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Noor El-Salam

Issue #4

Latest News & Updates

We pray and wish that this newsletter finds you and your loved ones in good health and excited about the spring season opportunities to enjoy the outdoors.

We would like to share with you a summary of Susan and Amine visit to Lebanon that took place between March 13 and 23.

Purpose of the trip was to assess the progress of the Hermel school for Syrian children refugees, spend time with the school staff in training and appreciation of their work, visit and evaluate local non-profit organizations as potential partners, and meet family and friends.

Hermel School - Students Engagement



One of the multiple objectives of this trip was to bring with us school supplies and teaching materials donated by our partners. We packed over 200 lbs of supplies and carried them as luggage to ensure immediate benefit avoiding shipping hassles and potential losses thru traditional shipping companies.



You see the smiles and enthusiasm of the students as they received the much needed items.

All four classes have completed exams the week prior to our arrival and we participated in recognizing their test results.





Each student (95 of them) received a toothbrush and toothpaste donated by Owens dental in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Refugee Camps



We visited with families of school children in their homes



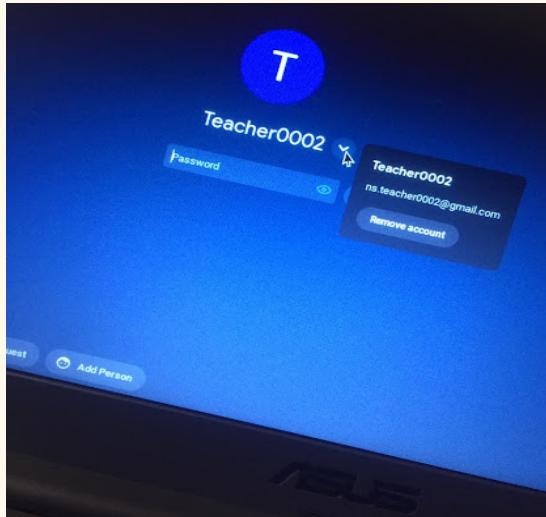
School Teachers & Staff Training

While at the school in Hermel, we planned for a day of training on teaching materials and equipment along with a visit to a nearby (20 miles away) school in operations for ten years serving the Syrian refugees in Zahleh.



Zahleh's school of Hope, principal explaining to Hermel school staff her school operations and methods of handling student needs.

Two Asus Chromebook laptops provided to the teachers for lesson development.



Two monitors purchased locally to assist with Lesson projection and online teaching tools.



Students making arts with donated supplies



School Teachers & Staff Appreciation Day

To show our gratitude for the teachers and staff efforts and personal commitment to the mission of education, we organized a half day trip to see the ruins of Baalbek also known as Heliopolis and UNESCO world heritage site (ancient Roman ruins comprising two large temples dedicated to Bacchus and Jupiter).



From Baalbek, we continued to Barook, a mountainous region where a forest of the famous cedars of Lebanon exist garnished by snow on the ground.



We ended the day at a waterfall where we shared a meal together.



Looking Forward & Next Steps

As we started this journey with the Hermel school, we committed to partner with them for the current school year and evaluate at its end the next steps. The current school year ends at the end of June. Our trip to Lebanon provided us the opportunity to meet with local non profit organizations working with both Lebanese and Refugees (Syrian and Palestinian).

As the economic situation in Lebanon is worsening, we are considering other parts of Lebanon to partner with locals that have established humanitarian support through educational scholarships, and self-sufficient projects as an employment in the Services sector.

We are grateful and appreciative of your prayers and generous donations to enable our work in Lebanon. Your contributions have made a significant impact in the lives of the ninety five children so far. Thank you for your trust and interest in helping the most vulnerable in the world.

Respectfully,

Susan & Amine