

25TH YEAR CAMPAIGN  
ENDING

# ANERA *years of service* Newsletter

American Near East Refugee Aid

Numbers 105 & 106 Spring/Summer 1994

## 25th Anniversary Year Ends in June

ANERA's first major campaign has reached its final stage. As many of you know, ANERA initiated its 25th Anniversary Campaign last year to honor a generation of service in the Middle East. We invited our larger contributors to make special Campaign gifts of \$250 or more to enable us to make additional grants to vital local institutions to create jobs, expand health and education programs, and provide humanitarian relief in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Lebanon. Our goal has been to raise \$250,000 through the Campaign from January 1993 to June 1994.

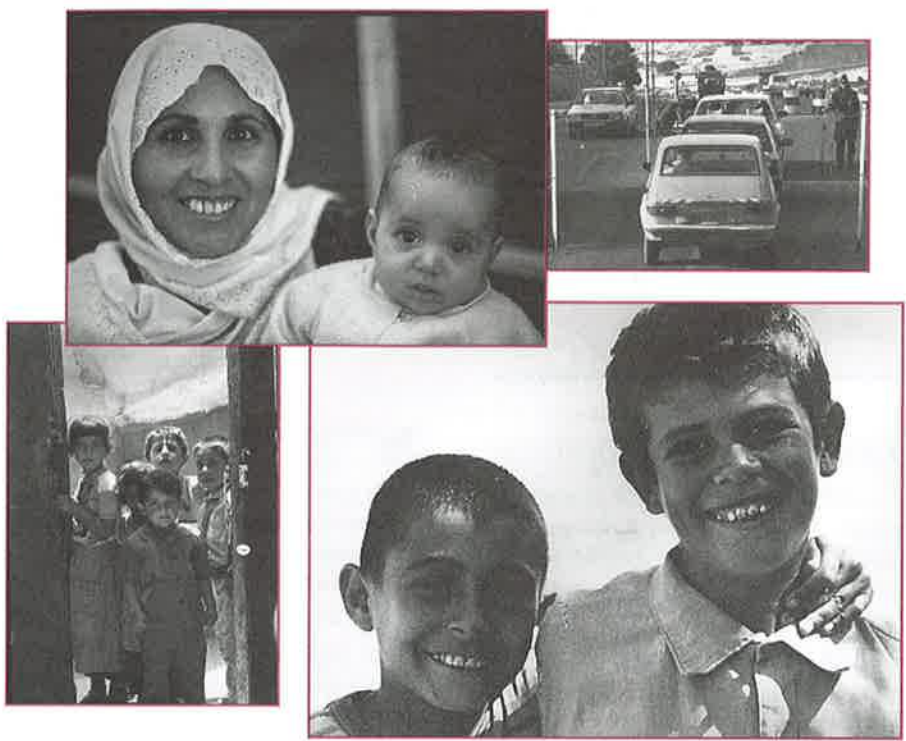
A special focus has been the Gaza Emergency Fund, established to address the crisis of poverty and unemployment rampant in the Gaza Strip since the closure of the Occupied Territories from Israel last year.

*(Con't. on page 9)*

## Hebron Update

Thanks to all of you who gave so generously in response to the Hebron massacre on February 25, 1994. Your support allowed us to respond quickly to fund local hospitals and clinics in and around Hebron. To the Hebron Patient's Friends Society Hospital, which bore the brunt of the casualties, ANERA sent medical equipment and emergency supplies to replenish stocks depleted by the massacre. We made an immediate grant to the Palestine Health Council, the local

*(Con't. on page 9)*



## 25 YEARS OF SERVICE *Economic Development Under Occupation*

ANERA's story is one of economic development and humanitarian relief in the Middle East. We witness injustice and human suffering and seek solutions. But, over the past 25 years, the people, places and politics of the region are what have truly shaped our actions and given our work meaning and purpose.

The ANERA story began with the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. The people are the Palestinians, Lebanese, Jordanians and Israelis, and also the Israeli army and military administrators, U.S. policy makers, international relief agencies and the American people. The places are the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, and the poor-

est neighborhoods and villages of Lebanon — populated by victims of that country's civil war. Finally the politics that have affected this story are staggeringly complex—war, retribution, the *intifada* (uprising), military oppression, self-sufficiency and support. These are but some of the forces that have affected and influenced ANERA's work of supporting Palestinian and Lebanese self-sufficiency, development and Arab-Israeli peace.

*(Con't. on page 2)*

*This anniversary issue of the newsletter was written, researched and designed by Paula Stinson, ANERA vice president. Thanks to Peter Gubser and John Richardson for their comments, the ANERA Jerusalem staff for research assistance, and Sara Gentry, Ann Barhoun, Lucy Brown, Alison Kelly and Janice Murphy for their earlier articles in the ANERA Newsletter.*

## Economic Development

(continued from page 1)

Twenty-five years and \$38 million dollars later, we can only highlight a few of these stories and influences in this brief newsletter. The theme of ANERA's work has been social and economic development under, or often in spite of, military occupation and short-term relief and aid to victims of war and suffering.

