

Project Hope March 2005 Update



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www.projecthope.ps

I. Introduction and New Website



Project Hope is pleased to announce its accomplishments in what is shaping up to be an exciting new year. We have many activities planned and already many activities underway. We hope that you will take a few minutes to read about what we are doing.

New Website

Project Hope can now be found at: www.projecthope.ps. For a limited time, entering the old address will redirect you to our new domain, enabling you to access the latest Project Hope happenings.

II. Projects

Project Hope has a variety of projects currently underway. We are working with many great supporters from the international community and in cooperation with our able community center partners.

A. English Classes

The English classes remain one of our primary activities. These classes are educational, providing practical English instruction that the children and youth are in need of to advance in a future professional career. For this reason, there is a high demand amongst the



Palestinian community for these skills. However, English classes are not only educational, they are recreational. They provide a welcome release where youth can express themselves while interacting with our foreign volunteers. More advanced students will be given an opportunity to participate in a penpal program. This will allow them to forge new relationships with friends from all over the world. The English teachers are made up of local staff, international volunteers and local volunteers.

Nablus English Classes



Thanks to the support of the Canadian AutoWorkers (CAW) "Social Justice Fund" Project Hope has been able to improve on the professionalism of its English classes in Nablus. We are mixing experience with youth, and international and local leadership to develop a program that will better meet the needs of the local community, where a strained

education system has been unable to keep up. Our focus in Nablus is on the poorer areas of the Refugee Camps and Old City, while working with a limited number of local community centers. During the school year, in each location we will be teaching a minimum number of 100 pupils. This number is set to double throughout the summer months. This means a minimum of 200 kids during the school year, and 400 during the summer, surpassing our initial expectations based on previous experiences. These classes are based on a continuous Project Hope curriculum that will be offered throughout the year.



We will also continue to provide limited English language workshops outside our regular curriculum and courses, when resources or the need arises, at different locations in Nablus.

English in Jayyous



In Jayyous village we have been able to sustain our activities for the local community. The classes are based on a

curriculum developed by our local Head Teacher who works in cooperation with the local school division to augment their school activities. We average 80 to 100 pupils in a normal month in our classes in Jayyous.

** Donations of English books are more than welcome. We are trying to build a library of resources for our English teachers to draw upon. We are also looking for some limited sponsorship of our English program in Jayyous.*

B. Acrobatic Bands and Art

Among our favorite activities are the children's shows and acrobatic workshops that we are able to put on through our members and the various local groups we support. Two of these groups are "Voices" from Jenin and "Space Toon" from Nablus. We sponsor these groups and work with them to put on our many activities. These range from acrobatic workshops to shows. These activities provide fun times for people to forget their problems and enjoy themselves.



These are just some of the activities we are currently engaged in. For example, we also engage in a number of different art workshops throughout the course of a year. We are in the process of implementing several interesting projects and are continuously looking for ideas to develop in this area. In addition, we have some major projects planned for the near future in collaboration with some international friends, including Music and Acrobatic workshops.

III. Supporting Us and Volunteering

A. Volunteering

We are always interested in new applicants who want to join us in our attempt to make a positive difference in the lives of Palestinian children. We consider all applicants, regardless of their background or inexperience.



Often volunteers have skills (such as

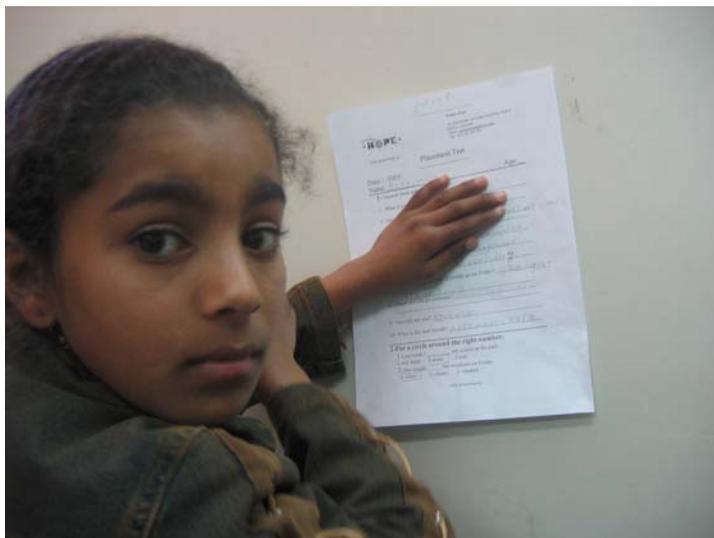
speaking English) that we are in need of. For more information, click on the "Volunteering" link, on our homepage or visit <http://www.projecthope.ps/volunteering.html>.

B. Supporting Us

Of course, for those of you who are not able to join us physically, there are many ways to contribute. For instance, we are always in need of donations to conduct our activities. We manage to do a lot on a limited budget, so every little bit counts. Even a small donation can contribute in a large way for us to purchase much needed materials for our activities. More information on ways to donate can be found in the "Support Us" section of our webpage at <http://www.projecthope.ps/support.html>.

We also consider donations in kind. For example, at this time we are in need of English books to build up our library for our English classes.

Yet another way to support is by purchasing the products of some of our non-profit sponsors. For example, Zatoun sells some excellent Olive Oil in Canada, www.zatoun.com. In Iceland an excellent CD compiled by top artists is on sale, with proceeds going to Project Hope. Visit <http://www.palestina.is/frjalspalestina/english.htm> for more information.



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