

Middle East Crisis Appeal– Update February 2024

Situation update:

Since the conflict began on October 7th 2023, over 1,200 Israelis and close to 30,000 Palestinians have been killed. 70,000 people have been injured and more than 1.8 million have been displaced. Unfortunately, the violence continues.

Thank you for supporting the Middle East Crisis Appeal. You helped provide critically needed humanitarian support to people affected by the conflict.

Donations received to the appeal so far total \$21,313.50 and are directed to Anglican Overseas Aid, a fellow member of the Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO). Their local partner, the al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, provides urgently needed aid so Christian care continues in the region.

The hospital offers healthcare to patients regardless of ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, or economic status. This appeal will help fund their emergency medical response and the ongoing care for people impacted by the conflict.

Al-Ahli Arab Hospital received funds early in the conflict. Key areas identified for the al-Ahli Arab Hospital response are emergency health services, treatment of malnutrition (particularly children) and psycho-social support.

Al-Ahli Arab Hospital is the only hospital in the north of Gaza still operational. However, due to severe fuel shortages, the hospital is functioning on limited solar power and performs a reduced number of operations per day (13). Approximately 300 outpatients continue to present themselves for assistance each day.

While some medical aid items have been acquired by the hospital, it is not enough to keep up with the significant demand. Food aid is also limited due to aid restrictions, particularly in northern Gaza, and is currently a critical need for staff and those sheltering in the hospital grounds.

To add to the challenges, an unexploded rocket landed in the hospital grounds in early February and is yet to be removed. This is a haunting reminder of the rocket which detonated in the hospital grounds on October 17, 2023.

We continue to pray for a ceasefire and for the resilience of the al-Ahli Hospital staff in these challenging times.

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Response to date:

To date, \$21,313.50 has been given to the Middle East Crisis Appeal in total. Thank you for your generosity. After administration costs, \$17,681.40 has been sent to Anglican Overseas Aid, with \$1,500.75 remaining to be released.

Find the appeal at www.gmp.org.au/MiddleEastCrisisAppeal

Further information can be made available on request by contacting GMP on 1800 467 222.