**"One is not powerless to create the conditions for a just peace. To have lived in the area and with the people, one could not help but be affected by the suffering, and could not help feeling compelled to try."**

*Dr. John Davis.*

*ANERA Chairman of the Board, 1968 - 1976*

## Economic Development

ANERA started as a U.S.-based relief agency in 1968, sending funds and supplies through UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine) and local institutions. Soon, however, ANERA began supporting structured economic development in the Occupied Territories. By this we mean working with local institutions to plan and create the basic channels within their society to provide health and educational services, and to increase people's incomes through improving agriculture or industry.

ANERA's basic development strategy involves identifying a few key factors in

the society that contribute to the overall distress of the population, such as lack of health care, jobs or education, and working to resolve those problems using available resources. It is important to emphasize that ANERA only works with and through local institutions to develop and deliver projects. This policy strengthens the local organizations as well as encourages a sense of ownership and commitment to the projects' continued success — the key to sustainable development. (see box above). ANERA is a non-political, non-governmental, charitable organization. We value our ability to work in areas of greatest need, with a wide variety of people and organizations. As necessary,

we maintain contact, if not cordial relations with all of the governments of the area: Israeli, Jordanian, Lebanese and Palestinian. We receive donations from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), various U.N agencies, corporations, foundations and the American people.

## Under Military Occupation

Politics have most definitely shaped the environment in which we work. In the Occupied Territories, the Israeli government has, over the years, practiced both benign neglect and overt social and eco-

## ANERA Guidelines for Development Projects

1. All projects are initiated by local organizations. ANERA does not make grants to individuals, nor carry out projects directly.
2. The emphasis is on long-term and institutional development, with close attention to the social, economic and environmental impact of the project.
3. The sponsoring institution must be willing to do the following:
  - make a significant contribution to the project of money, time and labor
  - follow legal requirements for competitive bidding and audited financial statements
  - include all members of the community - women in particular
  - membership in the organization must be open to all, with democratically elected leadership

Projects, which must include a detailed feasibility study, and organizations that meet these requirements are selected, funds permitting. All projects are regularly audited and evaluated and grants are conditional on proper use of the funds. ANERA technical assistance and training is an essential ingredient. ANERA staff members in Palestine are, with the exception of the U.S. representative, all Palestinian professionals and administrative associates. They are best qualified and able to understand and serve their communities.

1968

OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

1994



*Baqa'a Camp, Jordan*

**1967** Arab-Israeli War. 300,000 refugees. • American Friends of the Middle East (AFME) and Arab American groups met in Detroit and voted to create an aid and relief organization.

**1968** ANERA founded. Articles of Incorporation signed. Dr. John Davis, appointed Chairman; John Richardson, appointed Executive Director. • \$100,000 matching grant from Near East Emergency Donations (NEED). First year projects total \$96,130. • Relief and scholarships supported through UNRWA.

**1969** *An Evasive Peace*, by John Davis, published. Influential and controversial, it was acclaimed as the first balanced look at the Palestinian-Israeli problem.

*Twenty-five years and \$38 million dollars later, we can only highlight a few of these events...*

**1970** Palestinians purged from Jordan in Black September War. Medical relief sent to Jordanian Red Crescent.

**1971** ANERA merged with American Middle East Relief (AMER) [the oldest non-sectarian relief agency working in the Middle East (1948)], headed by Dr. Emmett Holt. Since then, \$6.34 million in donated pharmaceuticals and supplies shipped.

conomic repression against the Palestinians. Land and water confiscation, severe restrictions on travel, banking and trade, heavy taxes, and extensive restrictions on the abilities of towns and villages to organize themselves and deliver services have resulted in an increased dependence on Israel for jobs, a captive market for Israeli goods and a cheap source of labor for Israeli industry. What remains is a deteriorated system of roads, sewers, and stunted agricultural and industrial development.

The presence of the army, and overwhelming restrictions on meaningful community organizing have contributed to a miserable quality of life, resulting in, among other things, the Palestinian uprising or *intifada*. While this is now slowly beginning to change with the advent of the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles, many of these conditions still remain. These factors will continue to guide ANERA's policy of strengthening institutions and supporting people's efforts to manage their own lives.

## To Relieve Suffering

Providing relief to the suffering has also been our goal for the past 25 years. During the ongoing strife in Lebanon, ANERA significantly expanded financial and in-kind donations to assist in humanitarian relief. During and after the far too frequent wars and humanitarian crises in the region, ANERA has responded with donations of medicines and funds for those in need.

## The First Ten Years

"I first became aware of ANERA when Jim Sams, on a trip to Lebanon in the spring of 1968, visited me at my third floor flat in Ras Beirut and offered me the job of Executive Director of a new organization. We sat on the balcony and talked. Jim described the year-long process that had led to the creation of ANERA, pointing out that it represented a compromise between one group of organizers who wanted to create a politically active organization and another that wanted to emphasize Palestinian refugee relief. ANERA had thus been founded as a charitable organization with a point of view on the Palestine issue. The formula sounded appealing, and I accepted the offer.



