

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-2015

Community Grows Here



Collateral Repair Project is a grassroots effort to bring much needed assistance to refugees and other victims of war and conflict - those commonly referred to as “collateral damage”. We seek to repair some of this damage and, through these efforts, foster peace and reconciliation.

We are located in Amman, Jordan - temporary home to hundreds of thousands of Iraqi and Syrian refugees.

Collateral Repair Project is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization in the United States, and is registered with Jordan’s Ministry of Social Development. Collateral Repair Project provides emergency services and community programming to urban refugees in Amman, Jordan.

COMMUNITY GROWS HERE.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

What a year it's been, thanks to your generosity and support! In 2014/ 2015, Collateral Repair Project (CRP) reached more households with emergency assistance than ever before. We added community center programming for adults and children and expanded our physical space to allow us to better meet the needs of our beneficiaries. With this Annual Report, we would like to share with you some of the highlights of 2014/ 2015 and express our heartfelt appreciation to all the people who help make CRP the flourishing community organization it is today.

Since 2006, CRP has welcomed those who have suffered the consequences of war. Our programs seek to restore dignity and community among displaced people, and help ensure that their basic needs are met. Today, CRP's beneficiaries are Iraqis, Syrians, Jordanians, and others fleeing violence in their countries. Helping refugees meet their basic needs remains a critical, and growing, part of our programming. CRP also provides educational, recreational, health and wellness programs for children, teens and adults. We take pride in the fact that many beneficiaries come to us initially for assistance but stay on as volunteers. Many of our programs are led or supported by members of the CRP community.

The conflict in Syria has entered its fifth year. More than half of the population has been displaced, with almost four million Syrians now living as refugees in neighboring countries. In Iraq, the resurgence of violence in 2014 has forced more than 2.6 million from their homes. According to UNHCR, Jordan currently hosts over 625,000 Syrian and 46,000 Iraqi refugees. Due to funding shortfalls, we have seen significant cuts in the provision of basic humanitarian assistance, most notably food support for urban refugees. Unfortunately, this is a trend we expect to continue.

Unable to work in Jordan, refugee families struggle to meet their basic needs. In 2014/2015, CRP has responded by scaling up our food voucher program and increasing the number of distributions of food, clothing, hygiene kits and other household items. Though we are a small organization, we do what we can to support the refugee families in our community. Whether it's a cook-stove, a warm winter jacket or a safe space to play, learn and connect with friends, CRP is there.

We would like to recognize our fantastic team of staff and volunteers. Much has been asked of them this year, and they have stepped up to meet the challenge. We extend our special thanks to Abu Abdullah, Abu Yousef, Shaza, Abu Nabil, and Leah. We also want to thank all of our local and international volunteers who give so much of their time and energy to fundraising, teaching and coordinating activities at our center.

Community grows here. Thank you for being a part of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abbie Taylor', with a stylized, cursive script.

Abbie Taylor
Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Lane', with a stylized, cursive script.

Amanda Lane
Executive Director



LEARNING AND WELLNESS GROW HERE.

Refugees are at a high risk of isolation and depression. Past trauma and uncertainty about their place in a new community can lead people to stay close to home, avoid social contact, and neglect their health. CRP offers refugees a safe place where they can connect with other members of the community, build and share their skills, and get information and support which promotes their health and wellness.

Community Center Programs:

CRP is a place where members of the community come together to learn new skills, connect, and support each other. All of our community center programming is volunteer-led. Many classes, including **English, Computer skills, Yoga, and Health and Wellness**, are led by volunteers who are refugees or members of the local community.

CRP programs bring people together around shared interests. Our weekly **Dominoes Night** gives men an opportunity for recreation and social connection, an important step for many in rebuilding a sense of community.

Hope Workshop is a women's craft collective that meets weekly at CRP to craft, chat and share strategies and technical expertise regarding new products and marketing opportunities.

New activities this year: **Trauma Release Exercise (TRE)** classes, Health and Wellness classes led by a local nurse and doctor which focus on diet, health and stress management, and **Yoga classes** for men and women.

