

PARTNERS



RELIEF &



JOURNAL

CREATIVE Jenn Tendero
Rachel Bruursema
Dave Ellem

DESIGN Amy Charbonneau

PHOTOS Scott Brindle
James Higgins
Field Staff

EDITORS

Jenn Tendero
Adrienne Coats
Karah Brink
Dave Ellem
Adrianna Manaugh
Joyce Hazlett



COVER

A warm clothes distribution in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. January 2022.

“How we spend our days is of course how we spend our lives. What we do with this hour and that one is what we are doing.”

Annie Dillard

Hello

Your trust is gold to us.

I say it over and over
because it's true.

When you donate, you give us your
money + trust.

Every time.

So I thought you might like to see
how we spend your money,
how we spend our days.

I hope, of course, this grows your trust in us.

Also, to be honest, I hope it blows your socks off:
the sheer breadth and variety of our work in

Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand.

Only 365 days to help thousands of kids in war zones.
This is how we've spent our days. Our year.

2021: This is what we were doing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Jenn', written over a horizontal line.

Jenn
Partners Headquarters
Ada, MI USA

RETROSPECT

This Is How We Spent Our Days



24	January
36	February
46	March
62	April
72	May
80	June

90	July
102	August
114	September
120	October
128	November
136	December

COOK

An Invitation to The Longest Table



34	January - Oh No Kaukswe
44	February - Iraqi Maqlobi
60	March - Kurdish Chicken Biryani
70	April - Seared Lemongrass Salmon
78	May - Baba Ganouj
88	June - Nanaimo Bars

100	July - Strawberry Pretzel Salad
112	August - Favorite Kale Salad
118	September - Apple Pie
126	October - Khanompang Na Moo
134	November - Sweet Potato Casserole
140	December - Nana's Scrambled Eggs

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Annual Report



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For Our Community



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RETROSPECT

PAGES

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This Is How We Spent Our Days

◀ MYANMAR-INDIA BORDER

Violence continued to escalate in Chin State, Myanmar. At the end of October, the Myanmar military attacked the town of Thantlang, razing buildings to the ground and returning a few days later to continue their destruction of homes. At the time, the UN estimated that 37,000 people were displaced due to the conflict in Chin State. Our contacts at the Myanmar-India border area told us that a large number of people fled from their homes over the border into India and that emergency relief was urgently needed. Partners helped those who fled with food and other necessities, such as hygiene supplies. Around 450 families were directly helped by this distribution. December 2021.

C A
C E N
A R

This Is How We Spent Our Days

L D

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 03

Seeds grown at our farm are harvested & packaged for displaced families in SEA to improve food security in Thailand.

DAY 04

Rice that our Chiang Mai team planted last year is harvested today in Thailand.

DAY 05

Our GED students and instructors have a traditional bamboo dance party in Mae Sot, Thailand.

DAY 06

200 people receive blankets in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

DAY 07

Tree planting today and more seed collecting at the Marv Kahn Development Training Centre in Thailand.

DAY 08

End of Year donation totals are in.

DAY 09

You gave \$431,800 to kids you've never met. Record-setting generosity.

DAY 10

We receive the first in-progress photos and video of our school rebuild in Raqqa, Syria. Pg 26.

DAY 11

SEA staff notes an uptick in fighting. Shan State, Myanmar.

DAY 12

Steve Gumaer interviewed about how COVID-19 has impacted global non-profits serving refugees.

DAY 13

World Magazine mentions Partners' discovery of 1500 Syrian refugees displaced by Turkish shelling. Days later, we deliver mattresses to them.

DAY 14

Fire in Nayapara Camp, Bangladesh. SEA operations team asks us to raise money to help victims.

DAY 15

In less than 24 hours, you donate \$20,719 for relief supplies for fire victims.

DAY 16

Relief team delivers 600 family food packs and 600 pieces of clothing to fire victims. Bangladesh.

DAY 17

1700 blankets +1700 mattresses delivered. NE Syria.

DAY 18

560 high-quality tarps delivered to fire victims. Bangladesh.

DAY 19

First reports of shelling in a village where we run a Community Health Project. Myanmar.

DAY 20

SEA team again notes an escalation in violence. Myanmar.

DAY 21

SEA team shares photos of nursery school students wearing warm clothes, hats and masks from Partners.

DAY 22

Photos received of students in Karen State, newly-displaced by shelling, doing school in the jungle. Myanmar.

DAY 23

Team member records footage from each of the 9 Karen Sustainable Schools Partners supports.

DAY 24

No annual staff retreat. Again. Thanks, COVID.

DAY 25

A Day in the Life of our community-based boarding schools. Karen State, Myanmar. Pg 30.

DAY 26

Middle East team delivers 520 water tanks to Serikane Camp. NE Syria.

DAY 27

Monthly virtual meeting: Directors from Norway, Canada, UK and New Zealand + the Executive team.

DAY 28

SEA Livelihood team starts growing mushrooms at the Marv Kahn Training Centre. Thailand.

DAY 29

560 more food packs delivered to Rohingya fire victims. Bangladesh.

DAY 30

ME operations team delivers 1200 blankets and 1200 mattresses. Syria.

DAY 31

COUP. Aung San Suu Kyi detained by her own military. Myanmar.

Starting the year as we mean to end: with lots of love, action and food.

DAY 01

500 food baskets delivered today by our local partners in Yemen.

DAY 02

Delivery partners distribute 3000 blankets in Yemen.

JANUARY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 32

Myanmar situation rapidly devolving. Multiple teams meet to discuss strategy in operations and communications.

DAY 33

Partners releases a statement about the coup. HQ.

DAY 34

After several years, Partners gains official registration. Syria.

DAY 35

Middle East team employs 8 families to head up waste management in their refugee camp. NE Syria.

DAY 36

Team member embedded with IDPs in Karen State reports the sound of shooting every day. Myanmar.

DAY 37

DAY 38

3 months of food given to school students in Yemen by our local partners.

DAY 39

Medicine and info about COVID-19 distributed to 31 at-risk people. Thailand.

DAY 40

Fire breaks out in Mae Lae Refugee camp, affecting 62 people. Thailand.

DAY 41

Partners signs an agreement to begin the Sittwe school rebuild project. Myanmar.

DAY 42

Our local partner distributes blankets to 600 families in Sana'a, Yemen.

DAY 43

SE Asia team responds to the fire in Mae La by supplying stoves, buckets, water, kitchen supplies, etc.

DAY 44

Our local partner gives out 500 food baskets in Bani al-Qalam & Dhabi areas of Sana'a, Yemen.

DAY 45

Karen relief team buys and gives enough formula to sustain babies whose mothers passed away. Myanmar.

DAY 46

Mae Sot staff involved in meeting to support a local teaching hospital and coordinate a food distribution.

DAY 47

50 infant nutrition packs distributed to displaced babies. Bangladesh.

DAY 48

Community Health Workers distribute more medicine and infant nutrition packs. Bangladesh.

DAY 49

Agriculture team runs insect prevention experiment with wood vinegar at our research farm. Myanmar.

DAY 50

Middle East team buys and bundles food into plastic bags in preparation for a distribution. Syria. Pg 38.

DAY 51

Steve is interviewed about the coup in Myanmar.

DAY 52

1700 students and their teachers celebrate the grand reopening of our rebuild in Raqqa. Syria.

DAY 53

Our team in Karen State delivers 1 bag of rice, 1 tarp, 10 kilos of salt, 2 blankets and one flashlight to 509 IDPs. Myanmar.

DAY 54

ME team distributes wheelchairs in Syria.

DAY 55

Our operations partners in Yemen met a community so hungry they were eating leaves. They went out and purchased food.

DAY 56

1500 new people sign up for our newsletter as a result of our collaboration with Sweatcoin. Pg 42.

DAY 57

UN Envoy appeals to the international community to use "any means necessary to take action against the Myanmar military."

DAY 58

A family in Ontario offers to match all support raised in Canada for Karen State relief effort. Canada.

DAY 59

Deadliest day of civilian clashes with the military to date - 18 killed and 30 injured. Myanmar.

ABBREVIATIONS

CHW	Community Health Worker
GED	General Educational Development
HQ	Headquarters
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
ME	Middle East
SEA	Southeast Asia

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 60

Mushroom growing project begins at Marv Kahn Farm. Thailand.

DAY 61

Completed deep-water well in Kuptalong refugee camp. Bangladesh.

DAY 62

Myanmar is heartbreaking. We take time to check in with our staff members who have family there.

DAY 63

Middle East operations team goes shopping for supplies to rebuild Sinjar school.

DAY 64

144 buckets of paint delivered to Sinjar school for rebuild. Iraq.

DAY 65

Our affiliate office in Norway launches a fundraiser for emergency relief in Myanmar.

DAY 66

Our Sinjar school rebuild is underway!

DAY 67

Pope Francis speaks at a restored church in Qaraqosh, Iraq that our team visited four years ago.

DAY 68

Email launch of Myanmar Crisis Appeal. \$44k was then donated over the next three days.

DAY 69

Partners provides assistance to a clinic in Karen State after hospitals close due to coup and civil disobedience. Myanmar.

DAY 70

When team members delivered emergency supplies to families hiding in the jungle, they found kids still studying school lessons. Myanmar.

DAY 71

Relief team delivers rice and blankets to IDPs in Karen State. Myanmar.

DAY 72

DAY 73

Professional development day at HQ.

DAY 74

Team distributes rice to 4,550 people in Sittwe. Myanmar.

DAY 75

Photos of families hiding in the jungle become our second most engaged-with post of 2021. Myanmar. Pg 48.

DAY 76

Students learning at Baw Thoo Hta Primary School finish exams while parents run a store whose profits sustain the school. Myanmar.

DAY 77

A team member's father donates his creativity by painting a mural on our latest school rebuild. Iraq. Pg 52.

DAY 78

Students take their final exams in the jungle on makeshift desks made out of logs. Myanmar.

DAY 79

A community-based home on the Thai-Myanmar border does special health activities for Global Youth Day.

DAY 80

Our Khanasour school rebuild completes a new volleyball court and football (soccer) field! Iraq.

DAY 81

Day Bu Noh high school holds a PTA fundraiser to raise funds for the school. Myanmar.

DAY 82

Operations sends funds to our team in Cox's Bazar to install a deep water well and rebuild 20 homes for widows. Bangladesh.

DAY 83

Opening day of rebuilt school funded by the Reformed Church of America. Iraq.

DAY 84

Last week of school for the students at our community-based home, Ler Mu Lah.

DAY 85

200 families receive food packs. Syria.

DAY 86

Team gets multiple text notifications of military shelling villages in Karen State. Myanmar.

DAY 87

One week after students held a fundraiser, Day Pu Noh high school is decimated by airstrikes. Pg 54.

DAY 88

We begin funding a pediatric clinic in the notorious Al-Hol Camp, but don't mention the name on social media. NE Syria.

DAY 89

Staff members who are medics are embedded with displaced families in Karen State. Myanmar.

DAY 90

Rohingya are placed under a strict curfew and must remain in their homes after 8pm. Myanmar.

MARCH

PARTNERS RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 94
Easter Sunday

DAY 95
While a Partners team member is on the phone with operations, mortar shelling can be heard in the background.

DAY 96
We publish a press release condemning the Tatmadaw's actions against children in Myanmar.

DAY 97
Steve Gumaer is quoted today in the Washington Post about the uptick in violence in Myanmar.

DAY 98
Let there be light! Electricity is installed in our school rebuild. Iraq.

DAY 99
One of the schools we support in Karen State is bombed-600 students go into hiding.

DAY 100
Students and teachers in our SEED program make special Shan desserts to celebrate the annual water festival.

DAY 101
Today in the Christian Science Monitor...
[See below.](#)

DAY 102
Staff member & villagers in Kachin State dig bunkers to hide from the Myanmar Military's attacks. Myanmar.

DAY 103
Students in one of our nursery schools are forced to hide in the jungle with their parents. Myanmar.

DAY 104
Deep water well is completed for Rohingya families in Cox's Bazar. Bangladesh.

DAY 105
Team buys tarps for shelter, plates, and cutlery for families that were forced to flee from their homes. Myanmar.

DAY 106
Our team in Karen State navigates muddy roads delivering 100 bags of rice to families hiding in the jungle amidst ongoing attacks. Pg 66.

DAY 107
Rohingya team member reports the military beating people in the camp. Myanmar.

DAY 108
In the past two weeks, 13 babies were delivered in our Al-Hol Pediatric Center. Syria.

DAY 109
Today is the grand opening of the RCA-funded school & soccer field! Northern Iraq.

DAY 110
Military attacks in Shan State where we run our agriculture training & a sustainable school project. ~1000 displaced. Myanmar. (This is getting so old.)

DAY 111
Karmagawa-funded school rebuild in Sinjar opens, and 600 kids, their parents and teachers celebrate. Iraq.

DAY 112
World Food Program estimates that an additional 3.4 million people in Myanmar will need food assistance in the next 6 months because of the coup and COVID, on top of existing poverty.

DAY 113
Students in one of our nursery schools are forced to hide in the jungle with their parents in Myanmar.

DAY 114
Team member interviews IDPs about their new life of hiding in the jungle. Myanmar.

DAY 115
Naw Law, a refugee woman that has been at our sewing center on the Thai-Myanmar border since 2015, graduates from Junior College.

DAY 116
Team member embedded with families in Karen State sends a message that the military is bombing in an area where we have worked relentlessly to deliver food and supplies.

DAY 117

DAY 118

DAY 119
2,000 food packages are distributed to families in Yemen by our partners at Mona Relief. Yemen.

DAY 120
Sovengard restaurant completes cocktail-for-a-cause. USA. Pg 68.

DAY 97

"It's gloves off, it's right back to the early 2000s when it was just a brutal war."

APRIL

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 121

The heartbreaking photo of kids beside the Salween River will become one of our most widely-shared photos of 2021.

DAY 122

Our team interviews a mother of 10 children, recently displaced. Myanmar.

DAY 123

Bank Holiday in Thailand.

DAY 124

Our Karen team translates interviews and sends along to HQ.

DAY 125

A Karmagawa School rebuild is in progress in Syria.

DAY 126

"Love like a mother" Mother's Day Campaign raises \$5000.

DAY 127

Mona Relief, our delivery partner in Yemen, delivers clothing to vulnerable families and widows.

DAY 128

In progress photos are received from the Karmagawa Kindergarten #1 rebuild.

DAY 129

EmpowerME program holds their first training in Domiz Camp, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

DAY 130

Huge rice distribution to 14,500 displaced people. Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 131

Staff member in Kachin State, visits Lana Zup Ja IDP camp where Partners has run a Community Support Network since 2013. Myanmar/China border.

DAY 132

Delivery partner, Mona Relief, delivers the last of 2400 baskets of food to the most vulnerable in Yemen as part of its Ramadan campaign.

DAY 133

HQ team decides to create and publish a cookbook. By Christmas.

DAY 134

Sweatcoin campaign for Myanmar crisis relief launches.

DAY 135

NZ supporters climb the equivalent of Mt. Everest to raise money for Partners.

DAY 136

Staff member returns from Karen State and reflects on what it's like to be a Karen IDP. Pg 74.

DAY 137

DAY 138

HQ team puts out the all-call for recipe submissions from you, our team and the people we work with. USA.

DAY 139

DAY 140

DAY 141

15,000 people flee violence from Myanmar military by attempting to cross into India. They are turned back.

DAY 142

Partners helps about 500 of these IDPs with food, lanterns and water storage.

DAY 143

800 IDP's have to flee the monastery they were hiding in due to fighting. Myanmar.

DAY 144

Partners gives food and food supplies to these 800 IDPs and 665 additional IDPs who had previously not received aid from any organizations. Myanmar.

