

# ANERA *Newsletter*

American Near East Refugee Aid

Number 95 Fall 1991

## EDUCATION: *Building for Tomorrow*

**T**he war of 1948 saw countless tragedies and none more grievous than the sight and sound of unwanted and orphaned children crowding into Jerusalem, begging in the streets, taking food, sleeping in doorways and in (destroyed) buildings. Someone, somehow, had to intervene...That someone, I realized, had to be me," wrote Miss Elizabeth Nasir as she began to plan for a school she would call Rawdat El-Zuhur (The Garden of Flowers). At first she brought girls off the street and into her home, where they lived and learned practical skills.

As the years went by Miss Nasir saw the need to expand, and to teach reading, writing and arithmetic. They moved to a larger building, adding more students, until the school was forced to use even the smallest spaces for learning. Classes were held in the hallways, in the kitchen and even in a tent in the courtyard. The children took turns playing with dolls in cramped closets, that fit only two at a time. There were only two bathrooms for everyone, teachers included.

Thus began Rawdat El-Zuhur's dream to add a second floor to the school, a process that would take over seven years. Most of those years were spent applying and waiting for the



*ANERA scholarship donors help shape the future of Palestinians by aiding in the education of children at two schools in East Jerusalem, one in the Gaza Strip and one in Beirut, Lebanon.*

proper permits. Then, not far into the building process, they were forced to tear down what they had accomplished because the stairway overlooked an Israeli guard post. It seemed like the dream would never come true.

Finally, on September 21, 1991, Rawdat El-Zuhur celebrated the grand opening of the second story. The kids sang with excitement and performed traditional Arab dances. Miss Khoury, president of Rawdat El-Zuhur and niece of Miss Nasir, talked about the history of the school, and presented a plaque honoring those that helped. Among the names is "ANERA", a tribute to those who have given generously to the scholarship program.

Now there is a room for every class, from nursery school through the sixth grade. Inside, the children continue to study math, science and reading. Upstairs, the library is full of English, French and Arabic books. The teachers have a lounge, and they cook meals in the kitchen once more. The new areas allow the kids to be kids again—they splash in finger-paints, watch films in the multi-purpose room, and sing and dance in the new stage area. One student said, "I used to like going to school at Rawdat El-Zuhur, now I love it."

Rawdat El-Zuhur is only one

*Continued on page 2*

## PROJECT ACTIVITY

In fiscal year 1991, extending from June 1, 1990 through May 31, 1991, ANERA and its AMER Medical Division gave assistance totalling \$4,679,793 to institutions providing economic and community development, education and health

services to Palestinians and Lebanese in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Israel. Of the total, \$3,892,017 was in grants and services, and \$835,096 was in medical supplies and shipping.

## PROJECT LIST

### COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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#### Women's Service Organizations

Mother/child health care, food for the needy, literacy programs, vocational training for women, and job creation. Jericho Women's Society (Jericho, West Bank), Murabitat Society (Qalqilia, WB), Qarawat Bani Zeid Society (QBZ, WB), Young Women's Muslim Association (Jerusalem, WB).

**\$114,000**

#### Municipal Projects

Construction of slaughter houses, wholesale and retail fruit and vegetable markets, light industrial complexes, and a stormwater conservation system as well as creating the management capability to construct a sewage system. The projects are with the municipalities of Beit Jala, Bethlehem, Halhul, Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarem in the West Bank, and Gaza City in Gaza.

**\$1,329,516**

#### Revolving Loan Funds

Revolving loan funds to assist Palestinian farmers, artisans and shop keepers to generate employment. Beit Lahia Agriculture Cooperative (Beit Lahia, Gaza), Nablus Agricultural Cooperative (Nablus, West Bank), Ramallah Agricultural Cooperative (Ramallah, WB).

**\$213,000**

#### Agricultural Produce Processing and Marketing

Partial funding to assist cooperatives to improve their ability to process foodstuff and market produce. Project locations are in Gaza City, Gaza, as well as in Beit Nuba, Beit Sahour,

Jericho, Kufr Naimeh, Nablus, al-Nahda, Nassariya, and Sawahreh Sharqiya in the West Bank.

**\$527,049**

#### Land Improvement and Mechanization for Agriculture

Partial funding to establish mechanized units to cultivate or reclaim land. Projects in the West Bank are located in al-Auja, Nahlin, Deir Ghassaneh, Hebron, al-Jeib, Silwan, and Salfit.

