

Dressmaking Project



Fr Mario, FHL project partner, with Iraqi Christian refugees learning skills to support future employment

The situation

The Middle East is a rapidly changing and turbulent part of the world. Many Christian families have been forced to flee their homes because of conflict or religious persecution. Large numbers find themselves as refugees in Jordan, one of the few 'safe harbours' of the region. Refugees often leave their homeland convinced they will return. They use their life savings to make the journey but find themselves unable to return and no longer have the resources or credentials to build a secure future for their families.

How does FHL help?

In early 2016 FHL's Peter Rand visited Jordan to identify what support could be given to Christian refugees forced to flee Iraq because of their faith. Since then FHL have provided funds to assist these displaced Christians. This help has been a combination of immediate financial family support and assisting refugees to prepare for a new life.

What impact does FHL make?

Working in partnership with the Latin Patriarchate, FHL supported 19 young Iraqi Christian refugees to learn dressmaking skills. In addition to supporting current employment initiatives, skills development such as this improves employment opportunities when they eventually relocate.

Could you support this project?

FHL exists to help and support the Christian population of the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan, working to develop a resilient and enduring community there. Work in Jordan largely concerns Christian refugees who are currently settled in Amman and who need greater and more consistent support. Many larger NGOs and charities working in this area cannot reach these needy Christians. FHL, through our locally based Christian network, is able to target support to areas of greatest need. Currently we work in partnership with the Latin Patriarchate and the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem.

Looking for a UK diocesan partner: FHL are urgently looking for a UK Diocese to partner us in this important area of work. We can provide regular updates on how support received makes a difference to these vulnerable Christians. If you think your Parish, Deanery or Diocese could help please contact the office.

Financial donations can be made online by visiting www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk and clicking the DONATE NOW button. Alternatively, a cheque made payable to 'Friends of the Holy Land', can be sent to the address shown below. Standing order forms are available on our website under the 'GET INVOLVED' tab on the 'Donate Money' page, or by contacting the office.

Volunteer with us: Volunteers are needed to help in our Kenilworth office or to speak at events across the country, please let us know if you can help.

Organising a pilgrimage? Why not make time to meet with these displaced Christians who often feel forgotten by their wider Christian family? Please contact the office for more information.

Contact details:

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