How can I help a Palestine refugee?

Here’s how

UNRWA

The Second Edition of 25 Ways to Help Palestine Refugees
September – December 2011
The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was established in 1949 to provide much-needed relief and emergency aid to the Palestinian refugees from the 1948 war. Since then, UNRWA’s operations have expanded to provide essential relief and human development services to 5 million registered Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the West Bank.

UNRWA’s largest programme is education. The Agency has been the main provider of primary education to Palestine refugees for over 60 years, and currently operates nearly 700 schools for almost half a million refugee pupils. UNRWA also delivers basic health services through 137 health centres. The Agency’s network of primary healthcare facilities and mobile clinics provides the foundation of its health services, offering preventive care, general medicine and specialized services. The third of UNRWA’s main programmes is relief and social services. Through this programme, the Agency provides essential food and cash assistance to the poorest refugee families to enable them to meet their most basic needs. In addition to these three main programmes, UNRWA also operates a microfinance programme, to promote economic and sustainable development, infrastructure and camp improvement programme to ameliorate the physical and social environment of UNRWA’s refugee camps and an emergency programme to mitigate the negative effects of sudden crises.

In the last few years, the Agency has been forced to cut back on its basic services, programmes and projects. Financial contributions have not increased sufficiently to keep pace with inflation and the growing refugee population. As need surpasses capacity, UNRWA has had to reduce essential services as is evident from the fact that average annual spending per refugee has fallen from about $200 in 1975 to around $110 today. Nevertheless, UNRWA’s commitment to Palestine refugees remains steady, and the Agency will continue to serve them until a just solution regarding the question of the Palestine refugees is reached.

In this document, UNRWA presents a range of its small-scale needs for Palestine refugees in Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the West Bank and describes how your contribution can make a difference. A detailed outline for each of the activities mentioned can be provided upon request.

Figures provided in this document are subject to slight variations.
In Gaza

Following on from almost a decade of protracted humanitarian crisis following the Al Aqsa Intifada in 2000, the Israeli blockade of Gaza by Israel after the Hamas movement's takeover in 2007 has resulted in further economic, social and geographical isolation for Gaza's already impoverished 1.4 million residents. Around 70% of the population are Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA. The closure of the Strip has choked off economic opportunities for Gaza's residents leaving most of them dependent on external humanitarian assistance for their means of survival. The ban on exports and extensive curbs on imports have all but destroyed the formal private sector, leading to dramatic increases in poverty and unemployment levels and enabling the growth of an illegal ‘tunnel economy’ beneath the border with Egypt.

Another key challenge is tackling the aggravated food insecurity among the most vulnerable groups – including children. In Gaza, UNRWA has identified an additional 200,000 refugees living below the abject food poverty line, bringing the total number to 300,000, with another 450,000 living below the absolute poverty line or without income. Worsening food insecurity and poverty means further deterioration in health and nutritional indicators.

The lack of economic chances translates into refugee unemployment of 46% and chronic abject and absolute poverty levels for many. Despite some relative improvements, unemployment levels in Gaza remain among the highest in the world. Job losses would have likely been even more precipitous were it not for expanded emergency job creation efforts by UNRWA and others, the growth in the tunnel economy and - in the immediate aftermath of Operation Cast Lead - large scale post-war clean up activities.

To mitigate the effects of the blockade and the daily hardships endured by Gaza's Palestine refugees, UNRWA seeks support for the following interventions:
Provide Adequate Food to 30,000 Refugees

Every 3 months, UNRWA provides the poorest refugees in the Gaza Strip with regular food parcels, which include rice, sugar, flour, cooking oil and milk. Under this proposed intervention, these families would be able to add much-needed protein to their diets with the addition of canned meat to the regular food parcels. Two 200-gram cans of corned beef would be distributed to each eligible and abject poor refugee in distribution centres in conjunction with regular food distribution.

With a donation of $300,000, canned corned beef can be distributed to ensure adequate nutrition for 32,900 impoverished refugees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Assistance</th>
<th>32,900 impoverished refugees</th>
<th>$300,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Provide Cash Assistance to 100 Poor Families

UNRWA is seeking to provide cash assistance grants to 62,038 refugee families (or 310,200 persons) in abject poverty in the Gaza Strip identified through poverty targeting schemes. Cash will be provided to enable poor families to meet basic needs such as ensuring access to health care and education, providing children with nutritious and healthy food, buying essential household items and covering the costs of transportation and household utilities. The total cost to provide cash assistance to 62,038 refugee families in 2011 is $73,690,107 (including programme support costs).