DAY 145

ME teams send progress photos of Ibn Rushd school rebuild in Raqqa, Syria.

DAY 146

120 kids register for our trauma program, run by Panaga in Sharya Camp. Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

DAY 147

SEA operations delivers rice to 550 people living in hide sites in Karen State, Myanmar.

DAY 148

DAY 149

DAY 150

Abigaile Unruh saw one of our videos and decided to raise money to help. Pg 76.

DAY 151

We organize another distribution of tarps for families hiding in the jungle.

MAY

PARTNERS RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 152

Government schools in Myanmar open, but half of the teachers are on strike due to the coup. So Partners begins building a school for 100 kids.

DAY 153

A dormitory housing 50 students is completed in Karen State, Myanmar.

DAY 154

Our team reports a fire in Sharya camp. Thankfully, there are no casualties. Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

DAY 155

ME operations sends before and after pics of two new school rebuilds.

DAY 156

Our local partner continues food distribution to the Chin people who fled the Burma Army to the Myanmar-India border.

DAY 157

DAY 158

DAY 159

DAY 160

DAY 161

Every question we ask starts with this answer: free, full lives for children affected by conflict. Today's post began this way and ended as the second-most popular post of 2021. Pg 82.

DAY 162

The groundbreaking of our new school in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 163

Our local partner continues to distribute essential supplies to those who have been displaced by fighting in Chin State.

DAY 164

Steve visits Al-Hol camp.

DAY 165

Steve conducts interviews with displaced people in NE Syria.

DAY 166

We get reports that since the coup on February 1, we have helped 20,227 people in Myanmar.

DAY 167

Yesterday, the Office of Humanitarian Affairs awarded Partners a certificate of appreciation for our work in Syria.

DAY 168

Our Yemen partners deliver food to 200 families in San'a, Yemen.

DAY 169

SEA operations distributes rice, daal and oil to families on the Myanmar/India border.

DAY 170

We receive progress photos of three school rebuilds in Syria.

DAY 171

Wrote the first weekly newsletter, sent June 24. Surprisingly, our unsubscribe rate was cut in half.

DAY 172

Annual Report published on the digital platform, ISSUU.

DAY 173

Mae Sot staff packs hygiene kits for students in Partners dormitories in Mae La, Thailand.

DAY 174

Partners helped 1,640 IDP's hiding in a monastery in Shan State, Myanmar, by delivering rice, vegetables and feminine hygiene kits.

DAY 175

SEA operations drove over flooded roads to deliver 50 bags of rice + noodles and oil to Karenni families on the run from the military.

DAY 176

Baw Law Thai Hta school in Thailand launches its sustainable project: raising baby cows! Pg 84.

DAY 177

We receive fresh photos from sewing training in Shan State where the young ladies are finding joy in making new clothes.

DAY 178

The clinic in Al-Hol sees 2,609 patients and delivers 21 babies in the month of June.

DAY 179

Jenn drafts a newsletter with a teaser for our upcoming cookbook.

DAY 180

Our team in Iraq distributes soccer balls that a boy from Michigan raised money to buy. Our team said they felt like the Pied Piper. Pg 86.

DAY 181

Partners supplies textbooks to students at a school in Sittwe where we also pay teacher stipends. Myanmar.

JUNE

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 185

Two kindergartens rebuilt with the help of Karmagawa reopen, serving 350 kids!

DAY 186

COVID cases begin to surge in Myanmar and Mae La camp - where we have 4 boarding schools housing 234 students - records its first case.

DAY 187

In-person SEED classes resume and there are lots of gatherings and celebrations. Finally. Thailand.

DAY 188

DAY 182

Partners distributes rope, bamboo and tarps to 47 families in an IDP camp so they can build shelters. Myanmar.

DAY 183

Partners begins building an additional school building to house 100 children in response to the closing of many public schools. Myanmar.

DAY 184

DAY 192

Desks are being constructed today for our latest school rebuild in Qamishli. The local staff has chosen to paint the school pink and cream for their calming effects. Syria.

DAY 193

A lovely and inclusive mural is painted on the outside of the refurbished Shehid Erish School. Pg 92.

DAY 194

Our media team creates a video about our hearing aid distribution in Syria. 45 children whose world had been silenced by exposure to repeated bombings have their hearing restored.

DAY 195

Every single student in our first cohort of the K-GED class passes their exam! Thailand.

DAY 196

Kachin State staff member reports 11 COVID cases in a school we support and 11 more in an IDP camp where we run a Community Support Network. Myanmar.

DAY 197

We give out 250 tarps to 17 communities in Karen State to construct pop-up schools that will keep them dry in the rainy season.

DAY 198

We get the first images of our newly-opened children-friendly space in Al-Hol Camp. Syria.

DAY 199

CHWs distribute medicine to 100 people in Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh.

DAY 200

A SEA team member reports that recent fighting in Shan State has displaced 8,006 people. Myanmar.

DAY 201

Rick Allen's attempt to climb the world's second highest peak to raise money for Partners UK gets underway.

DAY 202

Graduation day for our first GED cohort. Congratulations, graduates! pg 96.

DAY 203

Team loads 300 tarps and 1000 mosquito nets into boats in order to deliver them to IDPs in Karen State. Myanmar.

DAY 204

Students complete their English class as part of the EmpowerME project. Kurdistan.

DAY 205

ME team member visits Panaga Trauma Care program and interviews two children about their experiences. Syria.

DAY 206

We are grieved to announce the death of Rick Allen while attempting to climb the world's second highest peak to raise money for Partners UK. Pg 94.

DAY 207

"His charity work was so valuable. He was passionate about what we are doing. It's been a real honour to serve with him. In terms of his support for our organisation, we're very grateful for that." - Chris Norman

DAY 208

SEA Team distributes 100 mosquito nets, 100 tarps and some medicine to displaced families in Karen State. Myanmar.

DAY 209

Infant nutrition pack distribution by our local Partners in Bangladesh. We distributed nutrition packs to 50 children.

DAY 210

Local partners in Bangladesh distribute 30 tarps to 30 Rohingya families in Nayapara Refugee Camp.

DAY 211

Team member visits the site of our next school rebuild - Fiteyyeh School. Syria.

DAY 212

Our friend and advisor, U Kyaw Hla Aung died today. Read why he was so special to us on page 99.

JULY

PARTNERS RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY

DAY 213

Our team rides through thick mud and washed-out roads to deliver supplies to IDPs in Myanmar. Again. Pg 104.

DAY 220

Sweatcoin campaign for Karen Healthcare launches.

DAY 227
Taliban takeover in Afghanistan.

DAY 234
In July and August, we provided food, hygiene products, masks, other COVID related products and medicine to those impacted by fighting in Shan State, Myanmar. 1480 people were

DAY 241
3,086 people receive care at our clinic in Al-Hol camp, Syria. Pg 110.

MONDAY

DAY 214

Today there is a soccer tournament at a field we built close to one of our rebuilt schools (See DAY 80). Iraq.

DAY 221

Ibn Rushd School is finished.

DAY 228
Water distribution in Erbil, Kurdistan Region in Iraq. Pg 108.

DAY 235
Zohoor Al-Mustaqbal Kindergarten in Raqqa is completed.

DAY 242
One of our teams in Myanmar transports medicine and supplies.

TUESDAY

DAY 215

Partners team transports supplies to people in need in Myanmar.

DAY 222

Our Middle East team sends photos from Serikane Camp where we will begin construction of a water tower to get water lines to all the residents.

DAY 229
Our local partner continues distributing masks in seven villages in Sittwe, Myanmar. A total of 1335 families have received masks.

DAY 236
Bombardment and shelling by the Turkish-backed militia causes ongoing displacement of families. About 300 families are transferred to Nawroz camp. The Autonomous Administration officials called us for an urgent meeting asking for water tanks.

DAY 243

WEDNESDAY

DAY 216

Partners staff delivered aid to those displaced in Mutraw District, Karen State.

DAY 223
500 umbrellas given to families & school children in Rohingya camps, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Pg 106.

DAY 230
Our Syria team visits Serikane Camp outside Hasakeh in NE Syria. They chat with local children and receive an update on the progress of the water tower.

DAY 237
We recognize the four-year anniversary of the Rohingya genocide with heavy hearts.

THURSDAY

DAY 217

We announce in our newsletter that our mid-year project reports are out.

DAY 224

In response to a COVID wave in Rohingya camps and villages in the Sittwe area, we supply masks to 6,325 people for COVID protection. Our SEA team reports that only those with severe COVID cases are receiving care and most patients are not being allowed admission in the camp hospital.

DAY 231
Water distribution in Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

DAY 238
Through our local partners, we provide vitamins for COVID patients in Yangon, Myanmar.

FRIDAY

DAY 218

Our media team creates a video highlighting the 10 schools that have reopened in the last five years, putting 4,868 students/year back in school.

DAY 225

Since the military tore control from the elected government in the February 1 coup, about a quarter million people have been forced from their homes.

DAY 232
Women's Livelihood team made masks which are distributed to a school in Hpa-An district in Karen State.

DAY 239
We share statistics on our blog, celebrating the 59,050 people who received relief support in the Middle East since the start of 2021.

SATURDAY

DAY 219

Approx. 600 victims (120 families) of a fire in Sharya Camp receive essential food supplies. Kurdistan Region, Iraq.

DAY 226

Our team creates a video about mobile schools in Myanmar.

DAY 233
CHWs distribute 100 nutrition packs and medicine to 610 people in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

DAY 240
We receive reports that SRI Rice Planting has been done at Marv Kahn Farm in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

AUGUST

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 248
Helped families in hiding in Kabul. Afghanistan.

DAY 249
The studs go up for the emergency room rebuild in Derabasiyah, Syria.

DAY 250
Sittwe, Myanmar is in their wet season and our team does a tarp distribution.

DAY 251
Food provided to Afghan families & several stories are gathered.

DAY 252

DAY 253
We share on our blog that 58 people attended sewing trainings in Southeast Asia in the first half of 2021.

DAY 254
Rice distribution for 1,197 families in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 255
Fighting escalates in Shan State: 4-5000 fled to the border in Myanmar.

DAY 256
Building of the Serikane Camp water project commenced. Syria.

DAY 257
Distributed masks (made by our sewing team) & soap to 1186 students in Karen State.

DAY 258
Team members send money to Aina, Afghanistan and other Afghan food relief efforts.

DAY 259

DAY 260
Our team meets and speaks with Afghan refugee families in a country neighboring Afghanistan.

DAY 261
Our team provides food to ten Afghan refugee families.

DAY 262
Fighting escalated in Shan State, forcing 4,000+ villagers to flee to the Myanmar-India border. The displaced community reached out to us for medical supplies, food and shelter.

DAY 263

DAY 264

DAY 265
We send funds to 6 Christian families inside Afghanistan that are in hiding - helping them be able to purchase food.

DAY 266
Students return to school in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. We distribute school supplies to 214 students.

DAY 267
517 students receive masks in Karen State, Myanmar.

DAY 268
Community Health Workers distribute medicine to 660 people and nutrition packs to 150 children.

DAY 269
Rice is distributed to 1,197 families in 6 different villages near Sittwe over the course of the month. Myanmar.

DAY 270
Cookbook goes to print in Thailand.

DAY 271
We launch a campaign for Afghanistan evacuations.

Read about it on pg 116 and the Failure Report.

DAY 272
Karen State food and COVID protection distribution for 428 people.

DAY 273
Our team receives photos from the child-friendly space in Al-Hol camp. Syria.

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 278

"The times that I have spent [at the program] I feel very comfortable. I have made many friends. Because of this, I feel more confident within myself." Dalia (11), Iraq

DAY 274

47 families receive tarps to keep out the rain. Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

DAY 275

12 students complete the Intro to Community Health, Level 3 course. Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Pg 122.

DAY 276

Our HQ team collaborates with our operations staff on a new project, "On the Ground" to get live, personal video updates from the field.

DAY 277

Requests for evacuation from Afghanistan come pouring in. HQ

DAY 278

New trauma care program begins for kids traumatized by ISIS. Sinjar Mountain, Iraq. Pg 124.

DAY 279

Executive Team meets for annual risk review.

DAY 280

Strides are taken in the building of a new emergency room for a hospital in Derabasiyah, Syria.

DAY 281

Media comes in from a new Karmagawa-funded school build in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 282

The roof of the new water station being built in Serikane camp is poured. Syria.

DAY 283

We receive reports that 36 people were evacuated out of Afghanistan the day before.

DAY 284

Our Central Asia team reports that 20 Afghan refugee families have received food packs.

DAY 285

Our comms team prepares an Inside Look blog for our Rohingya community projects.

DAY 286

Our SEA team shares that due to COVID inhibiting travel, there are 4 students currently at the GED learning center in Mae Sot. The other ten students are studying remotely. 4 in the refugee camps, and 14 in Karen State.

DAY 287

HQ team meets with staff therapist to discuss Afghanistan evacuations and secondary trauma.

DAY 288

We are sent beautiful media from our Karen boarding homes of students receiving hygiene packs.

DAY 289

We get to see media from the construction of the Karmagawa-funded school in Sittwe. Myanmar.

DAY 290

Our partners in Afghanistan begin covertly exfiltrating at-risk people out of Afghanistan.

DAY 291

We get upwards of 25 emails a day from families desperate to be evacuated from Afghanistan. HQ

DAY 292

We receive updates on 2 Partners-supported schools in Sittwe, Myanmar that are joyfully running and full of young, bright minds.

DAY 293

The SEA team shares that 50 people now have access to clean water as the new deep water well was completed. Bangladesh.

DAY 294

HQ goes remote due to COVID spike.

DAY 295

Dancing and joy take place at our trauma care program, run by our partners, Inhalation of Hope, in the Sinjar region of Iraq.

DAY 296

Shehid Erish School is up and running in Qamishli, Syria. The school provides education for 80 students with disabilities, from ages 6-18.

DAY 297

Fighting is escalating in Chin State. Our team delivers food to those who have been displaced.

DAY 298

CHW in Cox's Bazar passes out 50 nutrition packs. Bangladesh.

DAY 299

Meet Soraj! Soraj is the son of the man who donated the land for us to build a football field in Sinjar, Iraq. Showed him photos of the finished field. He's a fan.

DAY 300

Executive Team Retreat to finalize strategic plans.

DAY 301

A new Karmagawa-funded school build is underway in Shan State! It will should be finished in November.

DAY 302

Our HQ team shares an inside look at our Karen Education projects on the blog. We celebrate the fact that with our community's support, 2,453 people were able to attend school in the first half of 2021.

DAY 303

Annual Board retreat. USA.

DAY 304

OCTOBER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 305

CHW in Cox's Bazar passes out medicine to approx. 100 people. Bangladesh.

DAY 306

First bricks laid in our emergency room clinic in Derabasiyah, Syria.

DAY 307

Photos arrive from a mask distribution at Naung Bo Dae Migrant School in Mae Sot. Each student and teacher received 2 masks.

DAY 308

Partners helps a man to open a small shop after he was forced into debt to rescue his trafficked son. Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 309

Water tower is nearly complete! Serikane Camp, Hasakah, Syria.

DAY 310

Comms team receives "before" photos of a school rebuild we dream to fund for the Giving Tuesday campaign.

DAY 311

A generous donor agrees to match funds raised for Giving Tuesday.

DAY 312

DAY 312

DAY 313

Sewing training resumes at Kachin Sewing Center.

DAY 314

SEA team sends photos of newly-repaired shelters for 150 Rohingya. Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

DAY 315

Schools in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh begin to reopen after being closed for COVID.

