



KinderUSA

Kids in Need of Development, Education & Relief

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

2018

CHANGING THE WORLD, ONE CHILD AT A TIME.

Who we are..

KinderUSA is an acronym for Kids in Need of Development, Education, and Relief. We are a 501 (c) 3, tax-exempt non-profit dedicated to the health and well-being of children in Palestine and beyond.



Our Mission

Our mission is to improve the lives of Palestinian children and other children in crisis through development and emergency relief. We achieve this mission in partnership with community based organizations in our areas of operation.

Our Vision

We envision a free, just and peaceful Palestine where children thrive and look forward to a productive future, like children everywhere.

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Dr. Jess Ghannam, Secretary
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From the Chair

Dear Supporter,

For more than 16 years, KinderUSA has championed the cause for children in Palestine and beyond, transforming their environments and helping them to reach their full potential. While we cherish our donors and are proud of what we have achieved together, we remain mindful of the extreme challenges that lie ahead.

Since our founding, the world has changed and we continue to witness a much greater need. Cuts to funding have left children vulnerable to greater economic deprivation, violence, and lost dreams. With rising malnourishment, hunger, and inequality facing children in Palestine and beyond, it is a failure of the international community to respond.

To meet the challenges, we know we must be responsible stewards of your generosity and for that reason, I am pleased to share our 2017-2018 Annual Report to give you an accurate view of our activities, income, and expenditures.

We strive for maximum efficiency and effectiveness to ensure that as much of your donation as possible goes to the intended children with minimal cost. With you by our side, we continue to meet difficult challenges and work towards building hope for the children we serve.

Above all, thank you!

Dr. Laila Al-Maryati
Chairperson

GAZA



Nutritional Meals for kindergartens

Having food security means having safe and nutritious food on a regular basis. Not having enough to eat is a reality for many children in Gaza where the unemployment rate hovers near 45%, one of the highest in the world according to the World Bank. Research shows that when children are given school meals, attendance doubles and performance greatly improves.

In the school years 2017-2018, KinderUSA served over 6500 children nutritional meals prepared by women who are the sole supporter of their families. Employing women run food cooperatives, that trains women in the preparation, packaging, and marketing of the meals. Further, the project conducts workshops for the mothers teaching them healthy nutrition and food preparation on limited or no budget. Many of these families rely on aid to meet their most basic needs at home receiving little or no money to buy food. The goal is to insure proper nutrition is continued at home and encourage healthy meals for children, many of whom suffer from anemia or malnutrition.

2017-2018 Highlights

\$952,945 Projects

77,512 Beneficiaries

In 2017-2018, KinderUSA reached over 77,000 children, and their families, providing food, clothing, sustainability, and fun in an in one of the most densely populated geography on earth. Suffering through 11 years of land, air, and sea blockade has left many with little hope. While life on the ground continues to deteriorate, our goal is to work with families giving them as many tools as possible to bypass the hurdles, while bringing some normalcy to the life of their children.



GAZA



Back to School

For many parents, the most challenging part of the school day involves waking children from sleep and preparing them to leave the comfort of their home. Education is easily taken for granted. In Palestine, however, recent cuts to UNRWA funding threaten the one bright spot in the lives of thousands of Palestinian children - education. Make no mistake - Palestinian children in Gaza are under attack.

In the school year of 2017-2018, KinderUSA provided uniforms, shoes, socks, undergarments, and backpacks to 1800 children from needy families in Gaza, where new clothing is often considered a luxury. "Everyone enjoys new clothing, and for these children, it's been a very long time!" said Hana, KinderUSA Country Coordinator.

Providing vouchers for the children to go to locally identified stores and choose the proper size of clothing and shoes, and of course pick the school bag of their choice, is a treat. Who doesn't like new clothes and shoes? For so many of these children, school is a refuge from the trauma of life under siege, life under constant threat of war - a chance to learn, to meet friends and play...a chance to be normal children.



Summer fun in Gaza!

Each year during the brutal, hot summer months in Gaza, KinderUSA brings talented young men and women to coordinate summer activities for the children. During the summer months of Ramadan, 2000 children from the 9 most marginalized areas of Gaza determined with their mentors the activities to be implemented.

