



Clementia Learning Center Update Fall 2017

We praise the Lord for giving us a new year at Clementia Learning Center. Once again God entrusted us in the lives of more refugee children and allowed us to take part in restoring the hope of Syria.

God's Love Restoring Hope

As children of God we see the hopelessness the refugees are going through as an opportunity to share God's heart. One thing we expose the students to is the love of God through teaching them His word and loving them ourselves! This is the one thing no one else can offer them, which is a great privilege. On the first week of school a teacher asked: "why did God create us?" and one of the students who accepted Jesus last year replied, to the teacher's surprise: "to tell people about what Jesus did for us."

Healthy Meals

Last year we took a small step to meet the nutritional needs of our students; most of the kids did not bring food to school for the lack of it at home, so we started offering them a cup of milk every day. This year we plan on offering milk, healthy snacks and occasional meals during school hours.

6 years old Manal was offered a cheese sandwich by one of our staff during the admission test, she later said to her mom: "mama, will you buy us cheese once you receive the food voucher?"

More Students & New Levels

This year we have 4 levels instead of 3 and we increased the number of students to 75. We adapted our curriculum to better reflect the official Lebanese curriculum. This will prepare the children for public schools whenever they find an opening in the coming years.

Additionally, we included arts, crafts and physical education as part of their daily program to contribute to their holistic development.



Finally, we have also increased the number of school days from 3 to 4 school days. The more time children spend at school is less time spent in the streets or in depressive situations. The additional day will also help improve their academic progress.

Psycho-social support

A vital addition to our program is the psycho-social support curriculum delivered once a week to the students in class. A local partner provided the curriculum with 2 counsellors who will contribute to the holistic wellbeing of students.

This was an answered prayer and a huge support to all the efforts we made to follow-up on the emotional health of children last year.

Trips and Activities

Trips and activities are the day dream of every student at the center. They spend the whole year dreaming of the trip's day, which is why we plan 3 trips during school year. We also try to bring in different teams to run a program for them as a change.

Staff Development

Our work among refugee children is very rewarding yet it is quite challenging. What do you say to a child who saw her dead uncle's body in a terrible condition? How do you deal with a distressed child who lost their sibling?

We dedicate part of our ministry to provide trainings and workshops for our staff to learn more about trauma healing, classroom management, academics and more.

Transportation

We thank God for our partner who enabled us to buy a bus to transport the children. Having a bus made these increase in students' numbers and in days possible.

Contact us if you have any questions about this project or the work of Pioneers. Call or email Susan Campbell at: 866-268-8778 or susan@pioneers.ca

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