

Gaza Youth Employment Project



Jan 2018 Peter Rand (FHL Vice Chairman) meets beneficiaries of FHL's Gaza Youth Employment Project

The situation

No bigger than the Isle of Wight and home to almost 2 million people, Gaza is the most densely populated country in the world. The Christian community is tiny, numbered at approximately 1,000, and is at risk of disappearing altogether without sustainable investment in the next generation. Life in Gaza is unimaginably hard. Cut off from Israel by a 1km 'no go zone' the population are reliant on international food aid, have no access to clean tap water and have electricity for just a few hours a day. Prospects for young people are bleak, with 65% unemployed.

How does FHL help?

Since October 2016, FHL has been supporting 16 young people in work placements across Gaza. Recruits were selected by a rigorous programme of exams and interviews, and placed in institutions such as the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital, the YMCA and the Orthodox Cultural Centre. FHL provides £46,000 of funds each year to ensure this valuable work to sustain the Christian population in Gaza can continue.

What impact does FHL make?

As well as giving these young people an opportunity to develop skills and acquire work experience, the placements provide an income to support the young person's family. Employment sponsorship in Gaza also helps the institution the young people work within, opening pathways for succession planning and enabling support to the wider community. Many schools, healthcare facilities, and community projects are run by Christians. There is a real possibility Gaza's infrastructure might collapse if Christian institutions do not receive direct investment based on sustainable objectives.

Could you support this project?

FHL exists to help and support the Christian population of the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan, to help develop a resilient and enduring community there. We are grateful for all donations of time and money to help us achieve this mission.

Sponsor a young person: Opportunities exist for groups or individuals to sponsor a young employee in Gaza at £2,875 a year (or £240 a month).

Financial donations can be made online by visiting www.friendsofthehollyland.org.uk and clicking the DONATE NOW button. Alternatively, a cheque payable to 'Friends of the Holy Land' can be posted 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 office in Kenilworth or to speak at events across the country, please let us know if you can help.

Contact:

Address: Friends of the Holy Land, Farmer Ward Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2DH

Email: office@friendsofthehollyland.org.uk

Tel: 01926 512980



"From my visits each year to Gaza it's clear that the Christian community needs sustainable assistance, employment opportunities are essential to help the local community have the best chance to become self-sufficient."

Peter Rand FHL Vice Chairman and Trustee

"My name is Ramy Tarazi, I am 25 years old and I live in the Gaza Strip. I have a BA in accounting and I am employed by the Orthodox Culture Centre. I am so grateful to Friends of the Holy Land for supporting the youth of Gaza and giving me this opportunity to gain valuable work experience"

Ramy Tarazi – FHL Beneficiary