Parachute games, air writing, relay races, cultural and recreational activities were conducted culminating in a freshly prepared meal at sunset for the children who could stay and break fast with their friends, or carry the meal home to share with their family. "Without electricity and clean water at home, many parents preferred their children stay near the beach to break fast. At home, they suffer in the heat," said Mohammed one of the coordinators.

New friends were made, cultural competitions were had, and best of all, children were able to be children. "Working with these young children, brings me out of my depression" said 18 year old Omar who received a stipend to volunteer for the program. "They have fun, but we have reward!"

GAZA



Ramadan in Gaza

Each year prior to Ramadan, KinderUSA starts work 3-4 months in advance, finding farmers, women for cooperatives, and visiting families in need. Our field representatives have said these past Ramadan's have been the most difficult as they made decisions as to who is in greater need due to limited funding. **"We usually find families able to meet basic needs, but these days are different. Every family we met, the**

living conditions were worse than the next," said Sara our associate Country Coordinator. **"Its so very sad and heart breaking to see these children in such desperate need,"** she continued.

For Hana, our lead Country Coordinator, she has never experienced this much grief in Gaza. **"I love my country, but this is a slow death. Its inhumane what is happening here. A young boy ran to me from a distance yelling,**

"Its you! Its you!" He asked me if we are delivering live chickens again this year and said, **"I have been thinking of (the distribution) since Ramadan ended last year so I could have chicken again."**

In these two years, KinderUSA provided nutritious fresh food to over 5000 families in 15 locations. In addition to the families receiving fresh food. Over 200 farmers worked their lands and provided the food for the

basket of nutrition, while more than 150 women made fresh jams, cheese, and herbs.

Our biggest project of the year is a reflection of our donors and their humble dedication to humanity. Thank you.



"I have been thinking of (the distribution) since Ramadan ended last year," remarked one young boy to our Country Coordinator in Gaza, "So I could have chicken again."



GAZA



Emergency Food Distribution

Recognizing the need in Gaza, KinderUSA sat with beneficiaries to map out upcoming projects. All spoke clearly and resolutely about the greatest priority: they need food. **“We must wait one year to feed our children full meals in Ramadan. To give them something beyond Ramadan is all we ask,”** said Um Omar from Khan Younis.

Working with our partners on the ground, KinderUSA distributed over a 4-month period in 2018 fresh food

to 725 families in Gaza. Mirroring the Ramadan project, we enlisted 98 farmers, men and female heads of household, to provide fresh produce of the season. In addition, KinderUSA purchased eggs and live chickens from our successful, female-run chicken micro-enterprise project (see Chicken Farming in Gaza) and fresh cheese and zaatar from the local women cooperatives. Each family received 2 distributions over this 4-month period.

For many Palestinian families, this modest food distribution provided a ray of hope amidst the bleak uncertainty of life in Gaza. Farmers and women cooperatives also benefitted providing a means to care for their own families at a time when they are unable to sell their goods outside. Funding permitted, our goal is to continue in the years to come.

“I was afraid of not being able to meet my children's requirements because of the very difficult economic situation, and my inability to work,” said Ibrahim from Gaza. **“This project helps me to provide the needs of the house as it contains chicken, eggs, vegetables, cheese and others. Thank you to all.”**



“Access to food is at the core of our most basic human needs. What we eat not only keeps us alive, but also fuels our bodies and brains with the nutrients they need to grow, learn and thrive.”



GAZA



Chicken Farming in Gaza

It remains essential that the people in Gaza are provided with the necessary tools to live dignified, healthy and productive lives in peace and security. Past sustainable projects in husbandry with female heads of household witnessed 2 wars and ultimately demolished farms along with the animals that were being bred. What these project had in common was the independence of the beneficiaries to care for their families once KinderUSA moved on.

KinderUSA, along with our implementing partner, Beit Lahia, designed a new project ensuring food security for female-headed households through chicken farming. In addition to providing training by veterinarians for raising chickens, each household receives 200 chicks, both egg layers and roasters, along with the essential tools, coops etc. required.