**\$202,000**

#### Grassroots Community Organizations

Libraries, clinics, literacy programs, vocational and leadership training, assistance to handicapped and orphans, and employment generation. A portion of the assistance was used for war relief aid. Al-Amal Society (Hebron, West Bank), Bethlehem Arab Society (Bethlehem, WB), Child Development Center (Gaza City, Gaza), the Galilee Society (Rama, Galilee, Israel), Israel-Palestine Center for Research and Information (Jerusalem), Sheltered Workshops for the Blind (Jerusalem, WB), YMCA (Beit Sahour, WB).

**\$143,000**

#### *Total Community and Economic Development*

**\$2,528,565**

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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Provision of training and consultants in agriculture, urban economic development, credit, health, and education.

#### *Total Technical Assistance*

**\$301,785**

### EDUCATION, *continued from page 1*

of the four schools ANERA scholarship donors help support. Dar El-Tifl, also in East Jerusalem, educates girls through high school. The Society for the Care of the Handicapped in the Gaza Strip serves over 3600 poor and handicapped children. Al-Kafaat in Beirut, Lebanon, reopened two training centers this year that were closed for six years during the war.

In an area filled with daily violence and suffering, the

children are safe inside the walls of the schools. But to educate the children properly they need your ongoing support. The aid you give helps the schools operate on a day-to-day basis providing a warm meal, educational toys, books, supplies and teachers' salaries. But, most important it shows the children that someone cares.

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*If you would like to know more about the schools, please use the coupon on the back or write to ANERA, attention: "Scholarship".*



At the grand opening, Mrs. Samia Houry, president of Rawdat El-Zuhur, unveils a plaque dedicating the second floor in memory of the founder, Miss Elizabeth Nasir.

## EDUCATION

### Child Scholarships

Scholarships for orphaned, destitute, and handicapped children. Dar El-Tifl (Jerusalem, West Bank), al-Kafa'at Rehabilitation Institute (Beirut, Lebanon), Rawdat El-Zuhur (Jerusalem, WB), Society for the Care of Handicapped Children (Gaza City, Gaza). **\$123,147**

### Youth Programs, Schools and Universities

Equipment, expertise, and scholarships for educational development. Bir Zeit University (Bir Zeit, West Bank), Institut de Reeducation (Biacourt, Lebanon), Legacy International (Jerusalem), Union of Charitable Societies (Jerusalem, WB). **\$93,000**

**Total Education** **\$216,147**

## HEALTH AND RELIEF SERVICES

### Relief Operations

Providing assistance to the victims of conflict: food, shelter, clothing, blankets, clinics. American Red Cross

(Kuwait), Arab Health Center (Jerusalem, West Bank), Augusta Victoria Hospital (Jerusalem, WB), Direct Relief International (Iraqi Border), Jordan National Red Crescent Society (Amman, Jordan), Jordan Society, Lebanese Red Cross (Lebanon), Old Age Home (Beit Jala, WB), Orthodox Clinic (Jerusalem, WB), Patient's Friends Society (Jerusalem, WB), Red Crescent Society (Jerusalem, WB), Silwan Benevolent Society (Silwan, WB), Union of Medical Relief Societies (Jerusalem, WB), YMCA (Jerusalem, WB). **\$89,200**

### Hospitals and Clinics

Hospital and clinic services for Palestinians and Lebanese. Ahli Arabi Hospital (Gaza City, Gaza), Arab Colleges for Medical Training (El-Bireh, West Bank), Arab Health Center (Jerusalem, WB), Augusta Victoria Hospital (Jerusalem, WB), Ittihad Hospital (Nablus, WB), Jifna Women's Society (Jifna, WB), Maqassad Hospital (Jerusalem, WB), Nazareth Hospital (Nazareth, Galilee, Israel), Orthodox Clinic (Jerusalem, WB), Patient's Friends Society (Hebron, WB), Qarawat Bani Zeid Society (QBZ, WB), Red Crescent Society (Jerusalem, WB). **\$757,000**

