



MFA is a U.S. 501(c)(3)
non-profit charitable organization.
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Makassed
Foundation of America

ANNUAL REPORT
2021





Lebanon is facing a major socioeconomic crisis due to years of mounting public debt and a high fiscal deficit. The socioeconomic humanitarian crisis is caused by the Lebanese pound devaluation, increased unemployment and poverty, business closures, inflation, decreased foreign remittances, and dramatic collapse in basic services, driven by depleting foreign exchange reserves and the high cost of the import subsidies on food, fuel and medication. The Lebanese poverty line is estimated to have risen by 25 percentage points by end 2021. The proportion of households facing challenges in accessing food, healthcare and other basic services are on the rise. Inflationary effects are highly regressive factors, disproportionately affecting the poor and middle class. Monetary and financial turmoil continue to drive crisis conditions. The exchange rate deteriorated more briskly and the inflation rate averaged 131.9% over the first six months of 2021 (March-August 2021).

As an organization benefitting from the expertise and goodwill of American citizens to improve the living conditions of underprivileged individuals and communities in Lebanon, Makassed Foundation of America promptly responded to those compounded crises and initiated three major fundraising campaigns that align with its mission and values:

Our Values

1. Education is essential for economic and social progress
2. Women are vital contributors to such progress
3. Everyone has an equal right to educational opportunities and health care
4. Civic engagement is a basic component of social, economic and cultural strength

MFA's 2021 Campaigns

- Education and Scholarship Fund campaign
- Lifesaving Medical Care (that included a GoFundMe campaign in September through PayPal)
- Food parcels, blankets and winter clothes campaigns

Donations Received

Small and large donations received from all over the USA reached over \$325,000. These funds were used in Lebanon to :

- Treat 150 patients in need at Makassed General Hospital
- Distribute 1500 food parcels, blankets and clothing to underprivileged families across Lebanon
- Provide 50 students with full or partial scholarships at Makassed schools

MFA would like to extend its gratitude to all donors, without whom none of these accomplishments would have been possible.

In 2021, MFA Board member Dr. Bushra Jabre published “The Lebanon I knew”, a moving evocation of her childhood. Dr. Jabre donated all proceeds from the sales of her book to MFA's Educational Fund in order to provide scholarships for low income students.