DAY 316

146 Rohingya families receive enough food to last a month.

DAY 317

ME team interviews students about why they want their school rebuilt. (This is the school we hope to rebuild with Giving Tuesday funds).

DAY 318

DAY 318

DAY 319

Water tower project nears completion in Serikane Camp, Hasakah, NE Syria.

DAY 320

More progress on the Derabasiyah emergency room clinic.

DAY 321

Our partners, Inhalation of Hope, send us video footage of our newest trauma care center. Sinjar, Iraq.

DAY 322

New! Parent's Education Center. Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

DAY 323

Our SEA team reports violence continues to escalate, Chin State, Myanmar.

DAY 324

DAY 324

DAY 325

DAY 325

DAY 326

500 copies of Partners' first cookbook land. To the wrong address! Pg 130.

DAY 327

First reports of shelling in a village where we run a Community Health Project. Myanmar.

DAY 328

Our Syria team delivers 25 2,000 liter water tanks to IDPs in Nawroz Camp. NE Syria.

DAY 329

Thanksgiving in US.

DAY 330

Family Day.

DAY 331

Our SEA team sends us videos of toddlers singing and walking to the nursery schools we support. Our hearts melt.

DAY 332

HQ rests before our big Giving Tuesday.

DAY 333

Cyber Monday.

DAY 334

Giving Tuesday! You donate more money than ever before to rebuild a school in Raqqqa, Syria. Pg 132.

"Partners' development projects contribute to secure job opportunities for dozens of workers and craftsmen in the war-torn areas of Northeast Syria." Hisham, Partners Team Member

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DAY 335

HQ team receives new photos from our sewing center in Mae Sot.

DAY 336

The GED students share their stories in Mae Sot.

DAY 337

SEA team reports medicine distributions to IDPs in Karen State, Myanmar.

DAY 338

Local contacts distribute food packages to 100 Afghan refugee families. Central Asia, location-sensitive.

DAY 339

GED students, who have been forced to study remotely due to COVID and fighting, share their stories with our team.

DAY 340

The primary water tank installation is completed in the Serikane Camp, Syria.

DAY 341

SEA staff member reports distribution of food, medicine and products for COVID prevention in Karen State, Myanmar. The journey was difficult.

DAY 342

Video of our truck - loaded with relief goods - arriving at a camp is our #1-most liked post of all 2021. Pg 138.

DAY 343

Our Christmas campaign is in full-swing.

DAY 344

Opening ceremony of the newly-finished Karmagawa school in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 345

Local contacts distribute food packs to 80 Afghan refugee families. Central Asia, location-sensitive.

DAY 346

In the first two weeks of December, 3 kindergartens in Raqqa and the Shehid Erish School for children with disabilities in Qamishli have their school opening ceremonies.

DAY 347

First all-staff video call. We all wear hats. Say Boh wins for the silliest.

DAY 348

230 families receive a 50kg bag of rice in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 349

We receive reports that over 2,000 children and 1,000 mothers participated in activities in the child safe space in October in the Al-Hol camp in Syria.

DAY 350

We publish the story of a woman named Vian traumatized by ISIS. It's a tough one.

DAY 351

SEA team reports that Karen children living in boarding homes in refugee camps in Thailand received Christmas presents

DAY 352

SEA team delivers food to 449 people surrounded by fighting and experiencing food shortages in Shan State, Myanmar.

DAY 353

"If the Burma army continues their activities like this, our people will be facing more difficulties living in our country. They are shelling weapons everywhere." SEA team provides interviews from IDPs in Karen State, Myanmar.

DAY 354

SEA team sends images of the newly finished Karmagawa school in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 355

SEA team reports that around 7,000 people have been displaced due to fighting in Karen State, Myanmar. We are responding with food and blankets

DAY 356

Staff Christmas party in Chiang Mai.

DAY 357

SEA team reports airstrikes near Myawaddy in Doo Pla Yaa District. Staff members across the border in Thailand could hear the planes dropping bombs all night. We respond with food, medicine, blankets and feminine hygiene kits to IDPs on the Myanmar side of the border.

DAY 358

Silent night, holy night.

DAY 359

Merry Christmas!

DAY 360

SEA team reports that the fighting in Lay Kay Kaw and the surrounding area in Doo Pla Yaa District, Karen State is still ongoing, including fighting on Christmas Day. We are continuing to respond with food, medicine and hygiene packs.

DAY 361

SEA team reports that we have helped an estimated 3,000 people in Karen State thus far. We deliver pots, plates and spoons and buy 30 tarps to distribute.

DAY 362

We receive photos from our distributions in Karen State, Myanmar.

DAY 363

250 students receive; backpacks, stationary cases, exercise books and writing utensils at a Partners' funded school in Sittwe, Myanmar.

DAY 364

SEA team reports continued attacks by the military in Doo Pla Ya District, Karen State with the possibility of more heavy fighting. Fighting is now happening in Doo Tha Htoo District and 1,000 people have been displaced.

DAY 365

We announce that we are working in Al-Hol Camp, Syria, and why. Your response is overwhelmingly positive. Of course. Happy New Year.

DECEMBER

2021

This Is How We

SPENT OUR

DAYS



JANUARY
Befores + Afters
PG 26



MAY
Notes From an IDP
PG 74



SEPTEMBER
Afghanistan
PG 116



FEBRUARY
Steps of a Distribution
PG 38



MARCH
Partners in Al-Hol: Explained.
PG 56



APRIL
4 Stars. Again.
PG 64



JUNE
The Pied Piper Visits Iraq
PG 86



JULY
In Memoriam
PG 98



AUGUST
Neither Snow Nor Rain.
PG 104



OCTOBER
Trauma. Care.
PG 124



NOVEMBER
Cookbook!
PG 130



DECEMBER
Truck-Full of Relief
PG 138



JANUARY

PAGES

24 – 35

Before + Afters.
A Day in the Life.
Oh No Kaukswe.

◀ In Nayapara Refugee Camp, this was at the completion of the first group of family food packs to our Rohingya friends. This day was 300 more than the night before, for a total of 600 delivered. January 2021.

MIDDLE EAST

Before and Afters - Eight Schools of 2021

During the Syrian War, ISIS fighters occupied schools and used them as command bases.

These schools/bases eventually became so damaged by shelling that they were unusable.

As they deserted these former schools, ISIS planted landmines around them.

In 2017, a professor named Dr. Amar was scouting out schools that Partners might rebuild.

You can guess what happened next.

Upon entering one such building, he stepped on a landmine and was killed.

His death hit our team hard.
We wanted a way to honor his life.

The Amar Project was born.

To date, we've rebuilt 15 schools. Eight of these were rebuilt in 2021. Kids/ university students/ churches/ you underwrote the costs.

Our Middle East team purchased the materials locally.

Local craftsmen did the rebuild.

Kids
came
back.

These are the very happiest before & afters you will see this year.





BEFORE
Khanasour School
01



AFTER
Khanasour School
01



BEFORE
Boruk School
02



BEFORE
Maleakat Al-Raqqqa School
04



AFTER
Maleakat Al-Raqqqa School
04



BEFORE
Farashat Kindergarten
05



BEFORE
Fiteyyeh School
07



AFTER
Fiteyyeh School
07



BEFORE
Zohoor Al-Mustaqbal School
08



AFTER
Boruk School
02



BEFORE
Ibn Rushd School
03



AFTER
Ibn Rushd School
03



AFTER
Farashat Kindergarten
05



BEFORE
Shehid Erish School
06



AFTER
Shehid Erish School
06



AFTER
Zohoor Al-Mustaqbal School
08

Students Back In School

SCHOOL	LOCATION	COMPLETE	STUDENTS
01	Sinjar Mountain, Iraq	Apr 2021	700
02	Sinjar Mountain, Iraq	Apr 2021	600
03	Raqqa, Northeast Syria	Apr 2021	210
04	Raqqa, Northeast Syria	June 2021	110
05	Raqqa, Northeast Syria	June 2021	240
06	Qamishli, Northeast Syria	Aug 2021	80 (with disabilities)
07	Raqqa, Northeast Syria	Sept 2021	300
08	Raqqa, Northeast Syria	Aug 2021	100

A Day in the Life

of the community-
based homes we
support in Karen State



6am Worship.

6:30-7am Band practice. Practice every day except Sunday. Perform on Sunday.

7-8am Study time.

8-8:15am Cleaning time.

8:15am Prepare for breakfast.

8:20am Breakfast time.

8:45am-3:00pm School.

3:30-4:40pm Free time. Some play volleyball and cane ball. Girls also might weave during this time.

4pm Dinner time. (Students are divided into six groups for cooking and cleaning).

5-6pm Violin and band.

6-8:30pm Study, homework.

8:30pm Night devotions.

9pm Quiet time/lights out.

There were 410 children and 30 caregivers in the community-based homes Partners supported during the 2021-2022 academic school year.







OH NO KAUKSWE

Chris, United Kingdom

This is a Burmese chicken curry noodle soup. When I was a kid, my mum used to make this for me. It is my absolute favourite treat.

Ingredients

3 medium white onions
½ inch chunk of ginger, skinned
4 cloves of garlic, peeled
2 shallots or 1 small red onion
2 spring onions
250 grams egg or wheat noodles (standard packet)
4 deboned chicken thighs
2 tablespoons graham flour
200 milliliters coconut milk
Small handful of dried flat rice noodles (rice sticks)
3 tablespoons chili flakes
3 tablespoons paprika
1 lime, sliced into wedges
2 eggs
1 vegetable stock cube
Fish sauce
Vegetable oil

Sauce

Reheat the frying-pan/wok which has the tablespoon of oil, and add the minced garlic, ginger, onion, and spring onion. Add the chicken and 1 tablespoon paprika, and stir-fry the lot till browned.

Add the coconut milk and the last tablespoon of paprika to the saucepan of broth. Lob in the stir-fried chicken and bring to a simmer.

Place the egg/wheat noodles in bowl, then ladle the chicken broth over. Top with the sliced shallots, the eggs and the crispy rice noodle garnish.

Add another dash of fish sauce, and serve with the toasted chili for sprinkling and a fat wedge of lime for squeezing.

Instructions

Dice the onions finely. Add a little oil to a saucepan, heat and then sweat the diced onions in the hot oil. Take a spoonful of the onions and add to the ginger, garlic and spring onions and mince the lot in a blender till it forms a rough paste.

Slice the chicken thighs into small strips. Mix chili flakes, 1 tablespoon paprika and a little salt in a heatproof cup.

Whisk the graham flour with 100 milliliters cold water and then add to the pan of sweated onions. Add 4 dashes of fish sauce and the stock cube. Bring to a simmer and then top up with 500 milliliters cold water. Bring the broth back to a simmer.

Heat 2 inches of vegetable oil in a small frying-pan/wok. When it's hot (you'll feel a wave of heat coming off the top), ladle a few spoonfuls of the oil over the chili flake mix so it sizzles and becomes fragrant.

Set the toasted chili oil to one side. Next, snap the dried rice noodles straight into the hot oil so they puff up, and then use a slotted spoon to fish out the now-crispy rice noodles onto some kitchen towel. Turn off the heat and pour away most of the oil from the frying-pan, reserving about a tablespoon.

Boil the egg/wheat noodles and drain. Soft-boil the eggs and slice into wedges. Slice shallots/red onion finely and soak in some cold water.





FEBRUARY

PAGES

36 – 45

Steps Of A Distribution.
How We Gained 1500
Subscribers In One Week.
Iraqi Maqlobi.

◀ In Yemen, during this week in February, we delivered food packs to 500 families who were so hungry they were eating leaves, mattresses for families and children to have a comfortable place to sleep, and meals for school children. Distributions were carried out by our partner, Mona Relief. February 2021.

DISTRIBUTION 101

IN 8 MODERATELY- COMPLEX STEPS, WITH ASTERISKS:

- 01 A crisis event - active shelling, targeting, persecution - drives families from their homes.
- 02 Families travel someplace safer either in their own country* or to another country.**
- 03 We learn of their needs from our staff on the ground or through relationships we have with local organizations/government officials.
- 04 We either raise money for the need or use existing funds to purchase relief supplies through local vendors.
- 05 Our team verifies the identity of anyone who will receive a distribution: names of family members, fingerprints, etc. They receive a distribution card redeemable at the distribution.***



01

02



04



05



03

- 06 All supplies are loaded into a rented truck and driven to the distribution site.
- 07 Families have food to cook for a month. Kids have blankets/medicine/school supplies.
- 08 Our team meticulously records everything that was distributed, turns in receipts and writes up a trip report.



06

07



08



* Internally-displaced people (IDP's)
 ** Refugees
 *** This creates orderly distributions and -mostly - eliminates crowd surges of hungry people wanting food.



JOIN THE MOVEMENT.

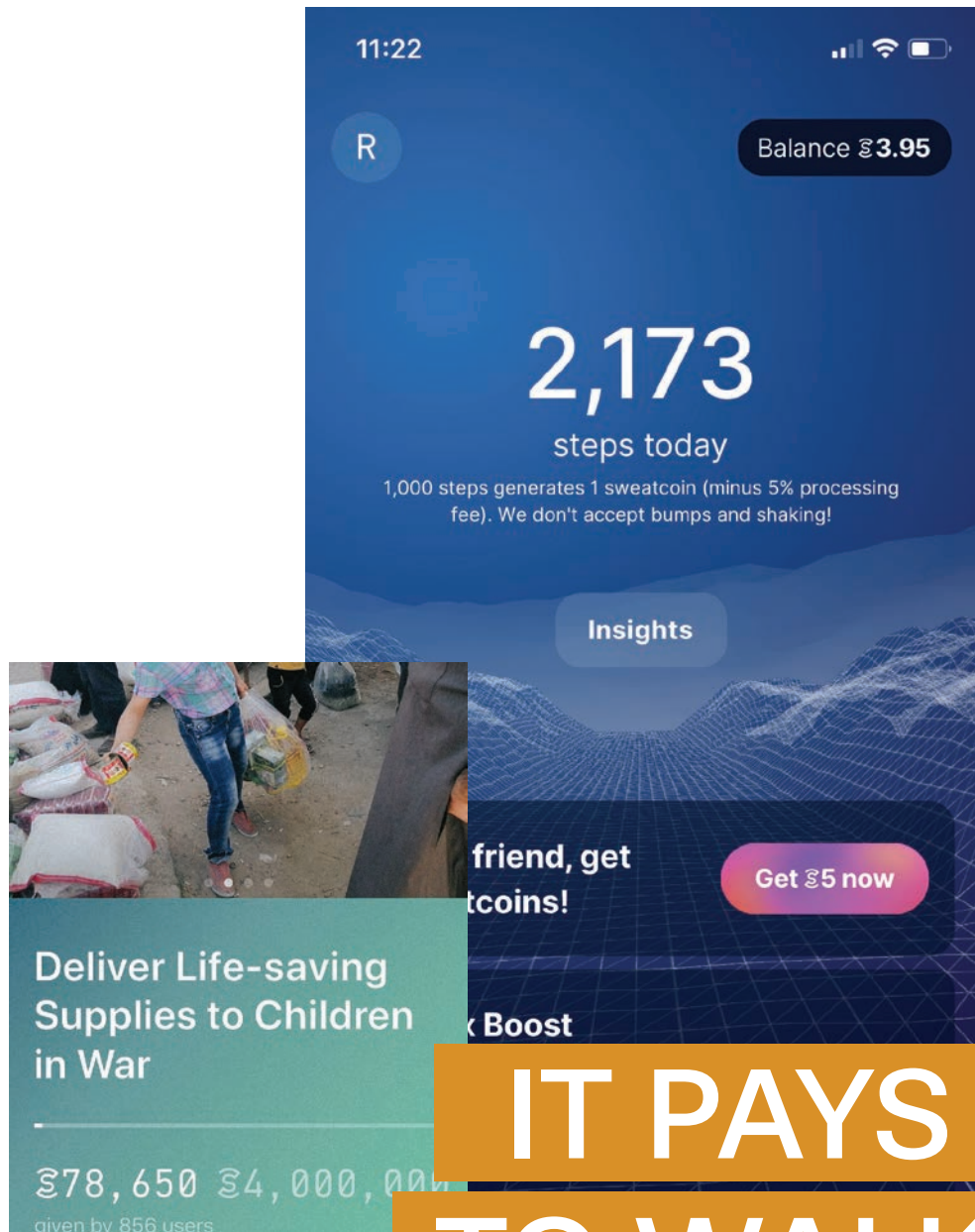
Thanks to our collaboration with Sweatcoin, 1500 people signed up for our newsletter.



