



Gaza

Food Security

August 10, 2021



BACKGROUND: Since the blockade of Gaza started 14 years ago, the economy of the territory has been stagnating. Add to this intermittent bombings and a global pandemic and you have a recipe for food insecurity. More than two-thirds of Gaza's 2 million residents are food insecure.

Anera's Response in the Past Year

FOOD VOUCHERS: Anera provided food vouchers, good at local grocery stores, to **5,125 vulnerable families** in Gaza during Ramadan 2021, in order to meet the nutritional needs of families breaking their daily fasts. *IRUSA funded.*

MEAT DISTRIBUTIONS: Anera distributed fresh meat for the 2021 Eid al-Adha holiday, providing two kilograms of meat to 15,300 disadvantaged families to support their nutritional needs and to boost the local livestock market. *IRUSA funded.*

HOMEMADE MEALS: After 11 days of bombing of Gaza in May 2021, Anera worked with longtime partner CSSL women's cooperative and local restaurants, and in partnership with World Central Kitchen (WCK), to deliver **108,400 hot meals to thousands of displaced families** and others affected by the hostilities. *Funded by WCK.*

Our integrated school feeding program employs 40 women to make daily, nutritious lunches for 1,000 preschoolers in [North Gaza](#). Produce comes from 30 local farmers who have Anera-built greenhouses. The women are members of a cooperative that Anera has supported and preschoolers are from schools that Anera rehabilitated. *Funded by various donors.*

In January 2021, cases of COVID-19 rose in Gaza and the government imposed movement restrictions, resulting in food insecurity for many infected families in self-isolation. The project employed 46 women to make **40,225 nutritious, hot meals**. We delivered them to **1,038 families**. *Anera funded.*

HOME GARDENS: Anera provides families in need with greenhouses and start-up materials like seedlings, tools, and irrigation systems. We also train them in farming best practices. Farming families can feed themselves and earn income by selling surplus produce. Since 2018, Anera built **260 new greenhouses in Palestine and rehabilitated 180 others**.

Anera also installs rooftop [hydroponic](#) greenhouse systems for families to grow fresh produce. No soil is needed, so hydroponic gardens can be built on rooftops and other non-arable areas. They use **only 10-20% of the water needed in traditional systems**. Since 2018, Anera has built 50 hydroponic rooftop gardens in Gaza. We are now building 34 more. *Gardens funded by various donors.*

You can help!

Contribute to Anera's food security program in Gaza. **Contact Heba Alatshan at heba@anera-jwg.org to learn more.**