



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

YMCA OF LEBANON REFUGEE RESPONSE

An estimated 11 million Syrians have fled their homes since the outbreak of civil war in March 2011, taking refuge in neighboring countries or internally displaced within Syria. More than half of these refugees are under the age of 18. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 1.1 million refugees have fled to Lebanon, Syria's immediate neighbor to the west. Syrian refugees currently constitute 20% of Lebanon's population.

YMCA OF LEBANON RESPONSE & PROGRESS

The YMCA of Lebanon was founded in 1890 in the nation's capital, Beirut. Today it is a leading national NGO and a key partner in Lebanon's efforts to welcome and support refugee and internally displaced communities throughout the country.

For many years, the YMCA of Lebanon has been focusing its efforts on providing needed medical supplies to refugee and other underserved communities through a network of 450 healthcare centers across Lebanon. With the increasing number of Syrian refugees arriving in the country, the Lebanese Ministry of Health is unable to keep pace with the pressing need for basic healthcare, including medication for patients with chronic diseases. Since 2012, the YMCA of Lebanon has worked to provide resources to strengthen and expand these programs. It recently raised \$250,000, and is working to raise an additional \$500,000 to continue meeting the medical needs of refugees and communities impacted by the refugee crisis in the coming year.

The YMCA of Lebanon also provides livelihood and economic development programs for refugees and Lebanese citizens in the form of vocational training programs and microloans for small business start-ups; youth development programs focused on protecting, educating and empowering girls; and psychosocial intervention to help children cope with the trauma of displacement through recreation and arts activities.

HOW TO HELP

YMCA of the USA World Service is collaborating with the global YMCA Movement to coordinate global fundraising efforts for the YMCA of Lebanon. Updates will be posted on Exchange

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All photos from the Lebanon YMCA

GLOBAL YMCA MOVEMENT

Founded in 1844 in London, England, the YMCA has grown into one of the largest volunteer organizations in the world, serving more than 45 million people in 119 countries. As an interconnected global network, the Y has the resources and solutions to build bridges and make our communities stronger worldwide. Often operating in challenging social, economic and political environments, Ys deliver innovative solutions to meet community need and empower people with the skills and opportunities to create a better future for themselves and their families.

YMCA of the USA

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(yexchange.org) and ymca.net as they become available. Thank you for your support of the global YMCA Movement.

If you would like to help those impacted by this crisis, **100% of your donation** will go towards the YMCA of Lebanon's charitable programs. Please donate:

- **Online:** via YMCA of the USA's World Service web site at <https://donate.ymca.net/world-service-donation>
NOTE: When donating online, please specify "Lebanon YMCA" in the "Comments/special instructions" box at the bottom of the online donation page.
- **Phone:** Call YMCA of the USA World Service at 800 872 9622
- **By Mail:** Mail a check payable to: **YMCA World Service** with "Lebanon YMCA" noted in the memo line to YMCA of the USA, Attn: World Service, 101 North Wacker Drive, 16th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60606

ABOUT WORLD SERVICE

As a leading nonprofit for strengthening community, the Y strives give all people and communities the support they need to thrive – especially in times of crisis. YMCA of the USA's World Service Campaign raises and distributes funds to help Ys worldwide reach more people with the resources and support that move families and communities forward. This support is critical and truly transforms lives, especially for Ys working in developing communities.

All contributions to World Service are administered by YMCA of the USA, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization chartered by the state of Illinois. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law and are acknowledged in writing. To learn more, call World Service at 800 872 9622.

For more information on World Service, visit ymca.net/world-service or call Mary Tikalsky at 800 872 9622.

THANK YOU for your support of the global YMCA Movement.