You can support 100 of Gaza’s refugee families living under the poverty line with a generous donation of $119,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Assistance</th>
<th>100 abject poor families</th>
<th>$119,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Provide Jobs to 200 Refugees

To mitigate the effects of protracted poverty and unemployment, UNRWA plans to provide temporary employment to 54,000 jobless refugees supporting 270,000 dependants during 2011, reaching around one-third of the refugee population of the Gaza Strip. The Agency will create job opportunities in its installations, as well as in municipalities, hospitals, Community Based Organisations, NGOs and through the private sector. The total budget for this project is $57,337,050.

With $212,000, UNRWA can provide 200 jobless refugees with temporary employment for 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Creation</th>
<th>200 jobless refugees (reaching ≈1,000 refugees)</th>
<th>$212,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
UNRWA’s Community Mental Health Programme aims at mitigating the negative effects of ongoing violence, economic hardship and rights violations on the refugee children in Gaza.

Through this intervention UNRWA allocates one counsellor per school to screen school children to determine which children are in the most urgent need for mental health support. Counsellors also conduct group counselling sessions, where students who have had similar experiences are able to interact with the counsellor and each other in an environment conducive to sharing and learning new coping strategies.

With a donation of $70,000, you will allow ~ 5,000 students in 5 UNRWA schools to receive counselling services for one year.

Students attending UNRWA’s schools and training and vocational centres are provided with prepared meals and snacks, which include sandwiches, yoghurt, fruit, and juice/milk. Evidence shows that adequate nutrition helps students to focus on their schoolwork and encourages them to attend school every day. As socio-economic conditions in the Gaza Strip continue to deteriorate, many families are unable to provide their children with even the most basic needs, such as daily snacks.

With $100,000, you can contribute to the improved nutrition and academic achievement of 2,250 refugee pupils for the 2011 – 2012 school year.
UNRWA serves 778,993 registered Palestinian refugees in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Since the Al Aqsa Intifada in late 2000, the protracted socio-economic crisis in the oPt has led to a decline in human and economic development levels and mounting hardships for this Palestinian community. As a result of Israeli access and movement restrictions, economic stagnation and forced displacements, Palestinian communities in the West Bank suffer from high levels of poverty, unemployment, food insecurity and tension.

For many Palestinians in the West Bank, access to economic resources and basic services continues to be severely restricted, limiting opportunities for sustainable growth and development. Access to East Jerusalem, the Jordan Valley and areas between the Barrier and the Green Line is particularly constrained, and the Palestinian population of these areas is especially vulnerable. Already poor living conditions for many communities in East Jerusalem and Area C are further affected by risk of displacement and regular exposure to settler violence. For example, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) more than 1204 Palestinians, including over 629 children were displaced in Area C and East Jerusalem in the last twelve months due to forced evictions and/or house demolitions by the Israeli authorities. Demolition orders have been served on thousands of Palestinian structures in Area C – built without permits, which are rarely granted – leaving many more communities at risk of displacement. OCHA further estimates that around 60,000 Palestinians in Jerusalem face threat of displacement due to possible demolitions by the authorities or eviction by settler groups.

In order to assist and protect refugees, safeguard their basic rights and freedoms and help them to hold on to their lands and communities, UNRWA has developed a number of interventions to address the consequences of displacement, the socio-economic crisis and access and movement restrictions.
Help West Bank farmers replant olive trees uprooted by settlers

Refugees experience almost daily restrictions on their freedom of movement, obstructed access to services, destruction and damage to property and livelihoods, and violence and harassment by military and settlers. Affected communities include those living in areas near settlements, the Barrier (including Seam Zones), Area C (especially the Jordan Valley and South Hebron Hills) and East Jerusalem.

UNRWA's project to help farmers replant olive trees uprooted by settlers and cultivate lands in areas threatened by settlement expansion, aims to challenge these protection threats, enhance the Palestinian presence on the land and reduce the likelihood of displacement.