When February began, we had just completed our first 2021 campaign – a 30-Day Sweatcoin campaign to raise money for heaters in Syria. **137,222 Sweatcoin users saw our campaign, and 42,930 people gave us their hard-earned sweatcoins.** Movers and shakers all over the globe are being introduced to the work we do in war zones and are joining our **movement of love.**

Find out more at sweatco.in and download the app.

HOW WE GAINED 1500 SUBSCRIBERS IN ONE WEEK



IRAQI MAQLOBI

Siva, Iraq

Ingredients

3/4 kilogram eggplant
1/2 kilogram potato
1/2 kilogram tomato
2 medium onions
3 tablespoons tomato paste
1 kilogram boneless chicken
thighs or baby veal
4 cups rice
Olive oil, for frying

Additional vegetables:

Zucchini
Bell peppers
Garlic

Seasoning options:

Salt, cinnamon, nutmeg,
black pepper, to taste

Instructions

Sauté chicken in a pan very well. In the same pan, add onions and garlic and sauté. Slice all the vegetables into rings and fry them in plenty of oil.

To make the sauce, add tomatoes and tomato paste into a blender and blend well.

In an electric rice cooker, put a layer of tomatoes followed by chicken, eggplant, zucchini, and potatoes, each in its own layer. Put onions and garlic as the last layer. Put washed rice on top of these layers and add the tomato sauce. Add enough water to reach the level of rice and add salt and pepper to taste.

Turn the rice cooker on.

After it is cooked, flip it onto a tray and serve.

Maqlobi can include a variety of vegetables, such as fried tomatoes, potatoes, cauliflower, and eggplant, accompanied by either chicken or lamb. Ingredients are carefully placed in the pot by layers. When the pot is inverted for serving, the dish looks like a layer cake.

Maqlobi is typically garnished with pine nuts and chopped fresh parsley. It is sometimes served with salad and fresh yogurt, and is often prepared for feasts and large gatherings.





MARCH

PAGES

46 – 61

Hiding.
Painting A Mural.
One Week Before
The Airstrikes.
Partners in Al-Hol:
Explained.
Kurdish Chicken Biryani.

◀ These children have to hide in the jungle. They won't stop studying and now they are completing their final exam. They want to go home but they can't. Our relief team took these photos while helping the IDPs in Karen State, Myanmar. March 2021.



H I D

Our team delivers rice and blankets to families displaced from their homes because of military shelling and hiding in the K3 area of Karen State.

ING

One of our most popular posts of 2021.

Over 10,000 of you noticed and liked the small ways we showed these families that they are not forgotten. Thank you.



HIDING







Painting a Mural

In Iraq

A team member's father donates his creativity by painting a mural on one of our latest school rebuilds in Sinjar, Iraq. This school was abandoned and seized by terrorist organizations until recently. We are rebuilding it and Shihab's father is making it beautiful.

PAINTING A MURAL





One week before the airstrikes.

The Day Pu Noh, Lu Thaw Township, Mutraw District. school was hit during airstrikes by the Myanmar Military.

Before.

KAREN STATE, MYANMAR

This area has been regularly hit by airstrikes, displacing thousands of people. Two other schools in the district were also hit. This is one of the schools that we have been supporting through our Karen Sustainable Schools Project.

**Update from Polly, Partners team member, about bombings in Karen State:*

“On Sunday 27 March 2022, 2 fighter jets dropped bombs in Day Pu Noh again. It was the same place where they bombed last year. On the same day, the Burmese military used airstrikes two times in K6. Now (there are) more displaced villagers. They estimated around 150,000 displaced civilians in Karen State only. They really need food, shelters and medicines. Most of them can't return homes because they fear airstrikes. Some villagers died and are injured too. Now I heard if they (the Myanmar military) saw any villagers walking on the road, they shoot them too. More and more airstrike and firing heavy artillery these days. Jets fly over the areas almost everyday so most of the villagers are sleeping in the jungle now.” - Polly

Our Southeast Asia team assesses the situation and finds out what the needs are and how we can best respond. Your love makes it possible for us to act. Thank you.

After.

This photo was taken by “Wah Fish Paste”.



Partners in Al-Hol: Explained.

Partners works in countries where violence and political complexity results in children lacking necessities like food, water, and shelter, as well as access to healthcare and education. We often say that children belong in a classroom, not a battlefield. In as much as our work is tolerated by sanctions, access issues, and warring factions, we work indiscriminately so that the innocent and most vulnerable victims of war have the possibility of growing into the potential their fragile frames deserve, regardless of which side of the conflict they were born into.

The most violent and hopeless place we work is Al-Hol camp in NE Syria. It is at once a prison and a refugee camp. In roughly one square mile of desert,

70,000 people, mostly the wives, widows, and children of ISIS fighters who lost the battle for the last physical caliphate are detained. They have never had a trial, so their incarceration is arbitrary. There is no plan for how long they will be held, nor do most of their home countries allow them repatriation. Al-Hol

is an indefinite sentence.

There are 40,000 children under the age of 11 forced to survive this incarceration experience. They are not only victims of war, they are prisoners.

When I was in Al-Hol for the second time in June 2021, I drove through the safest corridor lane towards the pediatric hospital Partners is supporting. Completely black-clad figures crossed gravel paths through rows of white canvas tents pitched on the desert floor. Children roamed aimlessly through the dirt and dust whipped into drifts by the wind. I saw some playing with a shredded soccer ball while others scratched pictures on the ground. Most of the children I saw weren't playing at all, they were just wandering

Four young children wander down the road in a section of Al-Hol camp.



around, eyes to the ground. Their only education is ISIS propaganda. There are no safe places for them to spend time, no playgrounds, and no classrooms. The children are clearly traumatized and left to survive on their own in a punitive and desolate environment.

If you could design the perfect terrorist factory, this is it. If there is a place you could call hell on earth, it is here. Good journalism has been done to document the depravity and dangers of Al-Hol. The Associated Press was allowed a rare visit in July, 2021. A group of boys in the ‘annex,’ where the foreign and most hardened ISIS women and their children live, hurled stones at the crew, despite the Kurdish guards responsible for their safety. Some of the children waved sharp pieces of metal like swords.

“We will kill you because you are an infidel,” shouted a child reported to be about ten years old. “You are the enemy of God. We are the Islamic State. You are a devil and I will kill you with a knife. I will blow you up with a grenade.”

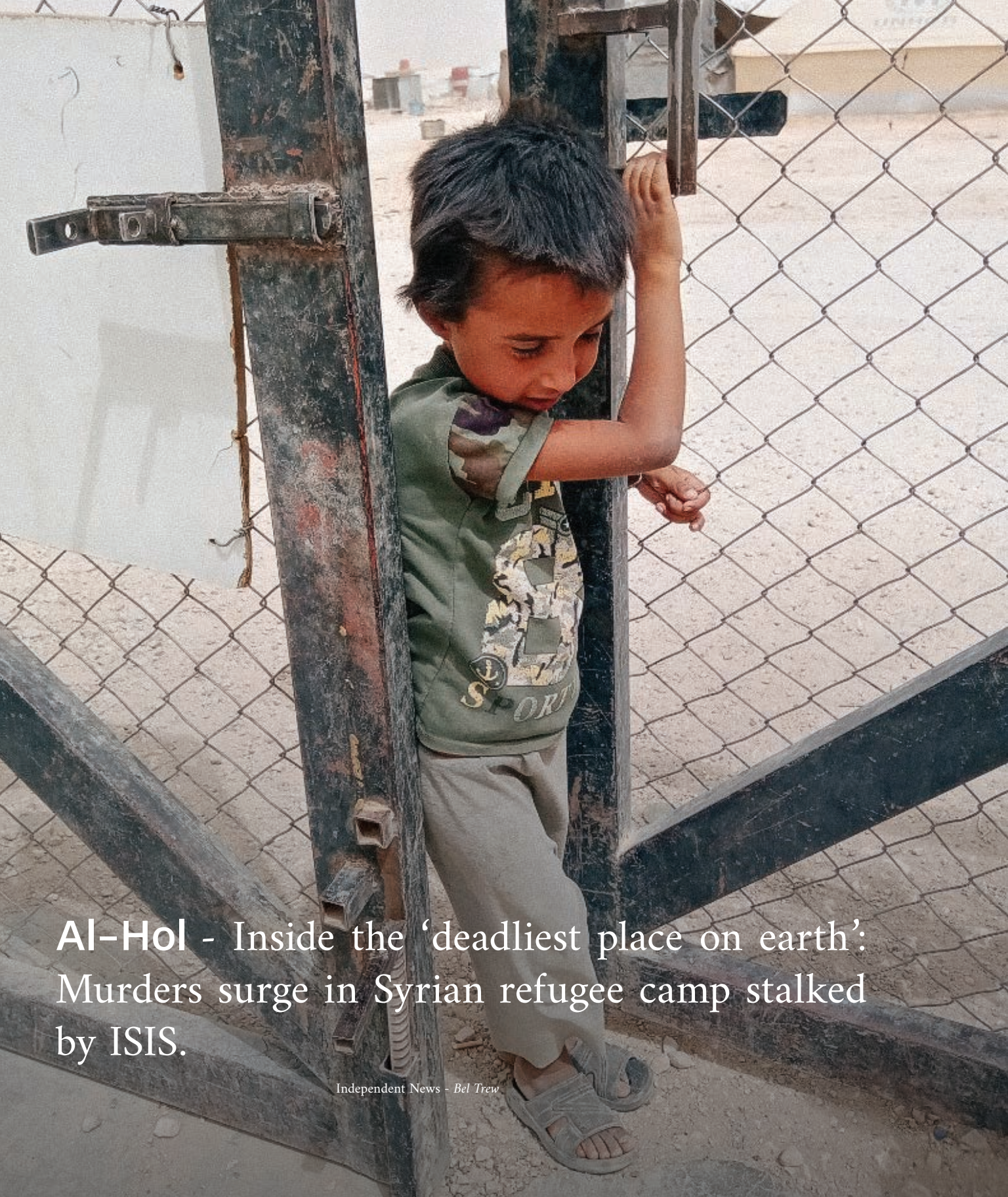
Another child moved his hand across his neck and said, “With the knife, God willing.”

It’s no wonder that countries won’t allow repatriation of children like this. Neither is it surprising that donors question spending their support on helping children like this develop, heal, and thrive. It’s far easier to ignore the nuanced complexities of growing up in a place where ISIS ideology takes root in the setting of poverty, no education, and extreme expressions of religion. War reporting also has minimal tolerance for the complexities inherent to a human story. Forty thousand kids is an uncomfortable nuance, a complexity in a story that prefers the simplicity of binary labels: enemy or ally, foe or friend.

When it comes to a young child, those categories don’t work. In Al-Hol, there are 13,506 children under age four. Partners views their developmental needs and protection as a moral obligation, not an option. (Also, Matthew 5:43-44)

“We will kill you because you are an infidel,” shouted a child reported to be about ten years old.

“You are the enemy of God. We are the Islamic State. You are a devil and I will kill you with a knife. I will blow you up with a grenade.”



Al-Hol - Inside the 'deadliest place on earth':
Murders surge in Syrian refugee camp stalked
by ISIS.

PARTNERS IN AI-Hol: EXPLAINED

“You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,” Matthew 5:43-44

Ignoring these children because of the complexities and challenges they create will lead to results no one outside AI-Hol camp wants: more children will learn the hate and toxic ideology of their elders and turn to the same solution to the problems as they have: war and terrorism. We must not ignore this situation. Omission here is not only a dereliction of duty to children, but also to the world those kids will occupy in some years.

Partners increased support for the children in AI-Hol this year, believing that the end of the story can be redemptive and restorative. Our appeal to international NGOs and the international community is to do the same. With basic needs met and kids back in the classroom, we will see transformation, even in AI-Hol. And if countries open for these children to be repatriated and create the social environment for them to reintegrate, they can contribute to the community and future peace our world needs, not a perpetuation of violence.

Written by Steve Gumaer, Founder, Partners Relief & Development

KURDISH CHICKEN BIRIYANI

Shihab, Kurdistan

Biriyani is one of the most popular dishes in Kurdistan region, Iraq. It can be made in different ways, and takes a lot of effort.

Sometimes we make it and invite friends and neighbors over. Families usually make big meals and love sitting and sharing it together.

Ingredients

4 chicken breasts, small cubes
1.5 liters water
400 grams basmati rice
2 medium-size russet potatoes, cubed
2 carrots, cubed
1 cup peas
1 medium onion, chopped
1 cup dry vermicelli, broken into small pieces
2 bay leaves
1 lime
4 pods of cardamom
2-3 tablespoons of Biriyani powder
or 1 teaspoon of each: cinnamon, turmeric, clove, black pepper, cardamom, cumin, and cubeb
Preferred oil
¼ cup raisins or pomegranate seeds
½ cup halved almonds or pine nuts, fried
Salt to taste

Instructions

Set large saucepan on medium heat, add oil and roast the almonds, peas, potatoes, raisins, dry vermicelli, carrots and onions. After cooking for 2 to 4 minutes, add the chicken breast and cook until golden. Season to taste. Once cooked, place to the side off the heat.

Wash the rice in a sieve (mesh strainer) with cold water, make sure the water turns from a white murky color to clear.

Bring the water to a boil in a pot, and add the rice. Let it boil for 8 to 10 minutes. Pour rice and water in a sieve.

Take the empty pot, add oil and return to medium heat. Add the rice to the pot again. Add all the spices, and turn the stove to lowest possible temperature. Cook an additional 10 to 15 minutes. Make sure you stir the pot so that the rice does not burn or stick to the pot.

Once the rice is ready, add the roasted Biriyani mix. Mix it gently. It is now ready.





APRIL

PAGES

62 – 71

4 Stars. Again.
The Photo That Undid Me.
Cocktail For A Cause.
Seared Lemongrass Salmon
with Coconut Rice.

◀ Students at a Partners-supported dormitory in Mae La Refugee camp near the Thai-Myanmar border clean the school grounds after high winds and rain caused significant damage. (Source: Karen Education End of Year Report for 2020)

Watchdog (n.) : one that guards against loss, waste, theft, or undesirable practices.