John Richardson helping West Bank refugees across the Allenby Bridge, Jordan, 1967

ANERA's early project selection established the basic pattern: supporting indigenous organizations rather than creating its own mechanisms, and focusing on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Early grants tended to go to those groups already in existence, with emphasis on schools and women's charitable organizations, several of which taught skills that could generate family income. True economic development methodology came in later years, particularly after ANERA began to receive support from USAID in 1975.

From its inception, ANERA did not shun controversy. John Davis, ANERA's first chairman and former Director General of UNRWA, frequently addressed the Palestine

issue, and I pursued similar avenues. ANERA often testified before congressional committees. It was clear from ANERA's continued ability to raise funds for and to meet pressing human needs in the Occupied Territories that our formula was working: charitable activities did not have to be value-neutral.

Although ANERA added significant new dimensions to its project selection criteria after my tenure, I will always remember some of the outstanding organization leaders — predominantly women — with whom we worked. Hind Husseini at Dar El-Tifl, Elizabeth Nasir at Rawdat El-Zuhur, Yusra Barbari of the Palestinian Women's Union and Catherine Siksek at Four Homes of Mercy were but a few of the many dedicated West Bank and Gazan personalities trying to make a better future for their people."

John Richardson, ANERA Executive Director/President 1968-1977

Much more important to our work has been the response of the American people. Starting from zero in early 1968, well over 30,000 people have donated to ANERA. This shows that Americans do care about the humanitarian needs of the

Palestinians and Lebanese. It is the people in the United States and the people in Palestine, Lebanon and the Middle East who have written our story. It is you who make this people-to-people program work. ♦

## 1968 OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE 1994



Beirut, Lebanon

**1973** Arab-Israeli War, October 1973. • Over \$2.1 million dollars raised for relief. Distributed to civilian victims mainly in Syria and Egypt. • Dr. Davis retired as President Emeritus, John Richardson appointed President.

**1974** ANERA's focus shifted from refugee relief to supporting local grassroots organizations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with the goal of strengthening Palestinian institutions and self-determination.

**1975** Start of Lebanese Civil War. • Continued shift from relief to longer-term community and economic development when ANERA received funding from USAID to assist 13 Palestinian charitable organizations with training and job-creation programs.

**1976** ANERA office in Jerusalem opened. Henry Selz, formerly with American Friends Service Committee, appointed first Middle East representative.

**1977** Likud government in office; Menachem Begin elected; official Israeli policy to restrict aid to Occupied Territories begun. • Egyptian President Sadat visited Jerusalem. • Dr. Peter Gubser, development specialist formerly with Ford Foundation in the Middle East, joined as ANERA president. • First agricultural projects to build chicken feed plant with Ramallah Agricultural Cooperative

begun and mechanized land reclamation unit with Tarqumia Cooperative initiated.



Henry Selz and town managers, Gaza City

# Economic Development in a War Zone



For some, development under occupation might conjure up images of bullets and ambulances. My first experience, however, was meeting a little Palestinian girl squatting barefoot in the mud, patting and shaping cheese into balls on a plywood board.

I don't know her name, but I visited her village, Beit Nuba in the West Bank, a few months after the *intifada* had started in 1988. She should have been in school, but the Israeli authorities had closed all the schools in retaliation for the protests. She shouldn't have been barefoot or had so many patches on her clothes, but she was poor. She should have been working in cleaner conditions to make sanitary cheese. The best part of this story is that some day, as a result of her families' participation in an ANERA-sponsored livestock cooperative and micro-dairy project, she would.

I wrote about her and called the story Palestinian Cows Give Palestinian Milk, but the village itself was the story. Beit Nuba was a village right on the 1967 'green line', on the road to Gaza. Israel occupied it during the first days of the war, and razed it the following week. The people of Beit Nuba fled to Ramallah, ending up in Kalandia refugee camp. The Israelis built a settlement in the lush valley right away. From across the valley you could still see the remains of Beit Nuba's stone house foundations and cactus hedges.

After regrouping, and mindful of the fate of so many other Palestinian refugees who ended up in camps, the villagers of Beit Nuba returned to their land to make a living, settling on a rocky hill overlooking the valley. They built tin shacks in the mud and tried their hand at raising vegetables, with little success because the land was untillable. However, it was suitable for grazing, and they approached ANERA to help build a shed and pens for livestock. The Israeli authorities disliked the project, citing security problems and several times threatened to send in bulldozers, but the villagers prevailed, built a shed, and developed a herd of cows.