A contribution of $180,000 would permit the hiring of 200 workers to assist farmers whose lands have been attacked by settlers. Workers would clear lands on both sides of the Barrier, trim trees burned by settlers, rehabilitate buildings and greenhouses, reconnect water networks, dig wells and cisterns and establish agricultural paths and multi-purpose roads to access fields located near the Barrier.

Provide Health Care for Isolated Refugee Communities

To mitigate the impact of closure and impoverishment on the health status of Palestinians residing in isolated or remote areas of the West Bank, UNRWA seeks support to provide mobile health care services (preventive and curative primary health care, blood tests, awareness and medical advice and mental health counselling) through 6 mobile clinics.

UNRWA has identified 59 locations without access to primary health care due to the impact of movement restrictions and impoverishment on mobility. Six UNRWA mobile health teams will visit these areas on a regular basis to provide preventive and curative primary health care (including blood tests, health information campaigns, and medical and mental health counselling). UNRWA aims to reach approximately 12,000 patients per month, both refugees and non-refugees with the five running mobile clinics (an estimated 2,000 patients per month are treated by one mobile clinic).

With a donation of $180,000, you can contribute to the improved health status of at risk Palestine refugees in the West Bank for one year.
Provide Cash Assistance to 100 Poor Refugee Families

This programme is part of a larger emergency livelihoods support programme, through which families without an able-bodied breadwinner will be prioritized for cash assistance support and those able to work will receive temporary employment assistance. The value of the donation is designed to cover the needs of vulnerable families for a period of three months. It is envisaged that families will receive an average of four payments per year.

The cash assistance programme targets families with special needs, such as those with disabilities and chronic illnesses and diseases, and communities residing in areas affected by the Barrier, Seam Zone, or in Area C, who are increasingly vulnerable due to lack of access to public services and reduced employment opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Assistance</th>
<th>100 vulnerable families</th>
<th>$115,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Rehabilitate Poor Refugee Families’ Houses

The housing conditions (shelters) of 941 Palestinian refugee families were assessed during 2010 as inadequate, unhygienic, unsafe, and overcrowded. These severe conditions continue to profoundly impact physical and psychosocial well-being of refugees.

Movement and access restrictions on goods and services, the fragmentation of the West Bank associated with political and economic crisis, and the occupation regime have significantly affected the Palestinian economy and the daily life of Palestinians since the start of the Second Intifada. As a result, refugees are no longer able to repair their shelters and improve surrounding urban environments.

Repair works for 60 shelters will improve the living conditions and protection of human rights for the most vulnerable families by providing them with a dignified and adequate core housing unit that is safe, hygienic, and properly ventilated. Their children would grow up in a better environment where they are less likely to spend most of their time in the alleyways.

The project will also create employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled labourers, suppliers of building materials and sanitary fittings.

A donation of $300,000 would help 60 refugee families to repair their homes.

| Shelter Rehabilitation for Poor Refugee Families | 60 families | $300,000 |
Jordan hosts the highest number of refugees of all five Fields of UNRWA operations. The 1.95 million Palestine refugees registered with the Agency in Jordan constitute 42% of all registered refugees in the Near East. Nearly 18% of them live in the ten official camps; another 47% live in three unofficial camps and in the vicinity of the camps, sharing similar socio-economic conditions.

Addressing the educational needs of Palestine refugees is a key priority in Jordan. UNRWA seeks to provide a quality education to existing students by ensuring trained and motivated teachers and up to date equipment and providing full scholarships to eligible refugee students to allow them to contribute effectively to the development of their communities.

Another important challenge in Jordan comes from the existence of ex-Gaza refugees: The majority of Palestine refugees in Jordan have citizenship under the Jordanian Nationality Law of 1954. However, 136,617 registered refugees, having arrived from Egypt-administered Gaza after 1967, do not qualify for citizenship. These refugees have fewer rights than refugees from the West Bank, including restrictions in access to the labour market, education, and financial and social services. UNRWA continues to advocate and support this population.

