



اتحاد الجمعيات الإغاثية و التنمية
Union of Relief & Development Associations

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URDA's General Manager
Houssam Al Ghali

Every year on August 19, the international community celebrates World Humanitarian Day in honor of humanitarian workers and in celebration of humanity and the spirit of giving that inspires and motivates people to help those who need assistance, even in difficult and dangerous circumstances, often risking their lives during the mission.

On this day, the Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon honors all humanitarian workers who save lives and help the most vulnerable individuals in times of crisis in various Lebanese regions where economic distress is the worst in decades.

The depth of the economic and financial crisis, with all its social consequences, is greater than Lebanon's resilience. URDA's relief teams in their various specialized humanitarian sectors are ready to provide relief services to those affected by the current crisis, from food parcels, hygiene kits, and infant formula, to the distribution of medicines and performing surgeries at URDA's medical centers, as well as sponsoring families and students, organizing awareness-raising sessions and offering psychosocial support services.

In this context, URDA is keen to find a balance and complementarity between the rich and the poor in Lebanon which is considered a safety valve and preventive security among societies. During these difficult times, URDA is striving to spread the values of social justice where real humanitarian action is taking place.



URDA Continues to Support those Affected by the Tleil Explosion in Akkar

Following the fuel tanker explosion in the town of Tleil in Akkar, North Lebanon, on 16 August 2021, which resulted in the death of 28 individuals and injuring 80 others, the Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA) conducted a field survey following their visit to the President of the Municipal Council of Dreib, Abboud Moraeb, to prepare a list including the names of the wounded and families of those who lost their lives during the tragic incident, with a view to providing urgent relief services including food parcels, medicines and financial assistance. Around 100 food parcels, water packs and 2 bread bundles per family were distributed.

URDA's Emergency Relief team in Akkar visited a number of injured people in Al Salam Hospital and several families of those who lost their lives as a result of the explosion in order to distribute medicine and financial assistance worth some 15 million LBP.

URDA's General Manager, Mr. Houssam Al-Ghali emphasized that this tragic incident has been one of the most difficult humanitarian disasters. The plight of the Lebanese people is growing day by day, especially in the absence of minimal livelihoods, adding that the midnight tragedy in Al-Tleil brought to mind memories of the Beirut Blast, which still affects us all even a year after that tragic day. Al Ghali confirmed that URDA's humanitarian sectors would continue to support the affected people in order to alleviate their suffering as a result of the disaster that had befallen them.

In turn, URDA expresses its gratitude and appreciation for the role of its partner donors, who continue to provide their continued humanitarian support in the various circumstances affecting disadvantaged people of different nationalities across the country.



Click on the image to watch the video:

URDA's Relief Sector Launches a One-Year Project to Distribute 1,000,000 Bread Bundles

Due to the economic crisis which Lebanon has been facing lately, purchasing freshly baked bread has become one of the main struggles for the Lebanese and the refugees alike. According to reports by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), it was estimated that %78 of the Lebanese population are living below the poverty line, while %36 live in extreme poverty.

In this context, the Relief Sector in the Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA) has started implementing the bread distribution project to the poorest families in Lebanon especially those living in Aarsal, Beqaa, and Akkar.

This project has been providing free bread to families which had a positive impact on their humanitarian and living conditions since bread is considered one of the fundamental essentials for anyone.

The project was held after the Ministry of Economy & Trade in Lebanon has declared the official price and weight of a single bread bundle in all Lebanese stores and bakeries. This declaration was mainly influenced by the high costs of fuel.

URDA's Relief Manager, Fares Fares, stressed that the bread distribution project, which started this past March and aims at distributing 1,178,060 bread bundles, will be running throughout 2021.

The beneficiaries of this project called on donors to continue their support for the project in the future, as it has a significant impact on their lives and the lives of their children and provides them with minimum food security.



