in Sierra Leone. The distribution ceremony was attended by members of various handicapped groups across Freetown. The distributions took place at several hospitals and clinics throughout the country.

Ramadan

Ramadan Food Baskets Distributed to Thousands of Needy Families

Life distributed food baskets to thousands of needy families in 14 countries this past Ramadan. With the declining economy in many countries, millions of families are struggling to put food on their tables. This year Life was able to provide food baskets to thousands of families including widows and orphans who otherwise would not be able to celebrate Eid. Life distributed food baskets in Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen, Somalia, Ethiopia, Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Haiti.



Udhiyah

One of the Most Successful Udhiyah Campaigns in Life's History

Life completed one of the most successful Uhiyah campaigns in its history. This year Life was able to provide meat to thousands of families including widows and orphans who otherwise would not be able to celebrate Eid. Many of these families are so poor that they cannot afford to buy meat.



Country

Beneficiaries

Afghanistan/Pakistan	3,792
Bangladesh	815
Darfur	905
Egypt	1,000
Eritrea	385
Ethiopia	875
Ghana	5,300
Haiti	200
India	2,500
Iraq	770
Jordan	4,505
Kenya	7,345
Lebanon	2,196
Mali	4,200
Myanmar	1,900
Niger	245
Palestine(West Bank)	12,000
Palestine(Gaza)	2,700
Sierra Leone	585
Somalia	11,000
Southern Sudan	235
Syria	6,048
Syrian Refugees	1,345
USA	340
Yemen	650

Grand Total = 71,866 Families



Sponsor an Orphan Today



For \$55 a month a donor will provide an orphan with food, clothing, shelter, education, and healthcare in Afghanistan, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, and Syria.