To support the education and living environment in the camps in aid of 1,983,733 Palestine refugees in Jordan, UNRWA seeks support for the following interventions:
Adopt a Class at Hashimi Boys School

The Hashimi Boys School provides education for 2,093 students coming from the densely-populated, refugee neighbourhood of Hashimi in North Amman. The school building is shared by two streams of school children receiving elementary and preparatory education in morning and afternoon shifts. There are 26 class sections in each school shift.

By adopting a class at Hashimi Boys School you will be ensuring the future quality education for up to 40 students. The Adopt a Class initiative contributes to the annual education needs of children. This includes textbooks, printing, learning items for the school and other learning materials. The adoption will also ensure that the class is taught by well trained and dedicated teachers.

Support UNRWA’s education programme in Jordan and provide refugee school children with the gift of education!

Adopt a Class at Hashimi School for one year
- Up to 40 students
- $55,000

Promote Clean and Healthy Camp Environment in Jerash Camp

The living environment of refugee camps has been identified as an important factor in determining the overall wellbeing of refugees. An unsuitable environment has important implications on the health of residents, which has a ripple effect on other aspects of wellbeing, including educational attainment, employability and poverty. In order to promote a clean and healthy environment in the refugee camps, UNRWA employs teams of sanitation workers who collect rubbish and ensure that paths and roads are kept clean.

A donation of 17,000 would contribute to a cleaner and brighter living environment for refugees and instil a feeling of pride in the work of sanitation labourers, who play an essential role in the community.

A Clean and Healthy Camp Environment
- 24,000 refugees
- $17,000
Grant Scholarships for Ex-Gazan Refugees

While most Palestinian refugees in Jordan are granted Jordanian citizenship, those from Gaza who took refuge in Jordan after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war do not enjoy full citizenship. These refugees face significant legal restrictions, particularly in the areas of education and labour, with many living under the poverty line (less than $2/day). Due to low education levels, resulting from constraints on their access to public or private education as well as government-imposed controls on those economic areas in which ex-Gazans are permitted to work, unemployment levels are very high.

This project seeks to identify prospective ex-Gazan refugee students eligible for full scholarships to attend colleges and universities in Jordan. The scholarships would cover all the costs of studying over four or five years. The underlying goal is to raise refugee families from deep poverty by improving the employability of bright young men and women from the most underprivileged backgrounds in Jordan.

With a contribution of $45,000, you will enable 5 ex-Gazan refugee students to complete their education and have a better future.
A large majority of Palestine refugees in Lebanon live in appalling conditions; conditions that fall well below minimum international environmental, health and safety standards. This situation does not only apply to those refugees living in the twelve official camps, but also to the 38% of registered refugees who reside outside the camps in both urban and rural areas, and who experience conditions every bit as poor as those in the camps. While humanitarian conditions for refugees in the occupied Palestinian territory are, quite correctly, highlighted as extremely poor, those of refugees in Lebanon are frequently equal, and are sometimes worse than those in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Chronic unemployment and under-employment amongst refugees result in a large percentage of them living below the poverty line, in conditions that no human being should have to live in. They are unable to independently provide a sustainable livelihood for themselves or their families. In recognition of the difficult circumstances experienced by the Palestinian population in Lebanon, UNRWA exceptionally provides services to Palestinian refugees who do not normally fall within its mandate. These refugees do not meet UNRWA’s working definition of a Palestine refugee but they are registered with the Government of Lebanon as refugees. At present, there are 425,640 registered refugees and 12 UNRWA refugee camps in Lebanon. Between 260,000 and 280,000 Palestine refugees currently reside in Lebanon.

In aid of the Palestine refugees of Lebanon, UNRWA seeks support for the following interventions:
Provide Urgent Housing and Health Care for the Displaced Refugees of Nahr el-Bared Camp

**Housing**

Since 2007, UNRWA provides assistance to the displaced refugees of the districted Nahr el Bared camp (NBC) including temporary shelter, food, health and education services. The Agency’s assistance has served as a safety net to the refugees who have been unable to meet their own basic needs due to the high unemployment and slow economic recovery.

UNRWA provides $150 monthly rental subsidy to over 3,400 displaced families who, out of necessity, are renting temporary accommodation in NBC’s adjacent areas, Beddawi camp or elsewhere. UNRWA is committed to continuing this subsidy until all these families are re-housed in the reconstructed camp.