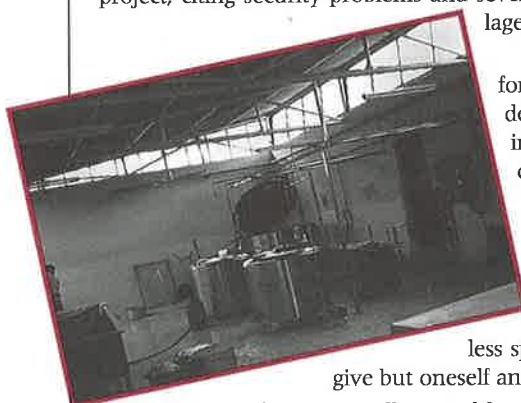
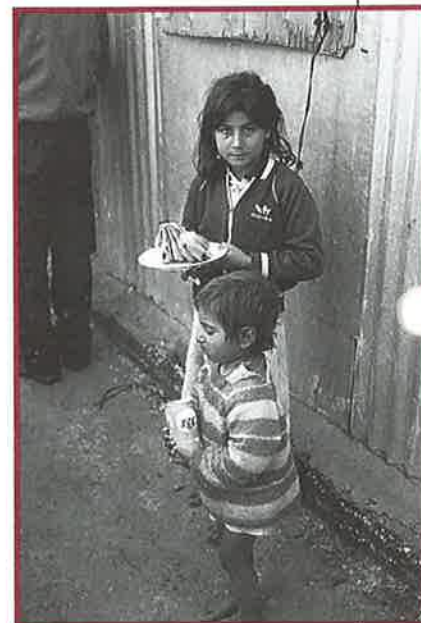
When I visited, the herd was producing enough milk for outside sales, and Palestinian products were in great demand. ANERA and the village cooperative were installing a small sterilization unit to process the milk into clean yogurt, which the members planned to market in the West Bank.

Sitting in the muddy village, overlooking the settlement, we talked to the villagers about their high hopes for their endeavors. As we ate, the little girl and her brother served us fruit and sodas with a time-

less spirit of graciousness that came from having nothing to give but oneself and one's respect for others.

This village project illustrated for me some of the traditional goals of development projects — local initiative and responsibility, economic improvement for families and their children, self-sufficiency through one's own efforts. I hoped that as a result of this process, this little girl's life would be better. She would have more hope, more security and more access to education and opportunity than did her parents. Most of all, I hoped she would have a chance to be happy.

—Paula Stinson



## 1968 OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE 1994

*"You also see the courage of the Palestinians who persevere under military occupation. They could all have given up and left, but they stay and work to make life better."*

—Sara Gentry, ANERA vice president, 1973-1980

**1978** Israel invaded Lebanon; relief assis-

tance sent by ANERA. • Camp David Accords signed. • Scholarship program with Rawdat El Zuhur (Garden of Flowers) and Dar El Tifl (House of Children) schools in East Jerusalem started. • First irrigation project with village of Nazla Sharkiya initiated. • First municipal project with city of Hebron to build library begun.

**1979** Work on Gaza sewage collection systems begun. ANERA supplied piping; municipality provided engineering skills; and residents contributed labor.

**1980** Over \$1 million dollars worth of planned and

funded projects held up because of military government's objections.

**1981** Over 20 USAID-related projects and 19 ANERA donor-financed projects denied authorization or delayed by Israeli military authorities.

**1982** Israel invaded Lebanon, bombed Beirut. Sabra-Shatila massacre. \$325,000 worth of medical supplies sent to Beirut by ANERA in July. • Work on Gaza stormwater system begun.

**1983** Continued relief to Southern Lebanon: \$503,235 worth of burn medicines to

American University of Beirut hospital, the Lebanese Red Cross and UNRWA.



AMER pharmaceutical donations

## Sustainable Development: Agriculture

Development, as the name implies, is the process of building and reshaping a society and its economy. In a traditional society, the economy is based on the small farmer, producing just enough for the family's immediate needs. A developed society, however, has a complex system of agriculture, industry and services, each interdependent upon the others.

This transformation process is complex, requiring a healthy, educated work force as well as capital and appropriate technology. Although methods may vary the goal remains the same: to help people work for a decent standard of living and gain more control over their own lives.

While farmers the world over share similar problems in their efforts to improve production, the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have faced unique setbacks and restrictions. Much of the best land has been expropriated, leaving them with only hilly fields and rocky soil. They have no control over their water resources, vital to agriculture in a semi-arid climate. Finally, they have had no central government to help in the planning, implementation and financing of large scale projects — such as irrigation systems, agricultural extension and farm-



## Working Together to Move Mountains

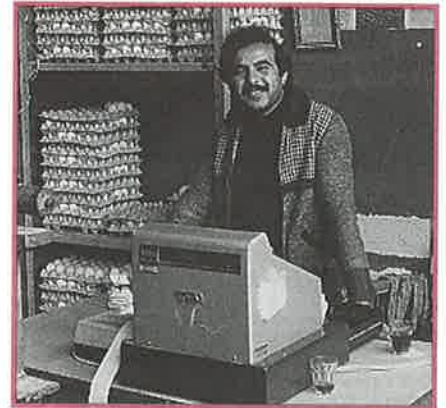
To improve production, new, uncultivated lands must be brought into use, equipment modernized and new technologies introduced to increase production on lands already being farmed. One way Palestinians are working to get the most from their lands is through membership in agricultural cooperatives. Farmers pool their resources and share the costs of mechanization or other essential agricultural services. This gives them access to technologies they could not otherwise afford on their own.

An example is the Raboud Agricultural Cooperative in the Hebron area, one of the 60 cooperatives in the West Bank and Gaza Strip using modern farm machinery and tractors provided by ANERA. The cooperative, the first in the Hebron district, was started in 1980 with 17 members and one tractor. By 1992 there were 170 members and the cooperative managed four tractors

and more than 15 pieces of agricultural machinery. In the beginning, the cooperative only served its members. Today it rents equipment and drivers to nine villages in the surrounding area and is used by more than 500 farmers.

to-market roads — necessary if agriculture is to become profitable.