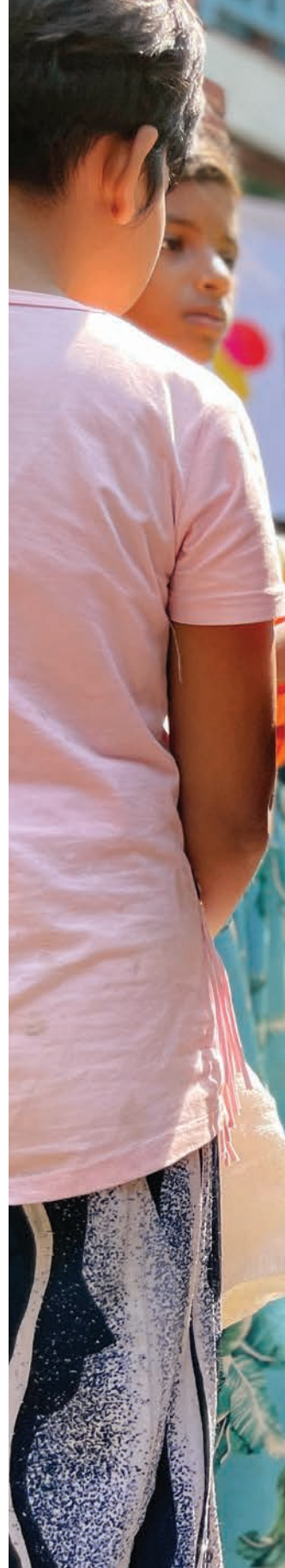
We're okay with that.
If a charity isn't responsibly using funds entrusted to it, it deserves to get bitten.

Know how your money is being used.
Don't take our word for it.
Do your research.
Or trust theirs.



**Charity
Watchdog.
Sounds like
something
that bites.**

**4 Stars again.
This never gets old.**



4 STARS. AGAIN.



The Photo That



Undid Me



Sometimes, the bleak of war just flattens us and images of suffering cause despair. This photo of children - toddlers! - carrying the weight of their belongings into the jungle because the military was dropping shells on their homes just undid us. It became a widely-shared photo that embodied the suffering of conflict - reflected in those little faces - imposed on children.

Essential relief supplies from Partners reached these Internally Displaced Persons who were staying on the Karen State side of the border with Thailand. The supplies delivered included tarpaulins, pots, plates and cutlery. April 2021.

SØVENGÅRD RESTAURANT SOCIALIZING IN 2021:



Masks down, drinks up.
Outdoor dining.
Parties of 6 or less.
Blankets, heaters and
plastic to keep the cold out.

And, April 2021:

The first-ever Partners Cocktail.

Crafted by Søvengård Restaurant in Grand Rapids,
MI to benefit Partners.

Came with a red ribbon
(remember our #MyanmarOnMyMind Campaign?)

Funded our work and
gave us a much-needed excuse to get out
again
and
clink our glasses to this movement of love.

This could be your local cafe/bar/coffee shop.
It should be.
We'll help make it happen.

Cheers!

Contact adrienne.coats@partners.ngo

COCKTAIL FOR A CAUSE

Grand Rapids, Michigan



SEARED LEMONGRASS SALMON

Dave, Australia

Ingredients

2 tins (330 milliliters) coconut milk
2 stalks lemongrass
4 kaffir lime leaves
6 cloves garlic
2 carrots
2 bunches of Asian greens
2 zucchinis
4 salmon fillets
2 cups jasmine rice
½ teaspoon salt
1½ cups water
2 tablespoons soy sauce
Olive oil

Instructions

In a medium saucepan, combine coconut milk, water and salt. Bring to a boil over high heat. Add the jasmine rice, stir, cover with a lid and reduce heat to low.

Cook for 12 minutes, then remove the pan from the heat and keep covered until the rice is tender and the liquid is absorbed, 10 minutes.

Tip

The rice will finish cooking in its own steam, so don't peek!

While the rice is cooking, trim the top and bottom of the lemongrass and remove the tough outer layer. Finely chop the lemongrass stalk and the kaffir lime leaves.

Tip

Both lemongrass and kaffir lime leaves can be fibrous; chop them as finely as possible.

Finely chop the garlic, or use a garlic press. In a medium bowl, combine the lemongrass, kaffir lime, ½ the garlic, 2 tablespoons olive oil and the soy sauce. Mix well. Add the salmon fillets, and toss to coat.

Set aside.

Thinly slice the carrot (unpeeled) into half-moons. Cut the zucchini into 1 centimeter batons. Roughly chop the Asian greens.

In a medium frying pan, heat a drizzle of olive oil over a medium-high heat. When the oil is hot, add the carrot and zucchini. Cook, tossing, until softened, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the Asian greens and cook until wilted, 2 minutes. Add the remaining garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute. Season with salt and pepper and transfer to a medium bowl. Cover to keep warm.

Return the frying pan to a medium-high heat with a drizzle of olive oil. When the oil is hot, add the salmon, skin-side down, and cook until just cooked through, 2 to 4 minutes each side, depending on thickness. Add any remaining marinade to the pan and cook until bubbling, then remove from the heat.

Divide the coconut rice, lemongrass salmon and garlic veggies between plates. Spoon over any sauce remaining in the pan.

When we first made it, we gave it to our one-year-old son, Micah. He loved it so much that when we asked him what he wanted for dinner, he would always say 'fish rice'.





MAY

PAGES

72 – 79

Notes From An IDP.
You Can Do Anything
To Raise Money.
Baba Ganouj.

◀ The first photo from Mona Relief's efforts to distribute 2,000 food packages to vulnerable families, IDPs, those disabled, and widows during the month of Ramadan. In this distribution, 100 food packages were given to families with members who have a disability of some sort. It took place in Yemen's capital, Sana'a.

Notes From An IDP

A staff member returned from Karen State and wrote the note below reflecting on what it's like to be a Karen Internally Displaced Person.

Myanmar: I experienced terrible situations during my visit inside Karen State. While the Myanmar Military confronts the Karen Army and Myanmar soldiers march into Karen State to track down and force people to be porters, they also bomb our Karen territory.

Our Karen people who hide in the forest have to stay alert all the time to avoid being forced to be porters or getting caught in the crossfire of the attacks. If it was only carrying things, it would be fine, but the Myanmar troops treat us very harshly and force us to carry heavy things. If we cannot carry their things, they harm and threaten us. Moreover, porters must march on the front lines to help them clear dangerous routes full of landmines.

If we are caught

by the Myanmar Military, we can imagine that we are walking in the midst of our death. That is another reason people hide in the forest. When we hide in the forest, we have to be aware of the poisonous animals such as snakes, scorpions and centipedes, especially at night.

Karen people hiding in caves to avoid the Myanmar Military.



The situations are unpredictable; airstrikes, bombings, the enemy advancing, having to move from place to place, and the fighting between our Karen Army and the Myanmar Military all results in us being constantly worried and filled with fear.

We cannot sleep well at night; sometimes we have to move locations in the middle of the night because of heavy rain and wind. We cannot see anything at night because we cannot use a flashlight or light a fire. If we use any light, the enemy can see us and will shoot us. We have many terrifying situations, and we still are not safe. Daytime is better than nighttime because we can see when our enemy is coming in the distance. We hide very close to the

place where our enemy stays, so we always have to be careful and stay alert.

Currently, all the roads are closed by the Karen Army to prevent the Myanmar Military from invading and to stop the transport of their food and weapons into our territory. However, this also makes it very difficult for us to travel and trips take longer. For example, the routes that normally take us one hour to walk now take four to five hours and sometimes, it takes us a whole day to move from place to place.

The Karen authorities also ordered all houses in the villages to dig bunkers so that when the fighting happens, we can protect ourselves from the flying bullets or missiles. We also know that our enemy, the Myanmar Military and the Border Guard Force, set up more of their military bases in our land to attack our people, so we are all in danger and filled with worry and fear. Some people already moved to other places so that they can be safe from all of these terrible situations.

In my view, the situation will not get better but will continue to get worse. Because of the actions taken by the Myanmar Military, the future will only hold more conflict and war.

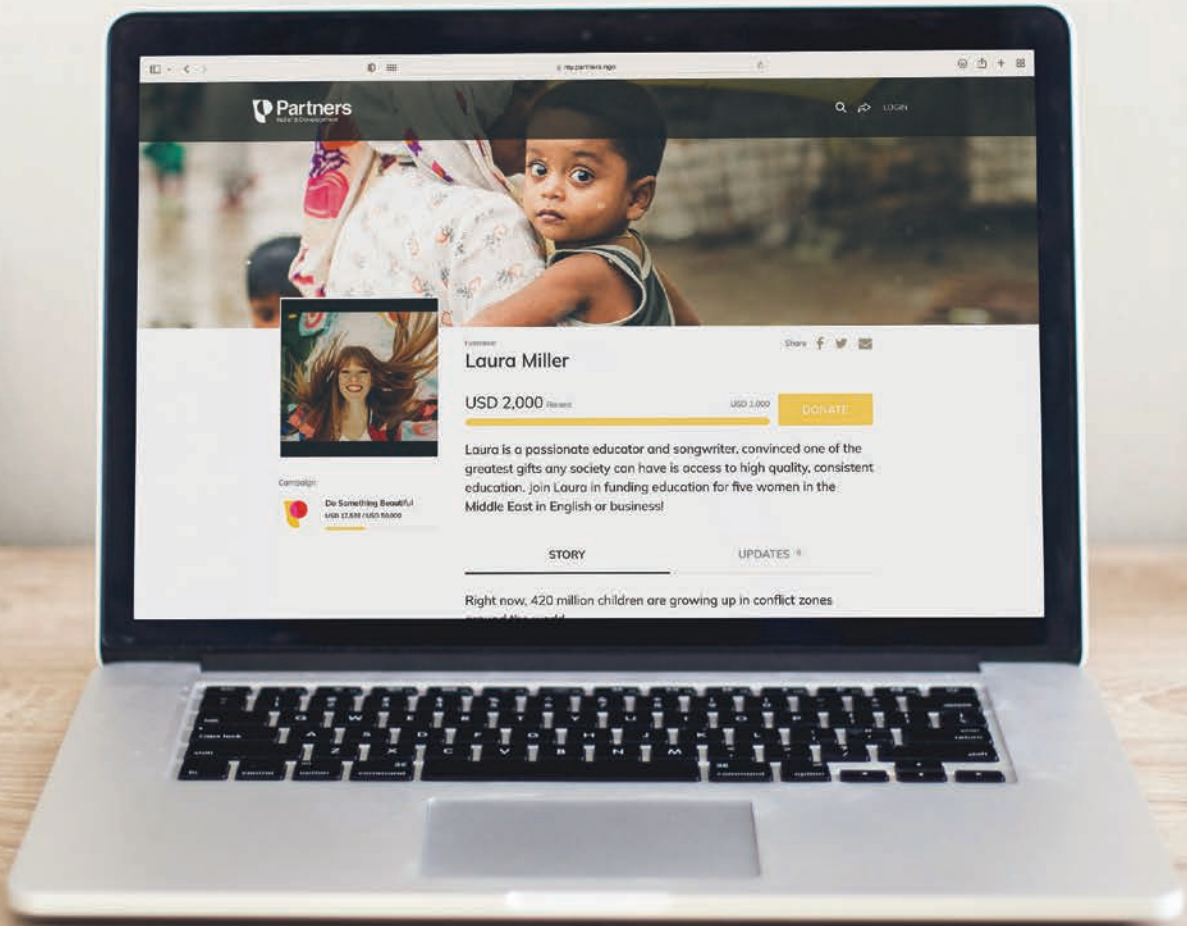
Team member, name withheld for security
Karen State, Myanmar
16 May 2021

“When we hide in the forest, we have to be aware of the poisonous animals such as snakes, scorpions and centipedes, especially at night.

If we use any light the enemy can see us and will shoot us.”

37 Campaigns. \$30,109 Rasied. All For Them.

This is what it looks like when a global community decides that to love is to act. This is a glimpse at what these amazing people did to fundraise so kids in conflict zones could experience free, full lives.



FUNDRAISERS

After seeing the *What's Happening In Myanmar* video in her church (SunWest Christian Fellowship), Abbigale decided that she wanted to help families who were displaced, raising \$360 with a bottle drive!



Laura, a passionate educator and songwriter, smashed her fundraising goal, raising \$2,000 to educate women in the Middle East in English and business.

For the fifth year in a row, Stevie asked his friends to donate to Partners in honor of his birthday and raised an astonishing \$2,403 for children affected by conflict.



Kpu Di started a fundraiser on Facebook and raised \$5,745 to provide emergency relief to families displaced by the Myanmar Army in Karen State.

Have an idea?
Start it here.



BABA GANOIJ

James, Thailand

My wife's mother created a cookbook and gave it to her when Twyla married me. This recipe is from when she was a little girl growing up in Chiang Mai.



Baba Ganouj

Ingredients

- 2 medium eggplants (not skinny Thai ones)
- juice of one lemon (or use limes - prob 1/4 cup)
- * 1/2 cup tahini
- 3 medium cloves garlic - crushed
- 1/2 cup finely chopped parsley (or cilantro)
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 cup finely minced green onions
- lots of fresh black pepper
- 1 TBSP oil

Method

Preheat oven to 400°F 200°C

1. Cut off the stem ends of the eggplants & prick the eggplants all over with a fork
2. Place them on an oven rack directly & let them roast slowly until completely pooped (about 45 min)
3. When they are sagging, wrinkled, crumpled & totally soft you'll know they're ready
4. Remove & wait till cool enough to handle
5. Scoop out the insides & put in blender with above ingredients & blend till smooth.

Serve with veggies or pita bread

- * Tahini can be expensive to buy. Can make your own in a coffee grinder (or try blender)

Sesame seeds - small amount * add some sesame oil - few drops at a time - blend till smooth.



JUNE

PAGES

80 – 89

Every Question.
These Cows Send Kids
To School.
The Pied Piper Visits Iraq.
Nanaimo Bars.

◀ Our team met this woman and her three-month-old baby, who were living in a destroyed school in Raqqa with a few other families, including many widows and their children. She and her family fled from ISIS after their house in Deir Ez Zor was bombed. Fortunately, she was out visiting her relatives when the house was destroyed but her brother and another relative were killed in the explosion. She and her child had been staying in the school for the last six months when our team met her. June 2021.

Every question we ask
starts with this answer:



free, full lives for children affected by conflict.



Every idea our HQ team floats
each journal we print
and every email we write
is us trying to inch closer to that answer.

We sleep with one eye open
staring at that answer.
Every bag of rice our team shoulders,
each school they refurbish
and every truck they load brings that
answer into sight, even temporarily.

That answer is THE reason we
revise/plant/email/purchase/treat/
distribute/teach/travel/sew/design/
edit/film/deposit/drive/discuss/sell/
train/study/fly/gather/print/mail/
call/leave/return/grow/read/
research/harvest/love/act.

Free, full lives for children
affected by conflict & oppression.

Ask our team any question;
that will be our answer.

Children in Syria.
Back in school.

Steps for a Sustainable School



1. Design and develop.

It starts with designing a business plan alongside community leaders that might involve farming animals, opening a mini store or even a motorbike repair shop.

2. Provide startup funds.

Partners provides the capital needed to get the business off the ground while continuing to monitor and provide ongoing advice to guide the business to profitability.

3. Return and reinvest.

Once profitable, the business provides revenue to fund teacher salaries and school expenses, with excess profit above this paid back to Partners to reinvest in other sustainable businesses.



THESE COWS SEND
KIDS TO SCHOOL

June 25 - Baw Law Thai Hta School in Thailand launches its sustainable project: raising baby cows!

In conflict-affected eastern Myanmar, there are very few schools, which are often left to be funded by locals with limited capacity to support their teachers and students. So we asked these communities, "What do you want to do to improve your school?" From this question grew an idea for them to develop education in their own community, in a sustainable way. Because children affected by war shouldn't have their education shut down.



June 29:
ME team distributes soccer balls that
a boy from Michigan raised money to
buy. Our team said they felt like the
Pied Piper. Iraq.

THE PIED PIPER VISITS IRAQ



A boy named Luke in Michigan raised money to buy soccer balls for kids displaced in the Middle East. This is the email we sent to his mom and dad.