With a donation of $166,500, you can enable 250 displaced NBC families to cover the cost of housing for three months.

**Health Care**

As a result of the prolonged displacement, there has been an increased demand for medical services among NBC residents. To meet this need, UNRWA has stepped in to provide additional health care support, beyond its regular programme. This includes coverage for the full cost of secondary treatment and coverage of tertiary treatment up to $10,000. UNRWA also supplies free-of-charge any medications not available in UNRWA clinics, such as cancer and cardiac treatments.

With a donation of $83,000, you would provide 150 patients with an access to critical health care services and/or medications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urgent Housing for Nahr el-Bared Refugees</th>
<th>250 displaced families</th>
<th>$166,500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Care for the Displaced Refugees of NBC</td>
<td>150 patients</td>
<td>$83,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rehabilitate Poor Refugee Families’ Houses

A substantial number of refugee families in Lebanon continue to live in unacceptable, and in some cases life-threatening, conditions in dilapidated, overcrowded and unhygienic shelters that are structurally unsafe. Shelters were built in the 1950s and 1960s and were not designed to be permanent.

The high costs and restrictions on bringing construction materials into the camps have meant that the refugees have been unable to carry out any substantial repairs or maintenance. This is especially the case for the poorest families who survive on very little income, including widows, the elderly with no family support, and refugees with disabilities.

Rehabilitation work on the most dilapidated shelters would ensure that the poorest refugees live in structurally safer shelters with improved levels of hygiene, protection from the rain and cold, as well as better ventilation to reduce the risk of illnesses. Children would grow up in a better environment and are less likely to spend most of their time in the alleyways. Shelter repairs would also provide families more dignity and less stigma and marginalisation from the rest of the camp community.

A donation of $128,000 would help 10 refugee families to rehabilitate their homes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Rehabilitation for Poor Refugee Families</th>
<th>10 families</th>
<th>$128,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Adopt a Patient with a Severe or Chronic Illness

Palestine refugees in Lebanon have very limited access to public health care and most cannot afford treatment at private hospitals. A significant number of them (~ 4,000 patients / year) are suffering from severe chronic diseases such as cancer, multiple sclerosis, Thalassemia, kidney and heart failure.

Many patients who cannot find sponsoring organisations to assist them are simply unable to cover the full costs of their medications and hospital bills. They and their families are then faced with the harsh choice of either taking out loans to pay for life-saving treatment with the risk of entering into a spiral of worsening debt, poverty and hardship, or simply to stop the treatment.

The adoption of patients with chronic diseases supports a real and urgent need in the refugee community. It gives patients better quality of treatment, eases the financial burden and stress on patients and their families, and gives them dignity and hope for a better life.

The table below presents the cost for adopting patients based on the illness and treatment. Treatments and prices vary considerably.
Provide Food Assistance to the Most Vulnerable Refugees

Food Assistance

UNRWA's Special Hardship Assistance Programme (SHAP) aims to reach the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in Lebanon. Under the revised SHAP, UNRWA is aiming to provide food assistance to meet the needs of an estimated 70,000 individuals, representing a 34% increase in SHAP beneficiaries.¹ In order to meet the increased needs, the Agency is seeking additional donor support.

With a donation of $111,000, you can provide food to 750 Palestine refugee families.

Interventions for the disabled

The Agency is also focusing on interventions to address the socio-economic empowerment of people with disabilities (PWDs). This will be achieved by improving the accessibility of all UNRWA services to PWDs as well as ensuring they can benefit from specialized services.

Specific priorities include the continuation of rehabilitation services provided by the Early Intervention Units (EIU) in Tyre and Saida for children with disabilities (aged 0-6 yrs) and their families. The EIUs ensure the inclusion of children in the elementary cycle at UNRWA schools and specialist institutions.

With a donation of $167,000, you would facilitate access of 275 children with disabilities to UNRWA schools or specialized institution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Assistance for Refugee Families</th>
<th>750 individuals</th>
<th>$111,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support to People with Disabilities (PWDs)</td>
<td>275 children</td>
<td>$167,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ The previous SHAP programme served 52,587 Palestine refugee families.
Civil unrest in Syria has been ongoing since March 2011 and continues to deteriorate. It is estimated that 50,000 Palestine refugees, or 10 percent of the Palestinian population in Syria, have been directly affected by the conflict. Palestine refugees were already a vulnerable group in Syria, with significantly greater unemployment and infant mortality rates, and significantly lower school enrolment than the general population. However, direct attacks, economic contraction, power and communications cuts, movement restrictions and forced closure of UNRWA services have pushed this population towards crisis.