While one of the main goals of improved agriculture is to end hunger, increased production benefits small farmers in other ways. More crops mean increased income for the families, raising their standard of living. Extra cash can be used for farm improvements or basic necessities — food they can't produce, medicine and schooling for the children. Finally, profitable farming allows people to remain on their land. ♦



## 1968 OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE 1994



Military presence in the Occupied Territories

**1984** Israeli "National Unity" government formed, headed by Prime Minister Shimon Peres. ANERA project

approvals increased dramatically. • ANERA Gaza branch office opened, headed by Gazan businessman Isam Shawwa

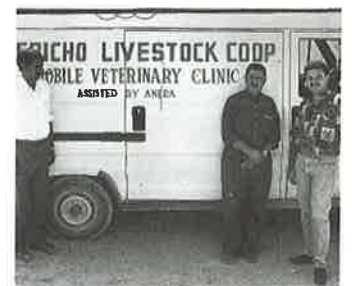
**1985** AMER ships \$847,044 worth of medicines to Lebanon, UNRWA, Jordan, Sudan and Iraq for refugees and relief. • Program to control spread of phylloxera (grape vine disease) with Hebron Agricultural Cooperative begun. • Ibrahim Matar, economist, formerly with Mennonite Central Committee, hired as ANERA Deputy Director, Jerusalem.

**1986** Yitzak Shamir succeeded as Israeli

Prime Minister. • Lance Matteson, lawyer, formerly with the Peace Corps, joined ANERA as Middle East Representative.

**1987** Start of Palestinian *intifada* (uprising) in the Occupied Territories – December 9, 1987 • Al-Kafaat (Abilities) Rehabilitation Institute in Beirut, Lebanon added to scholarship program. • Funding Palestinian-Israeli reconciliation projects in Israel started. • First micro-dairy projects started with cooperatives in Nassariya, Sawahra Sharqiya, Tulkarem, Jenin and Beit

Nuba. • Beit Jala municipal light industry complex opened.



Mobile Veterinary Clinic, Jericho Valley

## Dressmakers and Carpenters in Bethlehem

Representatives of all the Muslim and Christian charitable societies in Bethlehem created the Committee for Rehabilitation and Development on June 1, 1968 to offer loans to low-income families in the Bethlehem area for the purpose of starting or enhancing businesses. ANERA has supported the Committee with donations ever since.

So far the Committee has made 830 loans ranging from \$500 to \$1000. Applicants are screened on the basis of need and seriousness of purpose, and they repay the loans in monthly installments within two to three years. Committee members offer business advice and support to help the entrepreneurs succeed financially. Successful businessmen and women have included farmers, carpenters, shoemakers, drapers, green-grocers, auto mechanics, electricians, car painters, knitters, weavers, tailors and dressmakers.

ANERA's support has helped applicants like some of the following:

Five years ago Mrs. Violette Yacub Sabat was an apprentice in a drapery shop. A widow, she was unable to support her two daughters on her meager wages. However, she worked diligently to learn to make drapery and hangings, a service much in demand, and applied for a loan to buy material and a sewing machine. In the beginning she worked in her living room, during school hours and late at night after her daughters were asleep. After repaying her first loan, she applied for a second, and with the increased business now has a small shop of her own.



Ahmad Ali Subeh's second loan helped his business, a tiny grocery store just blocks from Bethlehem's Manger Square, to turn a profit. In response to customer demand, he bought a refrigerator to sell sodas, cheese and vegetables. The Subehs are a large family, and Ahmad was very careful with the profits, reinvesting them in stock for the store. Today the children are well fed, clothed and all attend school. While the household situation is still quite modest, the Subehs no longer have to depend on charity.

## Sustainable Development: Community Services & Institution Building

There are many approaches to development ranging from importing technical knowledge and expertise to developing systems for agriculture, roads, water distribution or industry, to training people for employment, to providing services for the poor. However, one of the most important is "grassroots" development — assisting local service organizations to design and sustain programs within their communities. ANERA was founded as a relief organization, but small-scale community development quickly became an important part of our program. Most of our private donations (non-AID funds) are distributed as modest grants to Palestinian and Lebanese schools, women's unions, and social service organizations, often in conjunction with technical assistance.

This has been especially important in Palestine where people have felt the effects of military occupation in so many aspects of their daily lives. These include restrictions on movement, curfews, deportations, as well as restrictions on banking and trade which limit access to credit and one's ability to earn a living. The requirement for approvals and permits to organize, restrictions on types of projects that could be carried out, and the poor quality of social services administered by the military authorities all contribute to diminishing people's dignity and perpetuating their poverty. Grassroots organizations have played a vital role in giving people back the power to control some aspects of their own lives and well-being. ♦

## 1968 OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE 1994



West bank child

**1988** Intifada intensified throughout West Bank and Gaza Strip. Mass civil disobedience, economic boycotts and occasional violence met with increased army repression, beatings and killings — frequently of children — deportations, mass arrests, curfews and school closings. ANERA responded with aid to schools, clinics and community self-help projects. • PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat renounced terrorism, United States begun dialogue with PLO. • Halhoul market opened, stalls promptly rented.

