

Poverty and Hope Appeal: Feb 2021 update from Syria



Improving youth skills in Syria

Partnered with Christian Aid, supported by Poverty and Hope since 2019.



Three members of one of the Volunteer First Response Committees conduct a sanitisation campaign in a camp in NW Syria. They are disinfecting people's tents to limit the spread of Covid-19, June 2020.

The current situation in NW Syria

After nearly 10 years of war in Syria, children continue to live under constant threat of violence. This has had a profound impact on their psychological wellbeing and education. Schools continue to be targeted in ground and airstrikes, and nearly 1 million school-aged children and young people in NW Syria are at risk of losing out on one of the only activities that could restore some sense of normalcy and hope to their lives: education.

The impact of Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has further exacerbated the situation in NW Syria, and has impacted the work of our partners. Four centres had been set up to provide a safe space for children and young people to access remedial education courses, short-term vocational training, and psychosocial support services. Since the beginning of the pandemic these centres have been mostly closed, but we were able to adapt quickly, implementing many activities through online platforms. This ensured that the young people were not left further behind on their education or further isolated, and COVID-19 awareness messaging has also been integrated into the activities.

Progress of the project in 2020

Other components of this project have made significant progress in 2020. A training institute has been selected, and a curriculum finalised, for four specialised nursing courses: 1) adult critical care, 2) dialysis, 3) neonatal ICU and 4) surgical assistant. The courses are set to begin this month, reaching 125 young people. Additionally, advanced first response training, which has been adapted to also provide training on COVID-19, was delivered to 113 young people. Following this, young people have been supported to form 3 volunteer first response committees.

With COVID-19 heavily impacting the economy, and a health sector destroyed by nearly 10 years of war, these parts of the project are more important than ever.

Christian Aid: England and Wales: charity no. 1105851



The European Union is funding 90% of the project in Syria. Christian Aid is committed to raising the remaining 10% through appeals and other donations.

Poverty and Hope Appeal: part of the Diocese of Rochester, charity no. 249339.