UNRWA is responsible for providing education, health, relief and social services to approximately 502,000 Palestine refugees across Syria, but its operations have been stretched by these new challenges. Responding to localised emergency needs has diverted funds previously assigned to service delivery, resulting in reduced access across the country. The situation in Syria may worsen over the coming year, as international sanctions further depress the economy and the escalation of the conflict continues. UNRWA requires significant investment to maintain its essential services.

In aid of the Palestine refugees in Syria, UNRWA seeks support for the following interventions:
Give Textbooks to 5,000 Refugee Students

In 2009, the Syrian Ministry of Education introduced a new curriculum for all schools in the country, necessitating the introduction of new textbooks for students in grades one to four as well as grade seven. Although UNRWA’s education programme is compelled to follow the host countries’ curricula, the current financial constraints do not allow the Agency to follow the introduction of new textbooks. As a result, UNRWA school students are now at risk of falling behind their Syrian peers, with potentially serious consequences for their future academic and professional attainment.

With a donation of $50,000, you can purchase textbooks for 5,000 students. For $640,000, you can purchase all required textbooks for all of UNRWA’s students in Syria.

| Textbooks for Palestine refugee children | 5,000 students | $50,000 |

Offer Life Saving Hospitalisation to 500 Patients

UNRWA’s health programme in Syria is seeking urgent support to provide hospitalization and life-saving medical care to the most vulnerable Palestine refugees. UNRWA's health programme is currently under great pressure, as donor contributions fall while medical costs rise. This has threatened the ability of the agency to subsidise the cost of surgeries, including life-saving treatment.

While a small number of Palestine refugees are able to cover treatment costs on their own, a majority will not be able to do so. UNRWA is therefore seeking support of up to $500,000 to enable the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in Syria to have access to hospitalization and life-saving medical care.

With a donation of $125,000, you can ensure that 500 of the poorest and most vulnerable Palestine refugees in Syria have access to required medical treatment, thereby reducing the incidence rate of avoidable deaths among Palestinian refugees in Syria. For $500,000, this can be increased to over 2,000 patients. By providing hospitalization services to Palestine refugees consistent with national standards, this project will contribute to a dignified and healthy life for all Palestinian refugees in Syria.

| Live saving hospitalisation (ICU, surgeries) | 500 patients | 2,000 patients | $125,000 | $500,000 |
Provide Cash Assistance to 1,000 Vulnerable Refugees

Approximately 12% of the Palestine refugee population in Syria (over 60,000 individuals) are abject poor, lacking the means to meet their basic food needs. UNRWA seeks to provide an immediate cash transfer for the most vulnerable of these families, including the female-headed households and single-person elderly households. These refugees have often had their livelihoods weakened or destroyed by the recent turmoil in Syria, requiring immediate support to prevent them slipping into abject poverty.

With $70,000, you can ensure that 200 households (1,000 individuals) have their urgent needs met through cash assistance for 6 months.

| Cash assistance for poor households | 1,000 individuals | $70,000 |

Offer Safe Child Birth Services to 100 Refugee Mothers

Safe reproductive health and birthing form a key part of UNRWA’s overall health service delivery, with 8,900 births handled in UNRWA facilities every year. Caesarean sections represent the most common form of medical intervention during birth but facilities in UNRWA’s 23 primary health centres are oversubscribed and in urgent need of repairs, new equipment and new staff.

Although a relatively simple procedure, waiting times for reproductive and maternal health services have been increasing and the infant mortality rate among Palestine refugees is significantly higher than the Syrian population.

With a donation of $50,000 you can ensure 100 women with birthing complications are attended by a team of trained professionals, in a well equipped facility with adequate access to medicines. For $350,000, over 600 women can be provided with the same safe, high quality service.

| Access to safe child birth | 100 women and infants | $50,000 |