**1989** AMER sent \$572,723 of medicine to Beirut in response to heavy fighting between militias. • ANERA's grant from USAID doubled. • First direct Palestinian agriculture exports to Europe, aided by ANERA. • First animal feed processing plant opened in West Bank, in conjunction with Ramallah Poultry Co-operative. • First modern slaughterhouse in the Gaza Strip (Khan Younis) opened, after many delays. Significant improvement seen in cleanliness of meat sold to consumers, as well as environmental conditions of surrounding neighborhoods.



Woman's Sewing Cooperative, Kalandia Camp

## Sustainable Development: Municipalities

For people to develop their lives and economies in urban areas, essential municipal services and infrastructure are vital. What is a city or town without garbage collection, a sewage system, clean water or roads? Infrastructure for commerce and industry is also necessary; industrial zones, markets and the like. Accordingly, ANERA has sought to work with some Palestinian municipalities as they work to deliver these essential services.

This has been quite a challenge in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. ANERA has worked only with municipalities considered legitimate by the people, and has often had to bring its skills in negotiation, advocacy and influence to bear in dealing with the objections of the military authorities. Underdeveloped municipal skills and the inevitable problems that go along with building large-scale, complicated projects also contribute to the difficulty of this work. A key factor in successfully completing such projects has been our ongoing presence and commitment. ANERA has been there on the ground to work with municipalities to solve problems, year after year, as long as it takes. ♦



### Clean Streets, Clean Water

The municipality of Halhoul is the second largest city in the Hebron district, and, due to its central location, one of the largest produce markets in the West Bank. Before the ANERA-supported project, commerce had been conducted in scattered locations throughout the town, causing congestion, highway accidents, and highly unsanitary conditions.

Mayor Mohamed Milhem, after his election in 1976, contacted ANERA about helping construct a central, wholesale, fruit and vegetable market and cold storage facility for produce, to which ANERA agreed. When he was deported after political disagreements with the military authorities, the project languished for four years. Work resumed in 1985 and was finally completed in 1989. The market, a large, modern facility of 22 stores, was immediately rented and is producing over 40% of the municipality's revenues. The cold storage facility, located beneath, is the first and largest in the West Bank.

In addition to producing revenue, the project provides several developmental benefits.

Storing produce during the high season allows it to be marketed at a later time and for higher prices. Increasing the opportunities for marketing facilitates a competitive system and reduces monopolistic practices. It also encourages farmers to improve quality and packaging, which increases incomes. And the central facility consolidates wholesale produce and trade, and helps clean up and beautify the city of Halhoul.

A second project, long and arduous in the making, is the stormwater conservation system with the city of Gaza. ANERA began work with the municipality in 1982, but the project was stopped for years when Gaza Mayor Rashad Shawwa was removed by the military. However, it continued in fits and starts, with the aid of numerous interventions by ANERA, and today Phase I, a large water collector and drainage system, is operating and collects about 40% of the rainwater from streets of Gaza. Aside from improving the streets, a major benefit from this project is that the conserved stormwater will percolate into the groundwater table, rather than run off into the sea, providing valuable fresh water in an acutely water-short Gaza Strip.



### 1968 OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE 1994



Refugee camp, Jordan-Iraq border

**1990** Iraq invaded and annexed Kuwait. ANERA sent over \$550,000 of medicine to the West Bank and Jordan

to aid Asian and Arab evacuees. • Thousands returned to the Occupied Territories from the Gulf, straining the already crippled economy. Subsidies and income from the Gulf ended. • Sun Day Care Center in the Gaza Strip joined Scholarship Program. • Gaza Stormwater System (Phase I) completed, drains 40% of Gaza City. • \$1.5 million dollar credit program for small farmers begun; administered through agricultural cooperatives.

**1991** War in the Persian Gulf. • ANERA

raised over \$1.2 million dollars and \$250,000 in medicine to aid Kurdish and Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Iran, West Bank and victims of 52-day curfew in Gaza. • Extensive coordination in North America with groups aiding civilian victims of war. • Madrid peace process begun.

**1992** Civil war ends in Lebanon - reconstruction begun. • Musa Alami Society of North America merged with ANERA. • Yitzhak Rabin elected Prime Minister of Israel.



Bedouin clinic, Galilee, Israel

## Sustainable Development: Education

**A**NERA's programs have always had a strong emphasis on education. Whether through supporting vocational and technical training, public outreach or direct support for schools and universities, we firmly believe that education is the first step toward development. While industry, agriculture, banking and the basic structure of government are important to developing a society, this cannot be accomplished without an educated population.

The complex tasks demanded can only be addressed by an equally complex educational system which will prepare farmers, administrators, bankers, mechanics, women and men, for the demands of the future. Many systems exist in developed countries to train people to fill these needs, ranging from formal systems of universal public education and advanced technical training to non-formal approaches such as vocational apprenticeships, literacy instruction, agricultural extension or on-site training.

In underdeveloped countries, many people, for many reasons, do not complete formal education, making non-formal education systems even more important. In rural areas, for example, farmers benefit from the "know-how" of an agricultural expert who travels from site to site, or a young child's future is enhanced because his or her uneducated mother has attended community classes in nutrition and hygiene.

