



**UKCARE**  
FOR CHILDREN

# From Crisis to Care

**Stories of Impact 2024**





# Contents

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Message from the Chairman</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
| Mohamed Kozbar                    |           |
| <b>Restoring Childhood</b>        | <b>5</b>  |
| By Nadine Kazwini                 |           |
| <b>Every Child Counts</b>         | <b>6</b>  |
| By Khadidja Saidani               |           |
| <b>Uplifting Women</b>            | <b>7</b>  |
| By Samah Tukli                    |           |
| <b>Healing on the Move</b>        | <b>8</b>  |
| By Hiyam Al Ashwah                |           |
| <b>Caring for the Forgotten</b>   | <b>9</b>  |
| By Hoda Dirawi                    |           |
| <b>About UK Care for Children</b> | <b>10</b> |





## Message from the Chairman

Dear friends, supporters, and partners,

It is with deep gratitude and sober reflection that I present to you this **Annual Report**. This past year has brought hardship to millions across Lebanon and Jordan, but with your generous support, UK Care for Children (UKC4C) has stood steadfast, bringing dignity, relief, and hope to those in greatest need.

Throughout this report, you will read stories that reflect not only the scale of the challenges, but the power of quiet, consistent compassion.

In Lebanon, our **child sponsorship programme** reached over 500 vulnerable children, offering a vital lifeline to families facing the daily realities of poverty, displacement, and rising instability. In one article, *Every Child Counts*, you'll learn how this support translates into warm meals, school attendance, and the moral comfort that comes with being remembered.

You will also read about our work with

**women and families**, where we've helped mothers rebuild their lives through support programmes, and our **community-led projects** that restore dignity through food parcels, winter support, and educational aid. Medical interventions, from urgent hospital care to essential prescriptions, have saved and sustained lives throughout the year. These stories are told not in abstract terms, but through real people, whose resilience is nothing short of inspiring.

We are especially proud that our impact this year extended to **thousands of families and children**, not just through numbers but through renewed dignity.

But even as we reflect on the achievements of 2024, we look ahead with concern.

The humanitarian outlook in both **Lebanon and Jordan is worsening**. Economic hardship has deepened. Camps are more crowded, basic services are more strained, and the most vulnerable, especially children, face greater uncertainty than ever. As we write this, food insecurity and unaffordable medical care are threatening more families, while

regional instability casts a long shadow over those already in crisis.

It is precisely in these moments that your support becomes more powerful.

To our **donors**, we extend heartfelt thanks. Your contributions are more than just financial, they are acts of solidarity, of conscience, and of faith in a better world. Whether you sponsor a child, support a winter campaign, or donate towards medical aid, you are present in the lives of those we serve.

On behalf of our team and our beneficiaries in the field, thank you for walking with us. With your continued support, we remain committed to serving with compassion, transparency, and hope, no matter what challenges lie ahead.

With sincere thanks,

Mohamed Kozbar

Chairman, UK Care for Children





# Restoring Childhood

## Support for Vulnerable Children in Jordan and Lebanon

By Nadine Kazwini

*Nadine is a Programme Manager based in Beirut. She holds a Master's degree in NGO Management and brings extensive experience in planning and delivering humanitarian programmes. Her work focuses on creating dignified, impactful interventions for vulnerable families across Lebanon.*

**Childhood is under threat.** The ongoing refugee crisis, economic collapse, and conflict have made education, safety, and play a distant dream for hundreds of thousands of children. In Lebanon, nearly 1 in 2 children suffers from food insecurity, and many families cannot afford to keep their children in school.

Despite these realities, local organisations have created safe spaces and educational opportunities to protect the wellbeing of children.

In **Lebanon**, students were able to continue their education through tuition support, easing the burden on families struggling with basic needs. Children received school bags and supplies, helping them start the academic year with dignity and confidence. These acts do more than equip students, they inspire hope.

One of the most heart-warming efforts came in the form of **Eid gifts**. Underprivileged children and orphans received new clothes and toys. For children living in poverty or displacement, these gifts offered a sense of normalcy and joy, a reminder that they are remembered.