38 women are vetted according to their need and prior farming experience. After training,

women begin to raise their chicks for sale on the open market. KinderUSA is their first customer, purchasing both eggs and roasting hens for our Ramadan food distribution. Paying above market price in order to jumpstart their business, 97% of the women from the first round are now successful entrepreneurs.

“My family looks at me different. They respect me. I can now care for my children without help.” Um Ahmed said.



“Working in farming is the only way of survival for me and my family. No one helps us...only this land keeps us alive.” Asmahan in Gaza who heads a household of 15

A second visit to Gaza

In March, Dr. Harry Gunkel, a donor and friend of KinderUSA, visited Gaza and some of our projects for a second time in as many years. This is what he wrote in an email:

“It was an amazing experience to be with you (our Country Coordinator, Hana), visiting the many KINDER projects and learning of the important and generous work you are doing in Gaza.

What a pleasure to visit the kindergarten and watch the children enjoy their hot meal, to visit the clinic where children are being treated to overcome their challenges, to be inspired by the women's cooperative in Al Bureij camp with their remarkable energy and creativity, and of course to meet your partners and some of the farmers and beneficiaries of the wonderful food basket program.

It is difficult for those of us outside of Gaza to imagine the hardships you face every day, and I am so appreciative that you took the time to share some of the work you are doing to make things better.”



WEST BANK



Partnering with the Palestinian Society for Care and Development, a summer camp for children in Al-Amari camp in the West Bank, KinderUSA contributed to the summer activities for the youth, such as swimming, sports, handicrafts, day trips, and educational projects for the month of July. One hundred and fifty children between the ages of 8-14 who live in the camp, 30% of whom are disabled, enjoyed a month of summer fun that is not afforded them due to the spiraling financial constraints on their families.

Each day children enjoyed a variety of activities, starting with a meal in the morning and ending with lunch before being sent home. Volunteers cooked the meals and children received commemorative t-shirts and hats and a closing ceremony where toys were distributed celebratory snacks were served. A much needed change from life inside the camp!

2017-2018 Highlights

\$5868 Projects

210 Beneficiaries

Al-Amari Summer Camp

Al-Amari camp is situated east of Ramallah and is one of the smallest camps in the West Bank. With the construction of the Wall, Amari camp residents continue to witness overcrowding, rising costs, and rising poverty with limited resources.



LEBANON



2017-2018 Highlights

\$80,000 Projects

197 Beneficiaries

Going to School in Ein el Helweh

In Lebanon, Palestinians are denied the right to work in 72 professions. This has left Palestinian vulnerable to exploitation, working in fields with little financial compensation just to bring money into the home. The war in Syria has further aggravated the living conditions of Palestinians as all vie for limited jobs that pay horrible wages.



With cuts of funds to UNRWA, there has been a ripple affect across the camps in Lebanon with many social services previously provided, now being reduced or abolished altogether. Palestinians are marginalized living in 12 refugee camps throughout the country. Two thirds are considered poor or extremely poor with a high rate of unemployment exacerbated further by the arrival of more than 1 million refugees from Syria.

While Palestinians receive \$10 a month for each family member from UNRWA, Syrians are receiving \$175 a month for each family from various UN agencies. This leaves many families struggling to raise their children in overcrowded camps with the youth seeing little hope for a future.

A recent visit to UNRWA schools by our partners at the Social Development Center (SDC) in Ein el Helweh revealed that 18% of children are no longer in school. Thirteen per cent have never been to school at all out of a population of over 120,000. On a recent visit to the camp, ongoing violence, over-crowded living conditions, poverty and infringements on freedom of movement and mobility continue to have a devastating effect on its population, especially children.

The Social Development Center (SDC) in Ein el Helweh Camp strives to bring hope to these children academic and vocational training in addition to after-school tutoring for those fearing poor grades. The need has only increased with the influx of Palestinian refugees from Syria over the past two years. Many of those children have fallen behind in their education as they have been living in unstable conditions.