URDA and Care International Participate in a New Endeavour to Unify Local NGO work in Lebanon

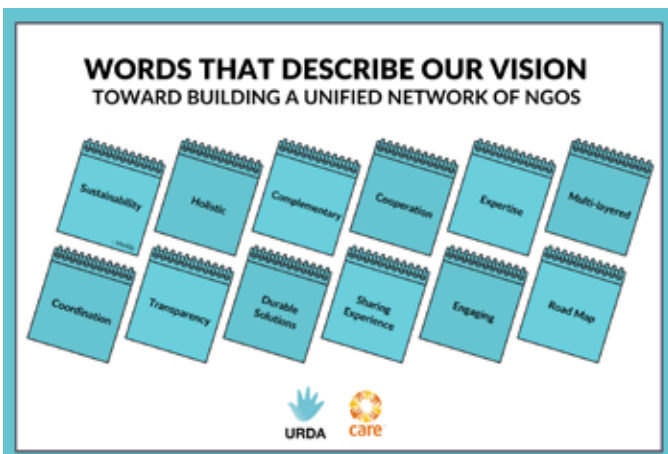
URDA's shelter and relief sector is currently participating with Care International and several other NGOs to create a preliminary network of organizations with a vision to support and empower Lebanese communities through crises by a collaborative network of organizations that share their resources and capacities in a unified manner.

This network aims to:

- Improve efficiency and effectiveness of network members through sharing of resources.
- Establish integrated programs to deliver higher impact
- Ensure faster and better response to new emergencies
- Make a significant contribution to developing NGO collaboration approaches in Lebanon

Participants in this network:

- ABAAD
- ADR
- CARE International
- Fair Trade Lebanon
- NUSANED
- Rene Moawad Foundation
- Ruwwad al Tanmneya
- SHIFT Social Innovation Hub



Al-Nour School in Aarsal Continues its Summer Program

Under the title "Sports is Life," the 7th week of the summer course in Al Nour School in Aarsal kicked off in the school's various clubs including the sports, science, art and recreational clubs.

Soccer and basketball, in addition to running, are the sports which the students have joined, in an effort by the educational department to unleash the students true potential, thereby enhancing the mental health of the children, and raising the student's focus through sports sessions aimed at controlling movement within the team and within the rules of each game.

Building a healthy body is a fundamental principle in the education sector of the Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon.



URDA's Protection Sector Carries Out the "Superhero" Activity to Empower Children

If we type in the word "hero" in search engines, we will find numerous definitions...

We'll find a hero inside each of our children...

A hero might be a little boy who may have lost one of his parents and managed to get through, lead a decent life and become a man...

Or it might be a little kid who managed to overcome his fear and made new friendships in his school...

Or a kid whose teacher asked what they like to be in the future, and their answer was not limited to one profession.

We must look into the hearts of our children as there is a hero inside with different characteristics which we are striving to develop even further.

In this context, URDA's Child Protection sector, specifically in Middle Bekaa, is carrying out psychosocial support activities for orphaned children aimed at boosting their inner strength by representing the child as a superhero by designing clothes made from simple materials to form Superman outfits.

Volunteers who are working in this activity seek to explain to the children involved that each child has a superhero inside his or her heart, to increase self-confidence and positive self-motivation.

This activity has been carried out in cooperation with the Spanish delegation of Sonrisas, which will continue in the protection centers located in various Lebanese regions.



URDA's Protection Sector Conducts Psychosocial Support Sessions for Women and Girls Across Lebanon

URDA's Gender-Based Violence Program which is managed by the Protection sector conducted remote social psychosocial support sessions for women and girls of all nationalities in Mount Lebanon, in addition to sessions that required physical presence at the protection centers in Bekaa, Arasal and Saida on various topics:

- Daily pressures
- Identification and expression of emotions
- The Concept of trust
- Choice and self-protection
- Support Circle
- The Active Role in Society
- Gender-based violence