In Lebanon, a safe play area known as **"Kid's Corner"** reopened its doors in September 2024, welcoming **1,600 children and 270 parents**. Designed to promote emotional healing through play, this space became a sanctuary, even amid rising tensions in the south.

These initiatives prove that restoring childhood isn't just possible, it's happening, one child at a time.



# Every Child Counts

## The Lifeline of Sponsorship

By Khadidja Saidani

*Khadidja is a dedicated humanitarian and trustee at UK Care for Children. With decades of experience advocating for refugee families, she brings both compassion and oversight to the charity's work, especially in administration and donor care. Her voice champions the dignity of children and the importance of long-term support.*

In Lebanon, the humanitarian situation has grown increasingly fragile. Years of economic collapse, political instability, and a strained infrastructure have left more than **four in ten children** living in poverty. For refugee children, the conditions are even more severe, limited access to education, chronic malnutrition, and emotional trauma are daily realities. In overcrowded camps and neglected neighbourhoods, childhood is often shaped more by survival than by play or learning.

But in the face of these challenges, quiet acts of generosity are changing lives.

Through **UKC4C's Child Sponsorship Programme**, **539 children** were supported in 2024, up from 488 the previous year. This growth reflects the expanding reach of a lifeline that helps families survive displacement, unemployment, and poverty across Lebanon.

### A Quiet Promise of Stability

Each sponsored child received **four financial payments** during the year, distributed in March, June, August, and Ramadan. These funds are not simply cash transfers, they represent food on the table, rent paid on time, and medicine when illness strikes. For many families, this is the only regular income they can count on.

The programme doesn't stop at financial help. It provides **moral support** that's often just as vital. A child who knows someone cares, someone across borders who sees them, gains a deeper sense of dignity and belonging.

During Ramadan, children also received **customised prayer mihrabs**, a thoughtful gift that brought joy and spiritual comfort. Many proudly shared photos of these gifts, a small but meaningful sign of hope inside their homes.

### Reaching the Most Vulnerable

Lebanon is home to tens of thousands of Palestinian and Syrian refugees, and local Lebanese families are struggling too. The sponsorship programme is intentionally broad, addressing the needs of:

- **Orphans**, defined as children who have lost their fathers and lack paternal support.
- **Needy children**, whose families are unable to meet their basic needs due to displacement, unemployment, illness, or severe poverty.
- **Students** aged 16 and above who remain in education despite the odds.
- **Children with special needs**, whose disabilities are made harder by economic hardship.

Each child's story is different, but their needs are shared: milk, food, clothing, medicine, and sometimes just the assurance that tomorrow will be a little easier than today.

In 2024 alone, **151 financial and in-kind gifts** were distributed across Lebanon's regions, including **Beirut, Saida, Tyre, the North, and Biqaa**. The help is geographically diverse but deeply personal in impact.

### Beyond the Child, Supporting Entire Families

Though the programme is focused on children, the benefit often reaches entire families, easing the burden on parents and siblings. It enables caregivers to keep homes warm, fridges stocked, and children in school.

With a starting contribution of **£25 a month per child**, or **£75 for a family of three siblings**, donors help sustain this impact. In cases where donations fall short, UKC4C's wider funds step in, ensuring that no child is left unsupported.

### A Sponsorship that Transcends Money

To be sponsored is more than receiving financial help, it's a message of care sent across borders. In a region where displacement and hardship continue, this programme offers constancy, dignity, and hope.

In 2024, this lifeline extended to more children than ever before. And with continued support, it will reach even more in the years ahead.





# Uplifting Women

## Dignity, Safety, and Economic Empowerment

By Samah Tukli

*Samah is a social worker and regional supervisor for South Lebanon. She is committed to advancing women's resilience and leads empowerment programmes focused on mental health, economic opportunity, and protection for vulnerable women and girls.*

**Women in Lebanon and Jordan continue to face extraordinary challenges.** Many are heads of households, forced into informal work or complete dependency. In refugee camps and under-resourced communities, women lack access to safety, income, and basic hygiene.

But women are also at the heart of resilience, and several initiatives have placed them at the centre of recovery and empowerment.

A project supporting **female breadwinners** provided business training and startup support, enabling women to generate income and support their families independently. These are not handouts; they are investments in dignity and leadership.