After six years of funding, the school cares for over 100 children with a staff of dedicated teachers and volunteers from the local university. Mahar, who is teaching structural engineering to a small group of students of various ages said: "I feel it is my duty to teach these children as a Palestinian. My hope is to spark interest so they will continue in their studies regardless of the obstacles they face."

Financial Statements

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018 And 2017

KIDS IN NEED OF DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND RELIEF
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31,

ASSETS

<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Cash	\$ 439,722	\$ 338,829
Contributions receivable	19,884	13,332
Prepaid expenses	350	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	459,956	352,161
<u>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT</u>		
Office furniture	3,657	2,874
Office equipment	6,553	6,553
	10,210	9,427
Less accumulated depreciation	(8,413)	(7,345)
TOTAL PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	1,797	2,082
Investments	2,715	-
Security deposit	1,070	1,070
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	3,785	1,070
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 465,538	\$ 355,313

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,647	\$ 5,599
Accrued expense	3,497	1,513
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,144	7,112
<u>NET ASSETS</u>		
Donor restricted	-	-
Without donor restrictions	459,394	348,201
TOTAL NET ASSETS	459,394	348,201
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 465,538	\$ 355,313

STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

For Year Ended December 31, 2017 and 2018

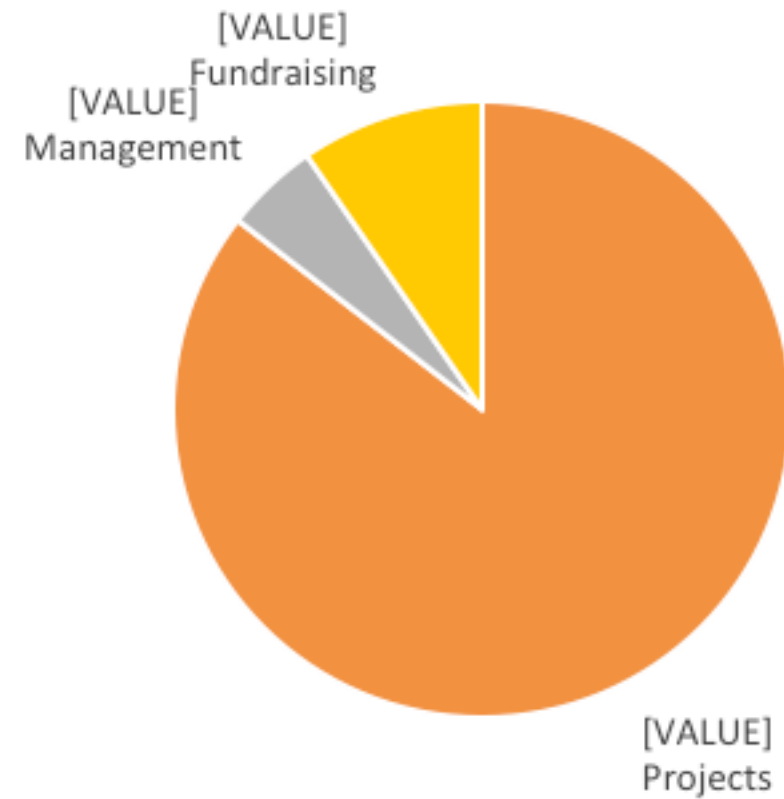
KIDS IN NEED OF DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND RELIEF
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	<u>2018</u>			<u>2017</u>		
	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Donor Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Donor Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>REVENUES AND SUPPORT</u>						
Contributions	482,556	\$ 543,677	\$ 1,026,233	379,434	494,651	\$ 874,085
Net assets released from restrictions, satisfaction of purpose restrictions	543,677	(543,677)	-	494,651	(494,651)	-
TOTAL REVENUES AND SUPPORT	1,026,233	-	1,026,233	874,085	-	874,085
<u>EXPENSES</u>						
Program service	785,510	-	785,510	742,915	-	742,915
Total program expenses	785,510	-	785,510	742,915	-	742,915
Fund-raising	87,358	-	87,358	83,653	-	83,653
Management and general	41,874	-	41,874	42,545	-	42,545
TOTAL EXPENSES	914,742	-	914,742	869,113	-	869,113
<u>OTHER INCOME (LOSS)</u>						
Investment loss	(298)	-	(298)	-	-	-
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	111,193	-	111,193	4,972	-	4,972
NET ASSETS, beginning, as reported	348,201	-	348,201	368,547	-	368,547
Prior period adjustment	-	-	-	(25,318)	-	(25,318)
NET ASSETS, beginning, adjusted	348,201	-	348,201	343,229	-	343,229
NET ASSETS, ending	\$ 459,394	\$ -	\$ 459,394	\$ 348,201	\$ -	\$ 348,201