## Learning For Life

**M**any Palestinian men go to work abroad, leaving behind families headed by women. However, many of these women are uneducated or have received only a few years of formal schooling. ANERA has long funded outreach programs through local women's organizations which offer literacy training, instruction in nutrition and hygiene, and short-term vocational training programs in sewing and handicrafts. All are designed to help Palestinian women provide better care to their families and earn much-needed income.



One example of how well-planned development projects reinforce one another and become building blocks for the next is the Arab College of Nursing. ANERA began funding a B.S. level program for female nurses in 1978. Traditionally a male-dominated profession in the region, the nursing program has been very popular and sought by women ever since. Training female nurses fulfills several needs by providing improved health care services for all, employing female heads of households, and enhancing the quality of life.

Many of the first graduates now staff the Patient's Friends Society Hospital in Hebron, another long-term ANERA project.

**T**he second story comes from Beirut. Rita had come to Al-Kafaat, an ANERA-supported school for handicapped children, as an abused child with severe hearing loss caused by trauma to her head. At first she was terrified and withdrawn. With the aid of physical and therapeutic rehabilitation she became the darling of the school. "I never spoiled a child in my life as I did with her," wrote Nadeem Shwayri, Director of Al-Kafaat. Rita graduated from the school of catering, one of 12 educational, social and job placement programs offered.

Rita and Dr. Shwayri lost contact during the civil war. He recently received a card from her. She now runs a flourishing delicatessen with her husband, and has twin sons. She signed the card, 'your daughter Rita.' "Well, ANERA friends," writes Dr. Shwayri, "if I am Rita's father, you are her aunts and uncles."



As in other areas of development, education in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has been seriously hampered by the lack of a central, popular government. The physical and economic restrictions of military occupation have also constrained the develop-

ment of institutions which should both educate and employ an educated population. In Lebanon, the recent 15-year civil war has taken a tremendous toll on both educational institutions and employment opportunities for graduates. ♦

1968

OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

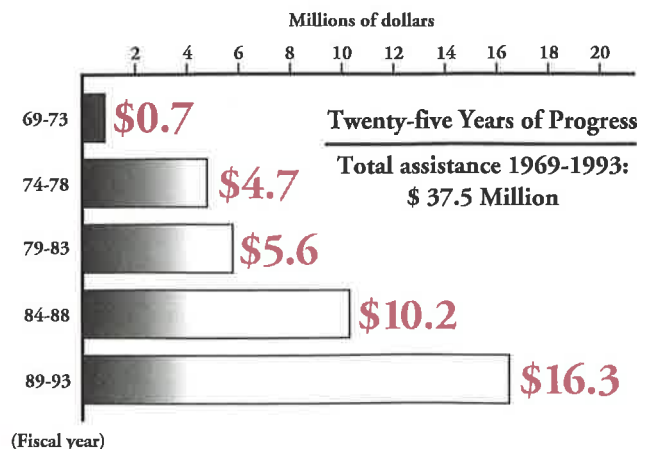
1994

**1993** Israeli-PLO Declaration of Principals signed September 13, 1993. • West Bank/Israel/Gaza borders sealed off in March creating enormous hardship. • AMER shipped \$350,000 in donated pharmaceuticals to Patient's Friends Society Hospital, Hebron. • Atfaluna (Our Children) School for Deaf Children in Gaza added to scholarship program. • ANERA celebrates 25th year of service.

**1994** ANERA donors contributed over \$60,000 to aid victims of Hebron Mosque massacre. • Gaza-Jericho Self Rule Agreement signed May 4, 1994.



Gaza City





**25th Year Campaign**  
(continued from page 1)

Our goal is in sight and we have been able to make numerous grants to community organizations in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Lebanon providing critical services to the needy. But we are not quite there. We are counting on final contributions to the Campaign to help us reach our goal so we can increase our grants this summer. These vital groups are in dire need of support and are not receiving sufficient funds from elsewhere.

If you have not yet participated, please consider doing so now. ANERA will be recognizing contributors of \$250 or more by listing them in a donor album which will be placed on permanent display in ANERA's offices in East Jerusalem and Gaza at the conclusion of the Campaign. They will also be recognized in ANERA's 1994 Annual Report. In addition, Campaign donors of \$500 or more receive a 25th Anniversary plate of traditional Palestinian pottery.

If you would like to join the Campaign, please fill out the coupon below. ♦

**Hebron Update**  
(continued from page 1)

coordinating organization now responsible for health in this interim political period.

Your support continues to mean a great deal to the Palestinian people, who are experiencing violence and economic distress because of the more than one year's closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Israel. The effects have been disastrous. Not only are victims of the Hebron tragedy suffering from the collective punishment of curfews and closures, but Palestinians in other areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip are also being harshly punished by loss of jobs, restrictions on movement, and excessive force by the military.