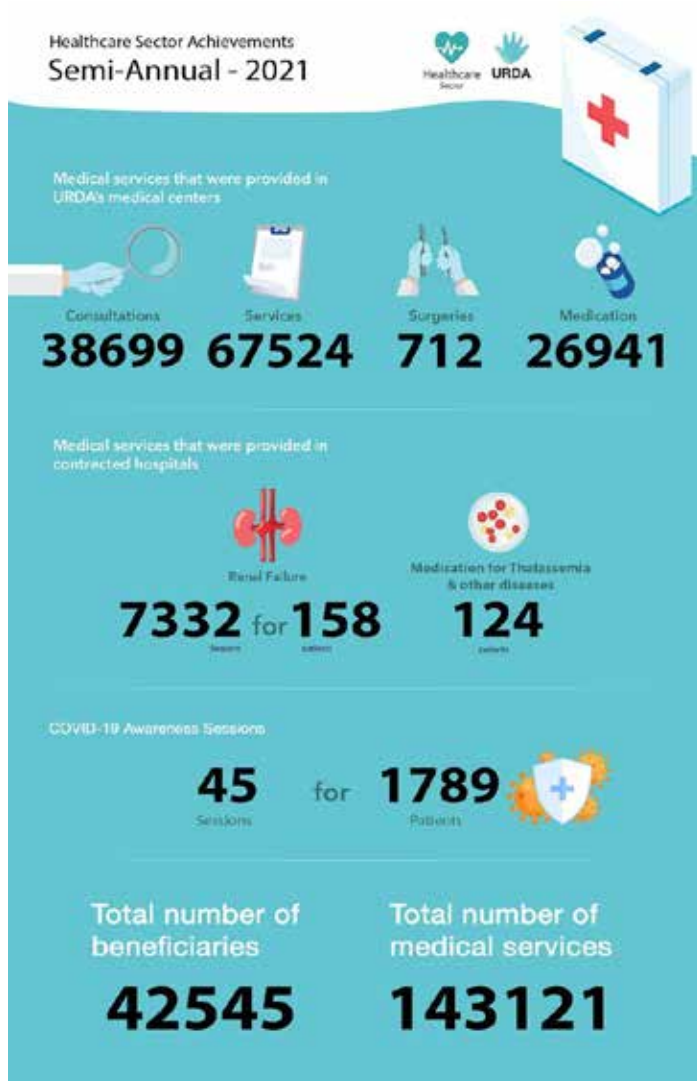


These sessions were aimed at highlighting the importance of protection, accepting the other and reducing pressures. We request those wishing to register to contact the following numbers or send a message on WhatsApp through the following numbers:

03-998913 71-133801 01-769060

Healthcare Sector Achievements

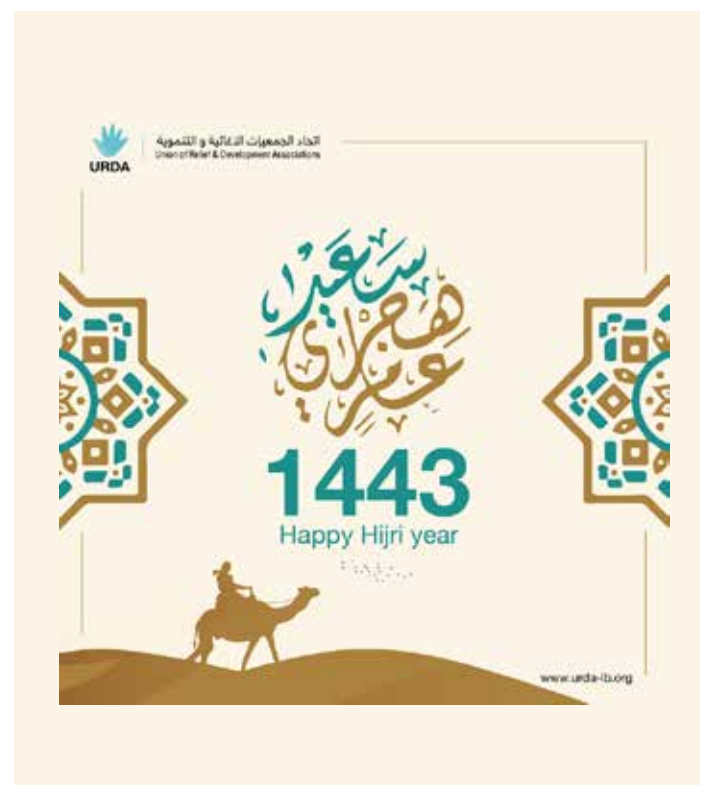
Over the past months, around 42,545 beneficiaries received healthcare-related services across Lebanon. Here are our healthcare sector's achievements wrapped up in the below semi-annual report.



In this spirit, the sponsorship sector in URDA is working to alleviate the suffering for some vulnerable groups of orphans and poor families, and is striving to seek additional sources of donations and contributions to expand the target group and to help as much of the needy as possible.



A drawing by a mother of a sponsored orphan



URDA's Sponsorship Sector Continues to Alleviate the Suffering of Vulnerable Groups in Lebanon

The situation in Lebanon continues to worsen. The general situation still does not bode well in the face of the backlog of crises, all of which have had a direct impact on the Lebanese people and refugees' daily lives.