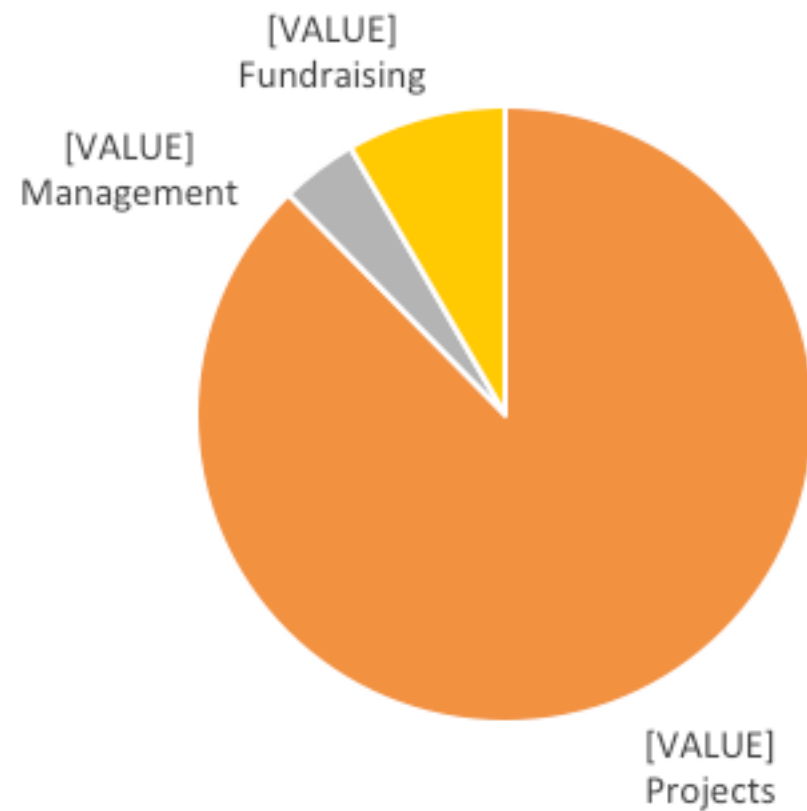
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

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2017 PROJECTS AND EXPENSES



2018 PROJECTS AND EXPENSES



KIDS IN NEED OF DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND RELIEF STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	2018	2017
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received from contributions, programs, etc.	\$ 1,019,681	\$ 876,029
Cash paid to employees	(146,633)	(154,975)
Cash paid to vendors	(768,359)	(716,176)
CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	104,689	4,878
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(3,013)	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(783)	(2,373)
CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(3,796)	(2,373)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Prior period adjustment	-	(25,318)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	100,893	(22,813)
CASH, beginning of year	338,829	361,642
CASH, end of year	\$ 439,722	\$ 338,829

RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

NET INCOME	\$ 111,193	\$ 4,972
ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE NET INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Depreciation	1,068	2,302
Unrealized loss on investments	298	-
Change in asset and liability accounts affecting net income:		
Accounts receivable	(6,552)	1,330
Prepaid expense	(350)	-
Security deposit	-	(1,070)
Accounts payable	(2,952)	(1,989)
Accrued liabilities	1,984	(667)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATIONS	\$ 104,689	\$ 4,878



www.kinderusa.org



Kids in Need of Development, Education & Relief

P.O. Box 224846
Dallas, TX 75222-9785

Toll Free **1-888-451-8908**
tel 972-664-1991
fax 972-664-1994
email: info@kinderusa.org