**Total Health Services** **\$846,200**

## IN-KIND MATERIALS

### Pharmaceutical Products and Health Supplies

Medicine and health materials for hospitals and clinics. American University Hospital (Beirut, Lebanon), Jordan Evacuee Relief Committee (Amman, Jordan), Lebanese Permanent Coordinating Committee (Beirut, Lebanon), UNRWA (Occupied Territories). **\$739,096**

**Shipping Costs** **\$48,000**

**Total In-Kind** **\$787,096**

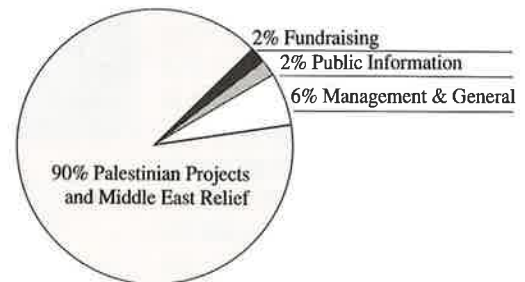
**TOTAL** **\$4,679,793**

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The ANERA staff is grateful for the generous donations this year from individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations.

The "pie" at rights represents ANERA's expenditures in fiscal year 1991, which total \$5,809,583. ANERA's FY 1991 annual audit may be obtained by contacting the ANERA office.

ANERA is proud that only 10% of its income was needed for fundraising and management. This is an excellent record among charitable organizations and is made possible by the generosity of ANERA donors and the efficiency of the ANERA staff.



**Total Expenditures for FY 91**

**\$5,809,583**

**ANERA has received gifts...**

**In Honor of:**

Joseph DePinto ■ IImad Bhargouty ■ Dr. & Mrs. John H. Davis ■ Chester Grabowski ■ Parents of Ms. Violet V. Hyder ■ Mrs. Thelma E. Jones ■ Martin Luther King Jr. ■ Asmahan Adel Kweider ■ William Brown Lee ■ Ambassador & Mrs. Robert Neumann ■ Helen & Al Salloum's 40th wedding anniversary ■ Al-Kafaat Rehabilitation Institute ■ ANERA staff ■ Homeless ■ My children ■ Palestinian national self-determination ■ Palestine ■ Prayers for peace ■ Those who have cared for the Middle East ■ West Bank & Gaza Strip ■ The work of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace

**In Memory of:**

George N. Adriance ■ Dr. & Mrs. John H. Davis ■ Lynn J. Dorn ■ Mr. & Mrs. Simon Estfan ■ James W. Gibbs ■ Bessie Wissler Graybill ■ Tillie B. Hardwick ■ Hanna Kollo ■ Thorvald E. Manson ■ Albert Maria ■ Raymond J. Matton ■ Leo Menconi ■ Barbara Ann Mishriki ■ Patricia Pease ■ Dr. Cass Arthur Reed ■ Professor A.V.R. Sauer ■ Mrs. Connie Villegas ■ Louise Warner ■ Evan Wilson ■ Robert R. Banville

**Special Thanks to:**

Haidar Abdul-Shafi ■ Faisal Al-Husseini ■ Hanan Ashrawi ■ Secretary of State James A. Baker III ■ President Bush ■ Mark A. Heller & Sari Nusseibeh ■ King Hussein ■ Crown Prince Hassan ■ Jim Clark ■ Abd al-Rahman Kefi ■ Andie Lorenz ■ Monica Press ■ Rick Reinhardt ■ Kim Villov ■ Ogden Williams ■ Israeli Peace Camp ■ Madrid Peace Conference ■ Peace Now

*In Memory of:  
Sibyl Totah Belmont  
A person unflinching present in the  
movement for Palestinian  
statehood and human rights.*

**Enclosed is a donation for ANERA's projects in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Lebanon.**

\_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_ \$1000

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

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

**City, State, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scholarship**

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

- The Gaza Strip
- East Jerusalem
- Beirut

*\*Sponsors receive a photo of the child and letters from the school*

*Give the gift of knowledge:*

\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to give a \$100 scholarship as a holiday gift. I understand you will send a holiday card to the address below. I would like this gift to help a child in:  East Jerusalem  Beirut  The Gaza Strip.

**From: Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **To: Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**City, State, ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_ **City, State, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_



*Text by Jan Segna, Executive Assistant. UNRWA provided the front page photo and the inside photo was furnished by Rawdat El-Zuhur.*



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**EDUCATION:**

*Building for Tomorrow*

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