“Last weekend our team delivered 41 soccer balls - they call them footballs - to kids in a refugee camp in Sharya, Iraq. These kids are so poor that they can hardly afford food, much less soccer balls or other toys. They are nuts about soccer over there, and our team said they felt like the Pied Piper giving out the balls. So often our work is kind of sad; you made it really joyful. This is from my team member: “By the way the kids loved receiving the footballs, and what that young boy has done has made a lot of kids very happy, he should be proud of himself. “ We are proud of you and thankful for your generous heart, Luke!”

NANAIMO BARS

Ernie, Canada

Ingredients

First layer

½ cup butter, melted
¼ cup brown sugar
3 tablespoons cocoa powder
1 egg, beaten
2 cups graham wafer crumbs
1 cup flaked coconut
½ cup chopped walnuts

Second layer

2 cups icing sugar
¼ cup butter, softened
¼ cup cream or milk
2 tablespoons custard powder

Third layer

3 1-ounce chocolate squares
(sweet or semisweet)
¼ cup butter

Instructions

Layer 1

Combine ingredients and pat into 9 inch (23cm) square ungreased pan.

Chill for 30 minutes.

Layer 2

Beat all ingredients until smooth and fluffy. Spread carefully on top of layer 1.

Layer 3

Melt chocolate and butter together. Spread over layer 2 and chill.

Cut in small bars - very rich, very delicious!

So beloved, this might just be the
National Dessert of Canada.





JULY

PAGES

90 – 101

The Best Painting.
In Memoriam.
Graduation!
In Memoriam.
Strawberry Pretzel Salad.

◀ The child-friendly space attached to our pediatric center, located in Al-Hol camp in NE Syria. 853 children attended the space in July 2021.

THE BEST PAINTING



JULY

12

A LOVELY AND INCLUSIVE MURAL IS PAINTED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE REFURBISHED SHEHID ERISH SCHOOL, A SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.

Syria



We learned with great sadness that Rick Allen, a member of the board of Partners Relief & Development UK and also a great friend, died in July whilst attempting a new route on K2, the world's second-highest mountain.



IN MEMORIAM



@KarakoramClub

Rick, a world-renowned veteran mountaineer, was caught in an avalanche on the southeast face. Fortunately, his two climbing partners survived. Rick died doing what he loved the most and lived his life with the courage of his convictions. His greatest mountaineering achievement was the Mazeno Ridge on Nanga Parbat with Sandy Allen in 2012, which was the last, great unclimbed Himalayan route.

Rick served as a Board Member of Partners UK since early 2019, and was a valuable asset for his quiet wisdom and dry wit. He was committed to serving the world's poorest and most vulnerable communities, and he is greatly missed. Rick was using the opportunity climbing K2 to raise money for Partners, and a fund in his memory has raised £10,000, which will be used to fund a project in his name.

Chris Norman
Partners UK
20 July, 2021

Graduation!

July 20: Graduation day
for our first GED cohort.



Naw Law Ba Paw, GED graduate

My name is Naw Law Ba Paw and I am 23 years old. I have 6 siblings, of whom I am the youngest. All my siblings live in Myanmar and work as farmers. My father is a farmer and my mother is a housewife; she also helps my father with farming. My village is in Bego Division, Myanmar. All the villagers are farmers and not everyone thinks that receiving an education is more important than working in the fields. In my village, there is a basic primary school so students can attend school at the primary level. If they want to attend middle and high school, they must go to a different town to study.

As I grew older, I saw my community suffer. I know that I can serve God in many ways like helping poor people, sharing knowledge, and helping people who are disabled. I want to work as a social worker and help my community and my home village. I have work experience as a teacher from when I taught English at a primary school. Because of this experience, I am confident that I can help my community in different ways like childcare, education, healthcare, and community development.

GRADUATION!

Our GED preparation program in Thailand encourages and prepares Karen students to take the internationally-recognized GED exam and apply to upper-level university or college programs. This education equips students to return to their villages as leaders that can effectively fight problems and uplift their communities.





July 31:
Our friend and advisor,
U Kyaw Hla Aung died today.

IN MEMORIAM

U Kyaw Hla Aung

We at Partners are grieved that our friend and advisor, U Kyaw Hla Aung passed away on July 31. Over the years, despite persecution and imprisonment, he was a determined leader and a prominent voice for the rights of the Rohingya.

He spent two years in prison for working with our team to start schools for Rohingya children. When he was released, our team met him and asked what his next steps would be.

He replied with a playful and determined smile, “Let’s start some schools.”

The significance he placed on education was captured when he told us, “Hundreds are dying in the camps, but we are losing a whole generation without education.” He left his mark on all of us. A brave and motivated leader has passed away and will be missed.”

STRAWBERRY PRETZEL SALAD

Laurie, United States of America

Ingredients

2 cups crushed pretzels
2 tablespoons brown sugar
¾ cup melted butter
8 ounces cream cheese
1 cup sugar
3 cups Cool Whip
2 packages strawberry Jell-O
(If small, 3 ounce, otherwise 16
ounce)
2 packages frozen strawberries in
heavy syrup

Instructions

Mix together pretzels, brown sugar
and butter, and put in 9 x 13 inch pan.

Bake at 400°F for 8 minutes.
Let crust cool.

Mix cream cheese and sugar.
Fold the Cool Whip and spread over
pretzel crust.

Boil 2 cups water, add Jell-O and
strawberries. Pour over the cream
cheese layer.

Chill.





AUGUST

PAGES

102 – 113

Neither Snow Nor Rain Nor
Heat, Nor Gloom Of Night...
500 Umbrellas.
8 Tankers Full.
Over 3k Patients.
Favorite Kale Salad.

◀ Our team in Karen State,
Myanmar transporting medicine
supplies to families displaced by
Myanmar Military attacks.
August 2021.

NEITHER SNOW NOR RAIN NOR HEAT



This is our heroic team, in Myanmar, transporting medicine supplies. This trip takes one night (one-way). The team has to cross 3 rivers. The last river is broad and because the bridge does not bear the weight of their motorcycles, the team has to leave behind their motorbikes and walk for a whole day.





500 UMBRELLAS

ROHINGYA CAMPS, COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

This rainy season created flooding in many of the camp areas in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. We responded to a request for 500 umbrellas in 4 unregistered communities. The umbrellas were delivered to families and school children, ensuring that children could still attend school and stay dry.



শিল্পের হাত

শিল্পের হাত

8 TANKERS FULL



August 16: Friday we distributed 200,000 liters (8 tankers) of drinking water to neighborhoods around Erbil that have been in desperate need of water. Those whose tanks we filled had been without water for 5-6 days, and the temperature here in August is solidly around 110 F or 43 C every day. Last winter was a dry one, which led to the wells around Erbil drying up.

The neighborhoods we targeted were mostly the poorest in the city, with about 100 families reached.



OVER 3K PATIENTS



August 29: Photos we received from the pediatric center Partners supports in Al-Hol camp in NE Syria. 3,086 people were provided with care in August alone.

Services provided included; women's services, minor surgeries, pediatrics, diagnoses, and prescriptions.

August's patient breakdown:
1,503 Pediatric patients
983 Women's health/services
 11 Cesarean births
 21 Natural births
68 Other procedures
500 Surgical patients



FAVORITE KALE SALAD

Sigrid, United States of America

Ingredients

1½ cups baby kale
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
1 lemon, juiced
¼ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, plus more for garnish
4 tablespoons toasted pine nuts
4 tablespoons dried currants
Add fresh mint to taste

Instructions

De-stem kale and wash in cold water. Dry thoroughly. Chiffonade as thinly as possible by rolling leaves into a log shape then slicing with a very sharp knife to create long strips.

Drizzle oil over kale in a large bowl and toss by hand, massaging gently until coated. Drizzle in lemon juice and toss again.

Add Parmesan, pine nuts, and currants. Toss together. Taste and season with salt. Adjust all ingredients, if necessary, to reach a balance of flavors.

Let salad sit 10 to 15 minutes to soften further. Top with more Parmesan before serving.

This Kale Salad is one of our family's staples. We often pair it with grilled salmon, or chicken, for a fueling weeknight meal or use it as a side dish when hosting company. Even our uncle, who was resistant to try kale, asked for the recipe. The secret is in cutting the kale into thin pieces and "massaging" it thoroughly. Cheers!





SEPTEMBER

PAGES

114 – 119

Afghanistan. Recipe: Apple Pie.

◀ COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

Our local partners completed the construction of a deep-water well in Cox's Bazar that was 400 feet deep (122 meters). This deep-water well gives at least 100 people access to clean water. September 2021.

AFGHANISTAN



We watched the news out of Afghanistan in August with sick hearts. Afghans whose lives were at risk under the Taliban were faced with a gut-wrenching decision. Stay and face death or leave your entire life behind for a dangerous unknown. For those needing to escape, you helped carve a path to safety, while also meeting those who had made their escape and those left behind with relief supplies to remind them they weren't alone.

80 people in hiding from the Taliban were provided with funds for food and other necessities.

4,220 Afghan refugees were provided with food parcels including staples like flour, rice, beans and oil.

“Thank you. We are all thankful for you... those ones that for the first time have seen us, the first time that our problems are being heard, you are noticing that, and you are getting some packages of food for the families, and we are so thankful for you.” Haidi, Afghanistan



APPLE PIE

Joe and Barb, United States of America

This apple pie recipe includes a long-time family pie crust recipe.

Ingredients

Filling

5 to 7 tart apples (if apples aren't tart, add 1 tablespoon lemon juice)

$\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 cup sugar

2 tablespoons flour

Dash of salt

1 teaspoon cinnamon

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon nutmeg

1 to 2 tablespoons butter

Crust

1 cup and 2 tablespoons flour

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt

$\frac{1}{3}$ cup canola oil

2 tablespoons water

Instructions

Filling

Pare apples and slice. Mix sugar, flour, salt, spices. Add to apples.

Crust

Mix flour and salt. Stir in oil with fork, just until blended. Sprinkle the water over it and stir in (4 or 5 stirs, don't overwork).

Roll out between two sheets of wax paper.

Add pastry to pie pan, dot with butter, add filling. Bake at 400°F, 50 to 55 minutes.

Crust Only - Baking Instructions

For crust only, prick bottom and sides with fork, bake at 400°F for 12 to 15 minutes.





OCTOBER

PAGES

120 – 127

Leveling Up.
Trauma. Care.
Khanompang Na Moo.

◀ COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

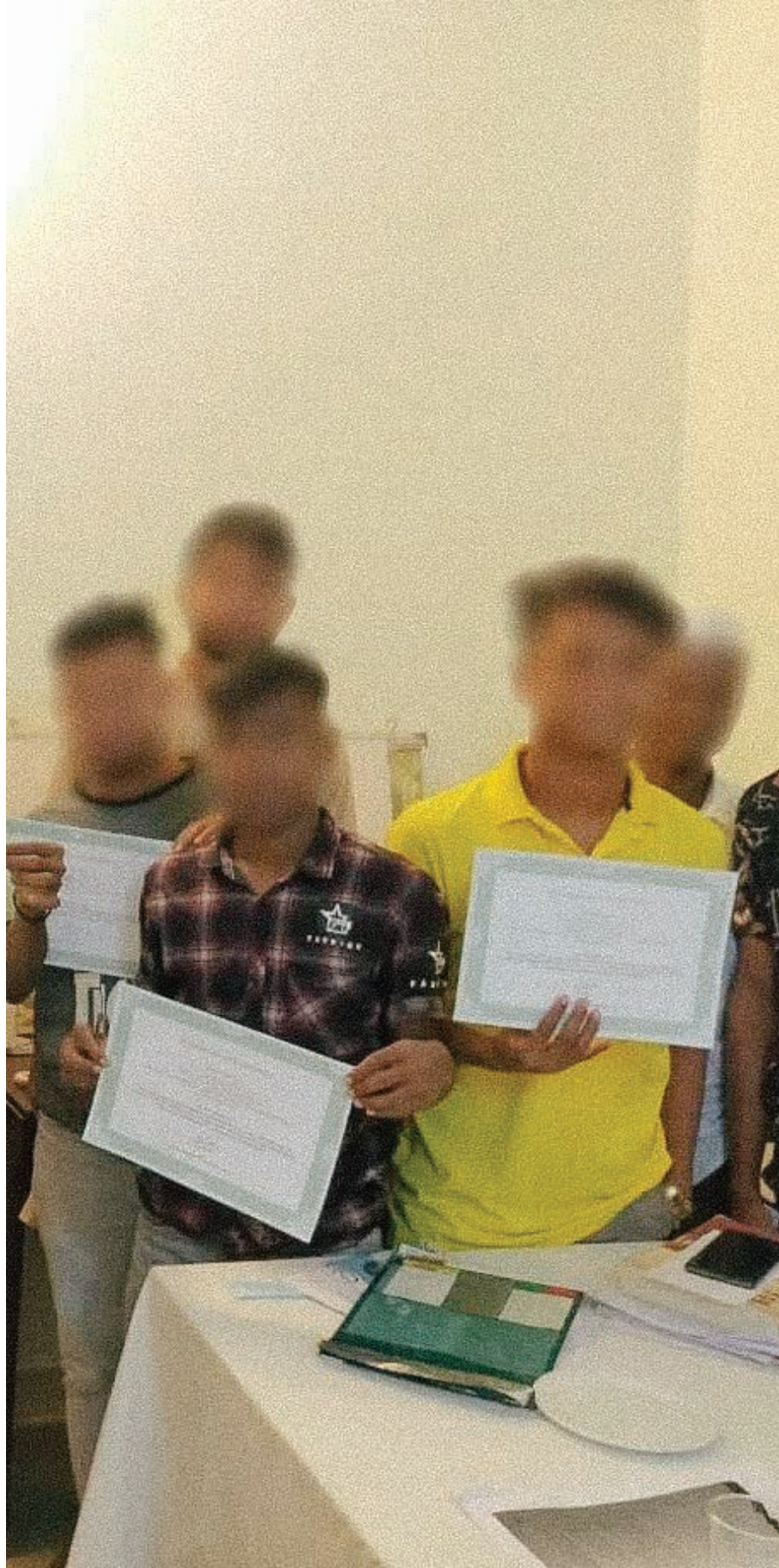
Each month, we carry out a medicine and nutrition pack distribution in Cox's Bazar. Thanks to our Community Health Workers and local partners, we were able to provide medicine to 660 people and nutrition packs to 150 children in September 2021.

LEVELING UP



October 2: A new Community Healthcare Worker training in Cox's Bazar. Our partners and previously trained CHWs led the training for the new CHW students. A total of 12 students have completed the Introduction to Community Health - Intermediate Level 3 course. Bangladesh.

Faces are blurred to protect our Community Healthcare Workers as they serve in challenging locations within Bangladesh.



TRAUMA. CARE.



362 children took part in our trauma care program, which included art therapy, character-building activities, and lessons in music, dance, hygiene, and English.

“The times that I have spent [at the program], I feel very comfortable.

I have made many friends. Because of this, I feel more confident within myself.”

Dalia (11), Iraq



October 5:
New trauma care
program begins for kids
traumatized by ISIS.
Sinjar Mountain, Iraq.

KHANOMPANG NA MOO

Jaa, Thailand

Thai Pork on Toast

Ingredients

130 grams minced pork
12 slices sandwich bread
1 large egg
½ teaspoon sugar
1 tablespoon oyster sauce
1 tablespoon soy sauce, or more to taste
1 teaspoon garlic
Ground white pepper
1 tablespoon carrot, thinly sliced
Chili and cilantro leaves for garnish, if desired

Recommendations

Serve hot with sweet chili sauce, cucumber relish, or ajaad.