Emergency distributions of **hygiene kits and winter items** to displaced women helped safeguard their health and protect them from the cold. In Lebanon, distributions reached vulnerable families living in tents, offering essential heaters, blankets, and hygiene essentials.

Crucially, women were not only supported, they were employed. A **job creation initiative** in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon hired **16 social workers** and **2 elderly caregivers**, offering vital services to the community while empowering women through employment.

In every one of these projects, the message is clear: women are not victims of crisis. They are partners in building a stronger future.





# Healing on the Move

## Bringing Medical Care to the Forgotten

By Hiyam Al Ashwah

*Hiyam is an Associate Administrator leading UKC4C's health initiatives. She specialises in mobile medical outreach and community-based healthcare delivery, ensuring that underserved populations receive timely and essential medical support.*

Across Lebanon and Jordan, families are being pushed further from essential healthcare. Rising costs, fuel shortages, and overstretched public hospitals mean many people must go without even the most basic medical attention.

In response, mobile and targeted medical services are helping to close this gap.

A mobile medical unit provided treatment in under-resourced areas. These patients, many elderly, chronically ill, or displaced, received consultations, prescriptions, and follow-ups. By reaching people where they live, the project removed cost and transport barriers that often prevent timely care.

Another critical initiative, the **"Healing Project"**, offered essential medical support to **56 vulnerable**

**patients**, covering costs for surgeries, diagnostics, and medication. Many of the beneficiaries faced serious illnesses that, without intervention, would have gone untreated.

A health fund enabled patients to access medication and follow-up treatment, a vital service in a country hosting millions of refugees. They received life-enhancing medical aid such as chronic disease treatment, injury care, and support for disabilities.

These are not large-scale hospitals or million-dollar interventions. But their impact is profound: each treatment, each home visit, each check-up is a lifeline. In a time when healthcare is too often a privilege, these projects restore it as a right.





# Caring for the Forgotten

## Community Relief for the Elderly and Displaced

By Hoda Dirawi

*Hoda manages elderly care programmes in the Beqaa region. As a social development researcher, she is passionate about restoring dignity to isolated seniors and rebuilding community support networks through compassionate, home-based care.*

While emergency headlines often focus on war and refugees, another crisis goes largely unseen: **the silent suffering of the elderly and isolated.** In Lebanon and Jordan, older adults, especially those without family support, face hunger, loneliness, and neglect.

Community-led care initiatives are filling this painful gap.

In **Lebanon**, the **“Elderly Sitters” project** provided home-based care to **57 elderly individuals** across Beirut, Saida, Tripoli, and Tyre. Trained caregivers, **over 60 in total**, offered hygiene support, companionship, medication reminders, and meal preparation. In a society where family care is fraying under economic strain, this project offered comfort and dignity.

Nutrition support complemented this outreach. In the south, elderly

individuals received **three home-delivered meals per week**. In Tyre and Saida, some received a **daily hot meal**, ensuring they were not forgotten in the scramble for aid.

Meanwhile, entire **communities were uplifted** through shared spaces. The **“Light Up Mosques”** campaign supported **26 mosques** across Lebanon with essential winter improvements. Heaters, fans, sound systems, cleaning materials, and safe water provisions turned these mosques into beacons of support, especially during Ramadan, when they become centres of both faith and community.

These projects reveal a deep truth: relief is not just about survival, it’s about dignity, belonging, and care. And often, it’s the quiet, consistent work that changes lives the most.



## About UK Care for Children

UK Care for Children was established in **2008** to help mitigate the effects of conflict and poverty for the most vulnerable in **Lebanon**. Since then, we have expanded to work in **Jordan** helping refugees and others in need.

Our **vision** is to create a world where every refugee child and their family live with **dignity, hope, and opportunity**, free from the impacts of conflict and poverty. We aspire to build resilient communities in Lebanon and Jordan, where the most **vulnerable can thrive** through comprehensive welfare, development, and humanitarian support.

Download our published financial reports from the [charities commission](#)



Scan or tap QR Code

 [www.ukc4c.org](http://www.ukc4c.org)  
 [info@ukc4c.org](mailto:info@ukc4c.org)  
 +44 (0)203 137 6951

Stay up to date



UKC4C



Registered Charity Number: 1124927