The severe closures and restrictions placed on Palestinians in and around Hebron following the massacre have also affected students at the Hebron Post Graduate Union Polytechnic. Many are unemployed and have no income to pay their tuition. We hope to have funds available to enable the Polytechnic to offer partial or full scholarships during this emergency period. ♦

**ANERA INITIATES  
LEGACY SOCIETY**

You can extend your contribution and commitment to long-term peace, development and relief in the Middle East well into the future by including ANERA in your will.

We have created the ANERA Legacy Society to enhance opportunities for you to make bequests to ANERA. Through this we will honor your planned gift at the time you include ANERA in your will.

Members of this Society will be recognized for their ultimate contribution on behalf of Palestinians and Lebanese in ANERA's annual report unless they wish to remain anonymous. Possibilities for more public memorialization for large bequests also exist.

I have remembered ANERA in my will.

Please enroll me in the ANERA Legacy Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer to remain anonymous at this time in making my bequest to ANERA.

For more information about ANERA's planned giving program or about a gift from your estate, contact Nina Dodge, Director, Major Gifts (tel. 202-347-2558).



**YES, I want to join ANERA's 25th Anniversary Campaign**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10,000 and above: Builders

\_\_\_\_\_ \$2,500 to \$9,999: Benefactors

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 to \$2,499: Sponsors

\_\_\_\_\_ \$500 to \$999: Sustainers

\_\_\_\_\_ \$250 to \$499: Creators

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me more information about the 25th Anniversary Campaign

*Contributions of \$250 or more will be recognized by category in ANERA's Annual Report (FY94) and listed in an album of contributors to be placed in Jerusalem and Gaza and at the conclusion of the 25th Anniversary Campaign. In addition, all contributors of \$500 and above will receive a 25th Anniversary plate of traditional Jerusalem pottery.*

**YES, I want to help ANERA's projects in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Lebanon**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$200    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ \$75    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_\_\_ \$35    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Scholarship:**

*I would like to provide a 1-year scholarship (\$100 per child) for a:*

- Palestinian child
- Lebanese child
- School where need is greatest

*Sponsors receive a photo of the child and a letter from the school during the year.*

### In Honor of . . .

Matt Abdo ■ Salma Abdo ■ Frederick A. Chmiel ■ Caroline de Pottel ■ Mark Ewing ■ Louise Green ■ Mira Halabi ■ Nellie Hishmeh ■ Jesus Christ ■ Laila and Lauren ■ John and Sophia Nogel ■ Hanna and Hanne Nustas ■ Kirsten Pedersen ■ Dr. Maysoun Shocair Ali ■ Taylor and Alison Wiseley ■ Nancy Withington ■ ADK - International Sorority of Women Educators ■ Eid Al-Fitr ■ the heroic Palestinian people ■ humanity

### In Memory of . . .

Lana Abu-Sahyun ■ Father Jamil Armaly ■ Mrs. Hanneh Aweimrini ■ Robert Banville ■ Sybil Totah Belmont ■ Kenneth Boulding ■ Marta E. Camurati ■

Edward H. Cutler ■ Dr. John Davis ■ Domenica Defano ■ Abraham Diamond ■ Mr. and Mrs. Simon Estfan ■ Marshood Farhat ■ Harrison Garrett ■ Dr. Albert Glock ■ Mr. Fred M. Hale ■ Macdonald B. Halsey ■ Stella Hanania ■ Liston F. Hills ■ Dr. Mazen Kaibni ■ Heinz and Else Kappes ■ Malcolm Kerr ■ Paul Lapp ■ Craig Mansour ■ Kamal Marchi ■ Hanna I. Mikhail ■ Joseph M. Phillips ■ Ms. Sylvia Quade ■ William A. Robinson ■ Harry and Marie Schwary ■ Henry Stinson ■ Mr. Beverly T. Thompson ■ Merle Thorpe, Jr. ■ Constantin C. Vlachopoulos ■ John Vlamis ■ Sam W. Ward ■ Dr. H. Yeni-Komshian ■ Hebron mosque massacre victims

# ANERA

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*At ANERA we are concerned about the proliferation of junk mail. However, mail is a very economical way to reach new people. For this reason we occasionally trade our mailing list with similar humanitarian organizations, although we never rent or sell our names. If you wish to have your name removed from this list, please let us know in writing.*

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## For Your Information

**A**NERA President Dr. Peter Gubser has written a report about his recent trip to the Middle East. It highlights several ANERA projects in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and discusses upcoming challenges in the region. Please let us know if you would like a copy. He has also been busy granting interviews, including a recent appearance on the MacNeil-Lehrer Newshour on May 4th where he discussed economic development in Palestine.

**F**arewell and thanks for a masterful job of overhauling our computer system to Ron Wolfe, who leaves to study architecture at the University of Virginia. He is replaced by Josh Farnsworth, the new director of computer systems and mail processing. Welcome also to Dave Payne, who replaces Steve Webster as assistant accountant.

**A** special thanks to William and Ulla Carter, who have twice visited ANERA projects as volunteers this year. Bill, a distinguished photojournalist, has generously donated scores of very professional and moving black and white photographs of our work. We deeply appreciate this legacy and acknowledge their obviously heartfelt donation. Thanks Bill and Ulla.



*25 Years of Service:  
Economic Development  
Under Occupation*

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Dr. Peter Gubser, President  
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