Instructions

Combine cooked pork, sugar, oyster sauce, soy sauce, pepper, carrots and garlic in the bowl.

Cut the bread into 4 equal squares. Remove the bread crust if desired.

Spread about a teaspoon of the pork mixture over one side of each piece of bread. Make sure to get the pork all the way to the edges.

Beat the egg. Dip the pork side of bread to coat it.

Place in a 170°C to 200°C oven for 10 to 15 minutes, until it looks golden brown and crispy - or deep fry.





NOVEMBER

PAGES

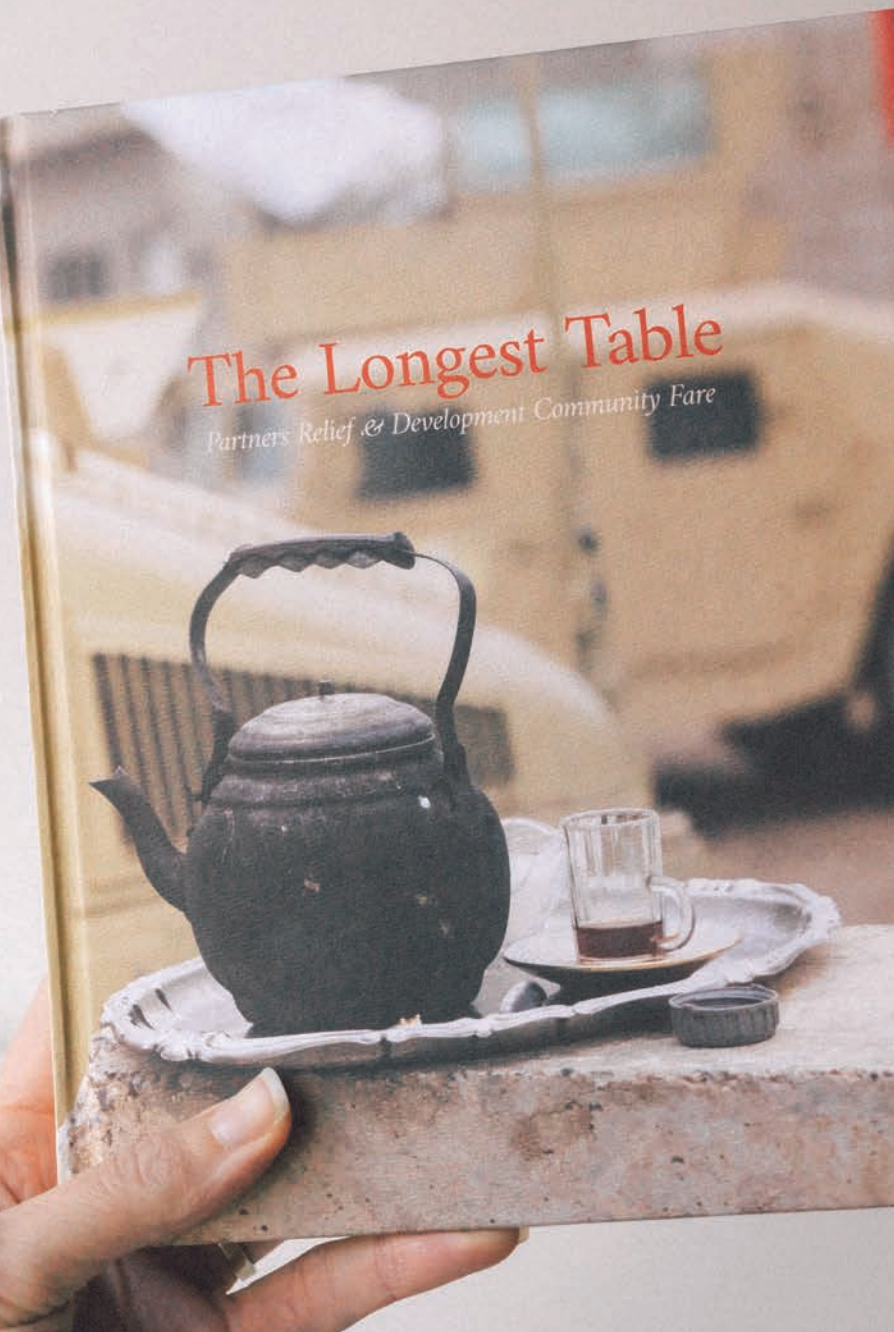
128 - 135

Cookbook!
1 School, 1 Day, \$100k.
Sweet Potato Casserole.

◀ CHIN STATE, MYANMAR

The situation in Chin State deteriorated with the UN fearing mass atrocities after tens of thousands of Myanmar Military troops and heavy weapons were deployed to the region. We responded and carried out food distributions through our local contact in the India-Myanmar border region. November 2021.

COOKBOOK!



November 22: 500 copies of the first-ever Partners cookbook, called *The Longest Table*, are delivered by FedEx. To the wrong address!



Cha Yen

(Partner) HQ, United States of America

This homemade Thai iced tea gets its complex flavor from blends of rooibos tea, star anise and cloves. Its sweetness comes from condensed milk. Adapted from the cookbook "Bangkok" by Leela Punya, this version is hardly typical: Most Thai iced tea sold on the streets of Bangkok — or in Thai restaurants stateside — contain an immense amount of sweetened condensed milk and use a store-bought tea blend that contains food coloring. The tea blend used here is intense and aromatic, but is mellowed by ice and milk: Chill the tea fully before pouring over ice so its flavors don't get diluted.

Alexa Weibel, cooking.nytimes.com

Ingredients

- 4 tablespoons loose red rooibos tea leaves (or the contents of 10 rooibos tea bags)
- 3 tablespoons loose black tea leaves (or the contents of 7 black tea bags)
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 10 star anise pods, broken into pieces or roughly chopped
- 12 whole cloves
- 1/2 cup half-and-half
- 1/2 cup sweetened condensed milk
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- Ice, for serving

Sweet Table

1 SCHOOL, 1 DAY, \$100K.

The 2021 Giving Tuesday campaign gave education back to 1,000 students in Raqqa, where 80% of schools have been damaged by a decade of civil war.

You gave \$100,000. They started construction.
Bright and beautiful updates coming in next year's journal.



The vestiges of conflict have lingered long after the airstrikes stopped. Because war has already taken too much away from Syria's children, we are pulling out all stops and partnering with the local community to get 1,000 students back in the classroom where they belong.

When local leaders ask us to help rebuild these schools, we get to work. We start by collaborating with local government and community leaders to investigate the proposed sites and begin the planning process. Once planning is complete and funds are raised, local contractors are hired to undertake the rebuild. Building materials are sourced from nearby suppliers to help the local economy and save on transportation costs. Once complete, the community gathers to celebrate the official opening with a ribbon cutting and celebration. Teachers return, students fill classrooms and learning can finally get underway again.

Across the Middle East, you've helped us restore the joy of learning to thousands of children who have endured years of war. The 2021 #GivingTuesday, marked a milestone with our 15th school rebuild and secured a better future for another 1,000 kids.

“Partners’ development projects contribute to secure job opportunities for dozens of workers and craftsmen in the war-torn areas of Northeast Syria.”
Hisham, Partners Team Member



SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

Pete and his son, Henry, United States of America

This is my stepdad's mom's recipe for sweet potatoes. She typed it up on a manual typewriter. My son and I make it every year for Thanksgiving. Every time someone new sees it, they tell me they don't like sweet potatoes. By the end of the night, they inevitably ask for the recipe.

SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

5 cups Sweet Potatoes, boiled & washed

1 stick margarine

1 cup milk

1 cup sugar (1/2 brown & 1/2 white)

2 eggs, beaten

1 t. vanilla

1 t. cinnamon

Mix together well, and

bake 15 min. at 400°

Remove from oven and make topping:

1 stick butter

1/2 c. flour

1 cup sugar (1/2 brown & 1/2 white)

Mix well. Topping will be
somewhat stiff

layer with pecans

Bake another 15 min. at 400°

cool - and enjoy!



DECEMBER

PAGES

136 – 141

Truck-Full of Relief. Nana's Scrambled Eggs.

◀ SHAN STATE, MYANMAR

Food distribution in a camp in Shan State near the Thailand-Myanmar border. This camp was surrounded by different military groups and was struggling with food shortages. They didn't have any useable farmlands nearby and it was hard for people to sell their products due to closed borders. We distributed 2-4 weeks' worth of food to a total of 449 people right before Shan New Year's Day. We also gave out warm hats and t-shirts to children in the same camp.
December 2021.



TRUCK-FULL OF RELIEF

The video of our truck - loaded with relief goods - arriving at a camp was our social media's #1 most-liked post of all 2021.

SITTWE, MYANMAR

Media from a rice distribution in Sittwe. The food prices increased significantly due to the political situation in Myanmar, which meant that families were struggling to afford enough food with the money they earn. We distributed a 50kg bag of rice to 230 families living in very difficult situations.



NANA'S SCRAMBLED EGGS

Claire, New Zealand

I have many childhood food memories that took place in my grandparents' home.

Every time we would leave to head home, my Nana (grandmother) would give my sisters and I a soft fruit jube sweet each. Our home was a 15-minute drive away, and if ever so slowly consumed, that candy could last the entire ride home.

We also preserved fruit together at the dining room table. Grandchildren were tasked with fitting the peaches into the jars, as our hands were the perfect size to fit inside and make the jars look just right before they went into the converted washing machine that was used to seal the jars.

There was always baking made for every church event: scones rolled out on the bench and then formed into the shape of people, and my least favourite, the pickled cow's tongue slices that I couldn't ever stomach.

The other enduring memory is of scrambled eggs, the sort that ruin you for eating other people's eggs for the rest of your life. Nana lovingly prepared them regularly for us grandchildren on the Aga Cooker. She would use eggs that she would have us collect from the hen house near Granddad's workshop.

Nana never wrote down the recipe, but the way she made it was special and had such a velvety soft texture full of buttery comfort. I spent countless attempts to replicate the recipe over the years. This is my approximation of Nana's Scrambled Eggs...

don't skip the butter!

Ingredients

3 eggs
1 tablespoon salted butter
2 tablespoons milk
Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

Melt the butter in a medium-size pan over medium-low heat. Whisk the eggs and milk together until well mixed.

Add the egg mixture to the pan and wait about 90 seconds as the eggs begin to gently cook and look out for the edges to just begin to set.

Slowly move the eggs around the pan with a spatula to allow the still-liquid egg mixture to replace the just-cooked egg underneath – push the set egg mixture from the edges but be careful not to stir. You want the egg to stay together as much as possible.

When all the liquid is just barely cooked, approximately 2 more minutes, remove from the heat, add salt and pepper to taste, then serve immediately on your favourite toasted bread.





GO FIGURE

PAGES

142 – 155

Annual Report.
Failure Report.

◀ A young Rohingya girl sits on a bag of rice at a distribution in Sittwe, Myanmar. A 50kg bag of rice was given to 230 families living in very difficult situations. December 2021.

9 COUNTRIES.
34 PROJECTS.
345,435
PEOPLE
ASSISTED.

Free, full lives for children affected by conflict and oppression.
THIS IS OUR VISION.

Ensuring children and communities affected by conflict and oppression are safe, healthy, and have access to education.
THIS IS OUR MISSION.

We act by providing **emergency relief** during acute crisis events and by working with communities of displaced families to design **sustainable development** initiatives that transform community wellbeing, improve health and education, and provide a nurturing environment for children.
THESE ARE OUR METHODS.

THAILAND



WHERE WE WORKED IN 2021.

MYANMAR



BANGLADESH



AFGHANISTAN



SYRIA



YEMEN



IRAQ



EMERGENCY RELIEF.

If there is one aspect of our work that we seem to be known for, it is our ability to rapidly respond to a crisis event and to meet families and children in the worst seasons of their lives with emergency relief. We do this in two ways.

Firstly, we fill the gap between the beginning of an acute crisis and the arrival of relief from larger aid organizations.

Secondly, there are always displaced people who - for various reasons - do not receive aid even when the larger aid organizations eventually come. They are at the end of the line. We are there for them also.

We are able to do both of these because we have autonomy, we are nimble, and we know our lane.



“The COVID-19 situation was serious in the IDP camp. We did not have the money to buy nutritious food. We were very grateful that we received kind support. It is unforgettable.”

Labang Lu San, Kachin State, Myanmar



4,241

...people were given access to new deep-water wells and water filters.

11,840

...people were provided with some form of shelter, such as tarpaulins.

757,572

...kilograms of food were given to communities facing food shortages.

A photograph of two women in a workshop. The woman in the background is wearing a purple shirt and is focused on sewing a piece of fabric on a black sewing machine. The woman in the foreground is wearing a red shirt and is also working on a piece of fabric. The room has a rustic feel with a wooden table and a wall made of light-colored panels. There are various pieces of fabric and sewing supplies scattered around.

2,838

...people received some form of training through Partners' development projects.

14,539

...children in school as a result of Partners' education projects.

43,558

...people accessed health care as a result of Partners' health projects.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

Sustainable development in the midst of year two of a pandemic is...challenging. Development is a collaborative process involving site visits, meetings, and other face-to-face interactions not always possible in 2021.

Active fighting in Myanmar also put some projects on hold, as families were forced to flee from their villages and emergency relief took precedence over sustainable development in these areas. Where they could, our local staff and partners did an exceptional job of keeping these projects running.



“When ISIS came, our school was broken; there was no electricity, no windows, no doors. But now our school has been built, lights and everything have been fixed.”

Deyar, Iraq

FINANCIALS.

In another year of great uncertainty, one thing was absolutely clear: your generosity knows no bounds. This is how we stewarded all that you entrusted to us in 2021.

\$5,486,583

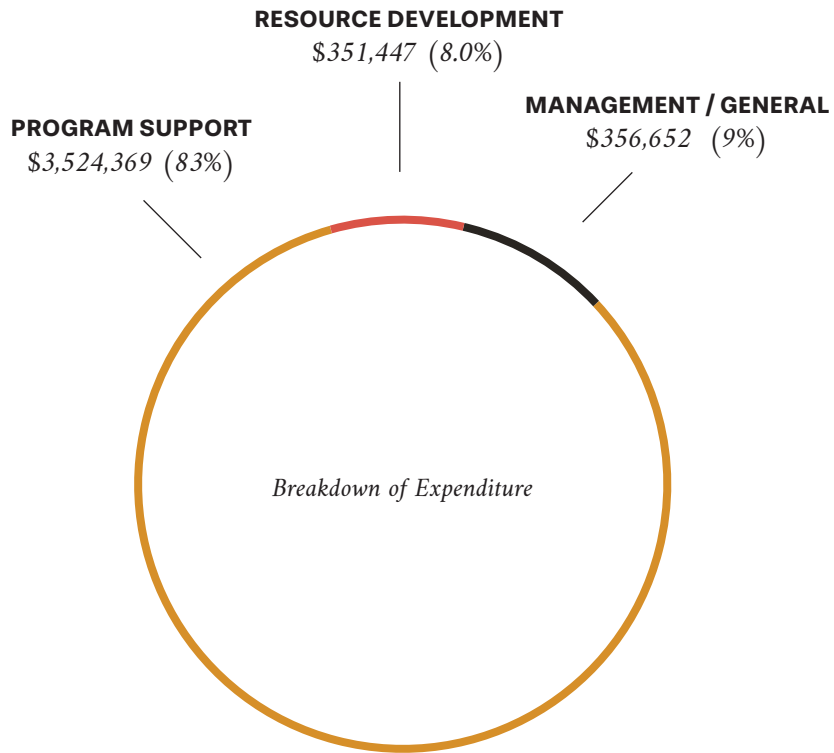
Total income.

