

Middle East & Europe 
Child Support Update 2017

**Thanks,
you've been
amazing**



You've helped us change the lives of hundreds of children in **Middle East & Europe**

Together, we've reached:

Bosnia & Herzegovina: **285** children

Iraq: **151** children

Jordan: **105** children

Lebanon: **338** children

Palestine: **1,424** children



Our Rainbow Family Community

Bosnia & Herzegovina

Two decades since independence, Bosnia & Herzegovina continues to restore its infrastructure, but the pace is slow. Many citizens only live just above the poverty line and while the national primary school attendance is high, drop-out rates are likely to increase with the rising cost of education. This year Bosnia supported Rainbow Family children by providing stationery kits to ensure they were well prepared for the start of school. Kits included pens, notebooks, colouring pencils and geometric sets.

Iraq

Children in Iraq are witnessing appalling scenes of violence. Many have been displaced from their homes, and majority have lost parents and loved ones. More children in Iraq are now suffering from depression and learning difficulties due to trauma. The team in Iraq are offering much needed emotional support to vulnerable families. Mentors spend time with children and provide guidance to families wherever possible. Supporting parents, as well as children, enables families to develop the resilience that helps them rebuild their lives.





72%
of children
supported
in Jordan
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Jordan

72% of the children we support in Jordan are Syrian refugees. These young refugees endure isolation with limited opportunities to interact and form friendships. The Rainbow Family team in Jordan successfully arranged a museum visit for supported children, in collaboration with the Queen Rania Family and Child Centre. Children spent a day at the child museum and were involved in various activities and play-workshops. It was a great way for the young ones to bond, have fun together and benefit emotionally



Lebanon

Lebanon continues to experience inflation and the price of food and healthcare is extremely high. During Ramadan the team in Lebanon, carried out several food distributions and organised iftars. Food parcels were distributed to over 100 supported families, in collaboration with Al Rafaa and Human Charity for Relief and Development.





Palestine

In Gaza, children make up half of its 1.8 million population. Sadly, they have experienced a high number of conflicts over a small number of decades. Over 3,000 children were left with injuries in the 2014 conflict – a third of whom now suffer from a permanent disability. The Rainbow Family team in Gaza participated in a number of networking events and workshops for disabled children, supported by Handicap International.

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Meet Aisha from Palestine

I have always been driven by a passion to serving the needy; when I was younger, I used to make cardboard donation boxes and distribute them amongst friends and family.

With the money raised, I would help the children living in the local community. Seeing the joy and happiness on their faces encouraged me further to pursue a career in helping the vulnerable and needy.

The first time I worked with children was as a school teacher. I found the experience extremely enjoyable and rewarding. When I came across the opportunity to work for The Rainbow Family Child Support Programme, it seemed like the perfect job for me.

What I like most about my work, is the extensive reach of The Rainbow Family Programme and the wide range of activities we provide to further support the children.

The key highlight is seeing the amazing progress children make once they complete the Programme. The children and their families form a special bond with the team and often come by the office to update us on what they are doing now. To know that we have made a positive contribution towards helping them shape their future is truly amazing.





muslimaid.org/rainbowfamily 

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