



PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

In the last five years we have seen millions of refugees pour out of Syria and Iraq as part of the largest mass migration since World War II.

Pope Francis has been very vocal in his support for the people of Syria and Iraq, beyond the necessary humanitarian aid, the Pope said, "What our brothers and sisters in Syria and Iraq want more than anything else today is peace." He said that putting an end to the conflict is in the hands of everyone: "Each of us can and must become a peacemaker, because every situation of violence and injustice is a wound to the body of the whole human family."

Caritas Internationalis, the confederation of over 165 Catholic aid, development and social justice agencies, of which we are a member launched the Syria: Peace is Possible campaign in July this year. Caritas is one of the few humanitarian agencies still working within Syria itself. Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand launched our Peace in the Middle East campaign to support refugees from Syria and Iraq as well as people in Palestine.



13.5 MILLION

Syrians and 10 million Iraqis are in need of humanitarian assistance

11 MILLION

Syrians and 3.3 million Iraqis have been forced from their homes

9 MILLION

people in Syria and Iraq reached by Church networks including Caritas during 2015 and 2016

Visit us online for more information about our Peace in the Middle East campaign.

WWW.CARITAS.ORG.NZ

A mother attends a health education session in Jordan, where we support health programmes in ten centres around the country.



HELPING THOSE IN GREAT NEED

Through your ongoing support as One World Partners we have been able to support our Caritas partners on the ground to deliver the following important programmes.

ALEPPO

Intense fighting and bombing inside Aleppo, Syria's largest city, has left many people without access to basic human needs. Caritas works with the elderly and most vulnerable people still living in Aleppo. Through our partners Caritas Syria and Caritas France we provide much needed healthcare. Many hospitals have been destroyed in the bombing of the city.

JORDAN AND LEBANON

Neighbouring countries Jordan and Lebanon have taken in hundreds of thousands of refugees from Syria and Iraq. We worked with partners Caritas Lebanon from 2012-2014 supporting refugees there.

We are currently partnering with Caritas Jordan, who run ten centres around the country that provide healthcare, psychosocial support and child friendly spaces. They also give emergency supplies and specialised health care to mothers and children. In addition to working with refugees, these centres also work with Jordanians.



GAZA

We have a strong relationship with Caritas Jerusalem and we work with the people of the Holy Land. During the 2014 unrest we provided humanitarian relief to those in need in Gaza.

WEST BANK

We support a health education programme in and around the village of Aboud, West Bank with a focus on nutrition, oral health and personal hygiene.

Our newest programme in West Bank will focus on health care for pregnant women and new mothers. Amongst other services this programme will allow women to get ultra sounds as well as general check ups for themselves and their babies.

BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY

We aim to increase the employment options for women and youth in local and self-employment opportunities through running entrepreneur workshops and teaching practical skills like baking.

Your regular commitment as a One World Partner enables us to continue our work in the Middle East.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



The Catholic Agency for Justice,
Peace & Development

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Top: Consultation with a doctor in a Caritas health clinic in Zarqa, Jordan.

Middle: Children watch an educational puppet show in Lebanon.

Bottom: Children learning about dental hygiene in West Bank.

"We must work wholeheartedly for a ceasefire, an end to the fighting, stop arming extremist groups and get all the parties inside Syria to have dialogue and to listen to each other, in order to rediscover how to live together."

- Chaldean Bishop of Aleppo, Antoine Audo