\$4,232,468

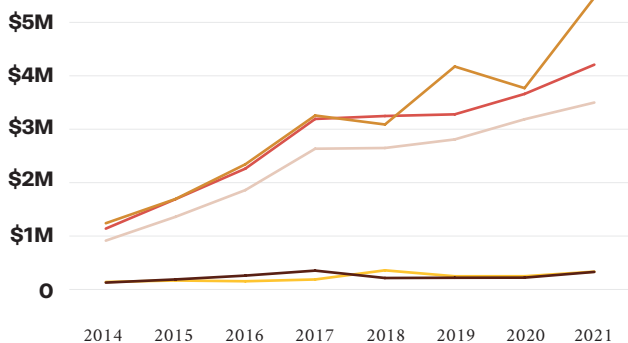
Total expenditure.

\$0.06

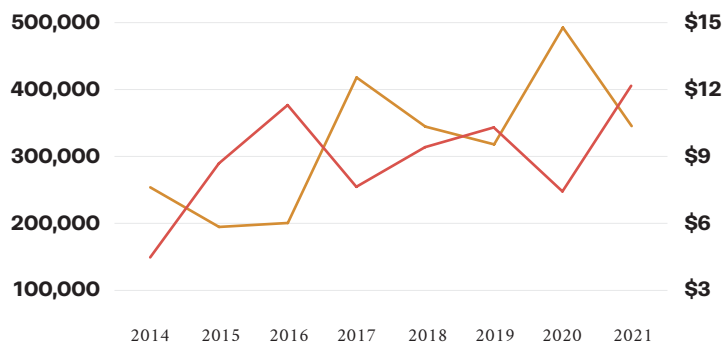
Cost to raise one dollar.



Income and Expenditure Trends



People Assisted vs Cost Per Person Helped Trends



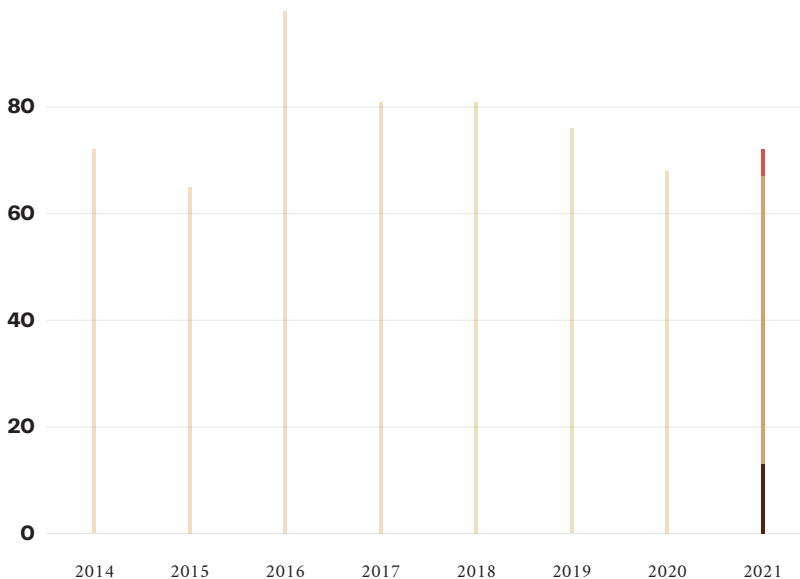
+45.4% Total Income
+15% Total Expenditure
+10.0% Program Support
+59.7% Resource Development
+42.4% Management / General

-30.2% People Helped
+64.9% Cost Per Person

OUR TEAM.

Creative, empathetic, soulful people who don't think kids should suffer because the adults are fighting, our team members are experts in their field and united in a common mission.

*Due to a change in the way we categorize our team, a direct comparison is only available for total number of staff across each year.



5
Affiliate staff.

54
Employees.

13
Interns/volunteers

*Staff Trends**





The Failure Report

Written by
JENN TENDERO

FAILURE REPORT



This is What Went Wrong in Afghanistan.

Raising \$1,000,000 in 48 Hours? Easy.
Spending \$1,000,000? Not so easy.

This is What Went Wrong in Afghanistan.

It helps when no matter what news feed you subscribe to, they are all flashing the same ghastly images of people clinging to planes as they take off from Kabul, parents desperately passing their infants to soldiers believing they will be safer with strangers on a military base than with their own parents in Afghanistan.

It helps to have these images on replay when you ask people to buy a seat on an airplane for Afghans at risk of death by the Taliban.

Those seats sell like hotcakes.
Hope is sky-high.
Finally, a problem we can do something about.
This is our moment to be a million heroes in this story.
Evacuees, prepare for take-off.

There is **A List**.
Everyone wants on this list.

People email us - dozens, hundreds - begging to be put on The List.
Every family: a story.
Every story: compelling.
Every ending: if we aren't evacuated, they will kill us.

Women, Christians, activists, former US employees: we are the walking dead. Save my daughter/son/wife/mother. Please. I beg you.
You are my/our only hope.

A coalition has been formed to run evacuations: a special-ops guy here, a specialist in exfiltrations here, an interpreter there, guides everywhere.
Miracle of miracle, someone has official Afghanistan governmental stamps for border crossing.
Staging areas are established.
Backgrounds checked.
Contacts made.
Locations confirmed.
Safehouses rented.*

None of this is publicized.

770 people (as of March 1) are - one by one, on foot and by car and on bus and in the dark - moved from their homes in Afghanistan to the border and across it.

Over borders with the strictest security.
Under the nose of the Taliban.

Mission: almost impossible.

Finding a third country to act as a lily pad landing spot while humanitarian parole visas are processed is like searching for a needle in a haystack; while you are being shot at.

The safehouses fill up.
This kink at the end of the line halts all evacuations.
Planes sit empty; can't take off if they have nowhere to land.
People wait.
And wait.
And wait.
And wait.
And wait.

Kids get restless.
Of course.
Parents organize an informal school in the safe house.

One day the house parents buy popsicles for all the kids.



This makes it sound cozy.
It is not.
It is excruciating: entire lives, communities, churches, families, are in the rearview mirror.
Left behind.

Ahead, who knows?
Most countries do not want them, even temporarily.
Those that do, have a raging pandemic that shuts the office that would otherwise process their applications.

**I am also, for a variety of reasons, leaving much out: the process of vetting candidates for exfiltration, the secondary trauma incurred in the process, the method of evacuations, etc.*

These people speak several languages, fluently.
Some are doctors. There's a dentist in the house.
They have businesses, practices, houses with photos on the walls and shoes by the door.
Educated people, who used to donate to refugees, who sat on local PTAs, who, just last week, met friends at their favorite coffee shop.

All those identities - father/activist/teacher/tea drinker/aunt/lawyer - gone.
Now, one word fits all: refugee.

As of this writing, this eclectic group of people are still waiting.
The planes haven't taken off.
We aren't sure if/when they will.

A project partner over-promised and under-delivered.
Something we - like every humanitarian organization - try to avoid at all costs.

Though we did safely evacuate hundreds of people from Afghanistan, we failed to complete our mission, so they await visa processing from inside the confines of safe houses instead of a third country. Far from ideal.

This is my report.
I wish it were otherwise.

Jenn

N.B. There were other fails this year, of course, but this one felt big enough to demand an explanation and a spot of its own.

**Emergency
Flood Shelter**

Repair - 30



ENGAGE

PAGES

156 – 163

Addresses.
Book Report.
Crossword.

◀ COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

In October and November, we repaired shelters in Cox's Bazar. These shelters had been damaged by flooding in the monsoon season this year (Jun-Oct). Partners repaired a total of 30 shelters and helped approximately 150 Rohingya people, so the children and families can be safe and protected against the weather. Our contact in Cox's Bazar says that the families living in these newly repaired houses "are very happy." Most of the children in these photos only have one parent (with the majority coming from single-mother households) and come from households that are either low-income or have no income at all.



ADDRESSES:
A - Z

B	BLOG	blog.partners.ngo
D	DONATE	partners.ngo/donate
F	FACEBOOK	@partnersreliefanddevelopment
F	FUNDRAISERS	partners.ngo/fundraise
I	IMPACT REPORT	partners.ngo/your-impact
I	INSTAGRAM	@partnersrelief
P	PARTNERS WEBSITE	partners.ngo
T	TWITTER	@partnersrelief

BOOK REPORT

What I Read After the Tailspin

For about a month during the Afghanistan crisis, my office was inundated with desperate requests for evacuations. For security reasons, we could neither vet nor exfiltrate everyone.

Telling someone you can't help them is excruciating. Knowing they might die because you can't help is heartbreaking.

Afghanistan broke my heart and it took a while to put it back together. Therapy, swimming in icy water, making things with my hands, and unplugging helped. So have these books.

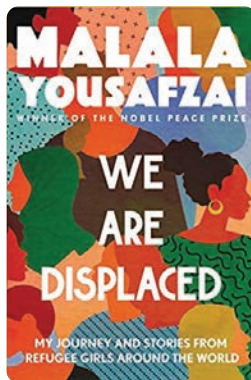
As I compiled this list, it struck me that I was drawn to three different types: books that helped me better understand refugee stories, those that helped me understand secondary trauma in response to those stories, and those that provided an idyllic escape.

These books might do something entirely different for you. I hope you read them. I hope they do.

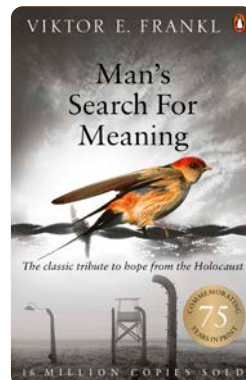


-jenn

Resilience

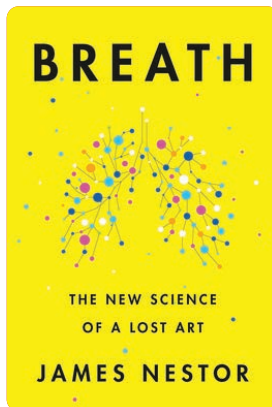


01



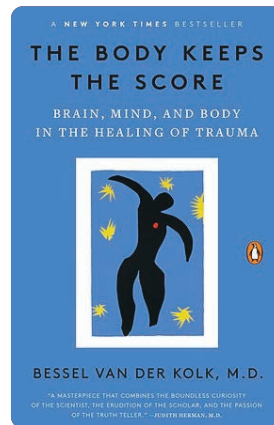
02

Healing



03

2021 was the year I really learned how to breathe and I'm healthier because of it.

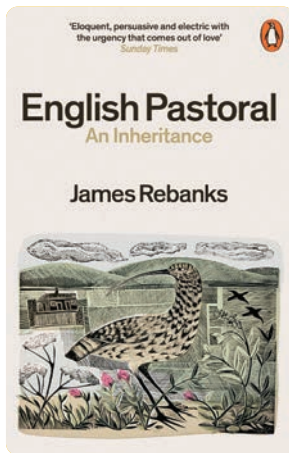


04

An absolute must-read for anyone who has experienced trauma.

Escape

Reading this is the next best thing to actually spending summer vacation in a charming cottage on an island with an eclectic cast of characters.

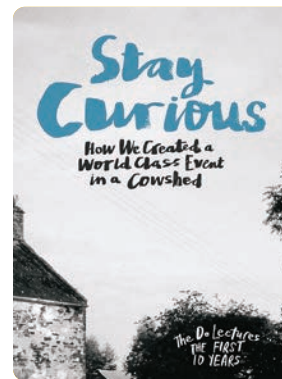


Because what we eat and where it comes from, matters. And because it's about ancient homes, family farms and herding sheep in England.

06



05



The way the Do team welcomes and hosts guests from around the world is beautiful. Their invitation to stay curious is all I need. I'm in.

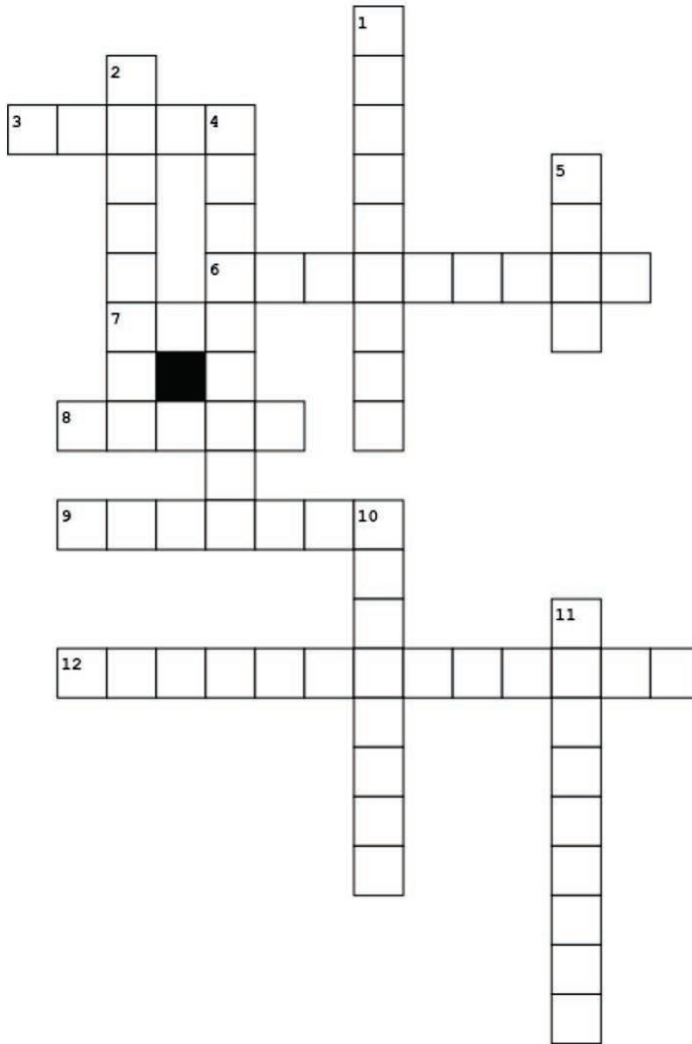
07

- 01 We Are Displaced: My Journey and Stories of Refugee Girls Around the World, by Malala Yousafzai
- 02 Man's Search For Meaning, by Victor E. Frankl
- 03 Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art, by James Nestor
- 04 The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind and Body in the Healing of Trauma, by Bessel van der Kolk
- 05 Seacrow Island, by Astrid Lindgren
- 06 English Pastoral, by James Rebanks
- 07 Stay Curious: Do Lectures

161

CROSSWORD

liNGO & Partners' Facts



ACROSS

- 03 Founder of Partners
06 The city where our operations' office is located in Southeast Asia
07 The city that our U.S. office is located in
08 The country in the Middle East where a civil war started in 2011
09 The first country Partners started in
12 Partners' hashtag

DOWN

- 01 The refugee camp that is home to primarily the Rohingya in Bangladesh
02 The month that the military coup took place in Myanmar in 2021
04 The main prongs of Partners' sustainable development work are healthcare and-
05 The Kurdistan region spans four countries: southeastern Turkey, northern Syria, and northwestern Iran. The fourth country is-
10 A stateless Muslim minority in Myanmar's Rakhine State
11 The capital of Myanmar

ACROSS 03 Steve 06 ChiangMai 07 Ada 08 Syria 09 Myanmar 12 toloveistoact
DOWN 01 Cox's Bazar 02 February 04 education 05 Iraq 10 Rohingya 11 Naypyidaw

Mae Jo Farm.
A Partners-run organic
farming training center
in Thailand.





PO Box 1992
Grand Rapids, MI 49501

DEVELOPMENT