CRP reached a total of **900 people** through our expanded community center programming in 2014-2015.



«The training class changed what I previously thought about yoga - I thought it was only for specialists and experts. Now I want to help people understand that yoga is for everyone and that it can help them too.»

-Male community member and Yoga instructor

«We have a type of sisterhood in our computer class...we learn together, joke with each other, get to be involved in activities we might not have done before we joined CRP. We feel it's important for women like us to learn these skills.»

-Female CRP Computer Student

KIDS GROW HERE.

Life as a refugee is full of challenges for children and youth. Having a safe, positive space to play and learn can make a big difference for youth in our community. We also know our community needs confident, engaged teens, and do all we can to contribute to developing future leaders.

Programs for Children and Youth:

CRP offers **Weekend and After School Programs** for kids ages 6-12. Kids get help with homework, do crafts and activities, and play with their friends. Our **Teen Group** members receive leadership training

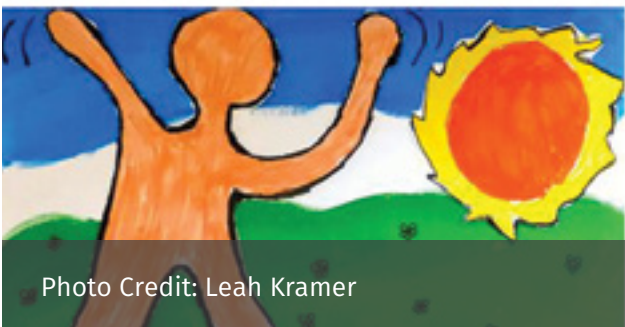


Photo Credit: Leah Kramer



Photo Credit: Sumaya Agha

and plan their own activities and outings. They work hard to integrate newly arrived teens into the group and the community as well. Members of the teen group are active volunteers at CRP, helping out with distributions of food, clothing and household items, and supporting the activities for younger kids.

New programs this year: CRP has launched an **after school club** for school-aged kids, a Drop-In Playgroup for moms with toddlers and preschoolers and now hosts a **Girl Scout Troop** that meets every Saturday.

On average, 155 children and youth attend activities at CRP each month.

“At first I just wanted to experience something new but now I feel like a big sister or a mother to all the kids. Now I feel like women don’t just have to be wives, they can be sisters, mothers, friends, teachers, translators and I even get to lead the boys!”

-Member of CRP Teen group

STABILITY GROWS HERE.

In order to build a new life, refugees need a stable foundation. Our beneficiaries are coping with the loss and devastation of war, and the ongoing challenges of life as a refugee. Many arrive at our door with little more than what they can carry. Barred from working in Jordan, even refugees who may have come with some resources quickly deplete them.

Emergency Assistance Program: CRP carefully assesses individuals and families to ensure they meet our eligibility criteria for assistance. To verify eligibility, CRP conducts home visits and interviews with beneficiaries, and, where possible, cross-references their information with other aid organizations.



Food Vouchers: An average of 35 households receive monthly CRP food vouchers. Based on an estimated family size of 6, CRP helped put food on the table for more than 200 people every month in 2014/ 2015. In addition, 2,183 families received one-time food assistance throughout the year.

Heaters and fuel: Amman experienced an especially severe winter this year with two separate blizzards that brought, in some areas, up to 12 inches of snow. CRP provided heaters and fuel vouchers to 463 households, helping over 2,700 people stay warm. One-time fuel assistance was provided to an additional 492 households.

Health and Hygiene kits: CRP provided 306 households with family and female hygiene kits over the year, helping to promote the health and dignity of almost 2,000 people.

Other Emergency Assistance: Ensuring that the most basic needs are met is a struggle for many refugee families. CRP helped nearly 1,000 households address their urgent needs without having to resort to potentially harmful coping strategies. In 2014/2015 Emergency Assistance included cash assistance, bedding, fans, school uniforms, carpets, and winterization kits.

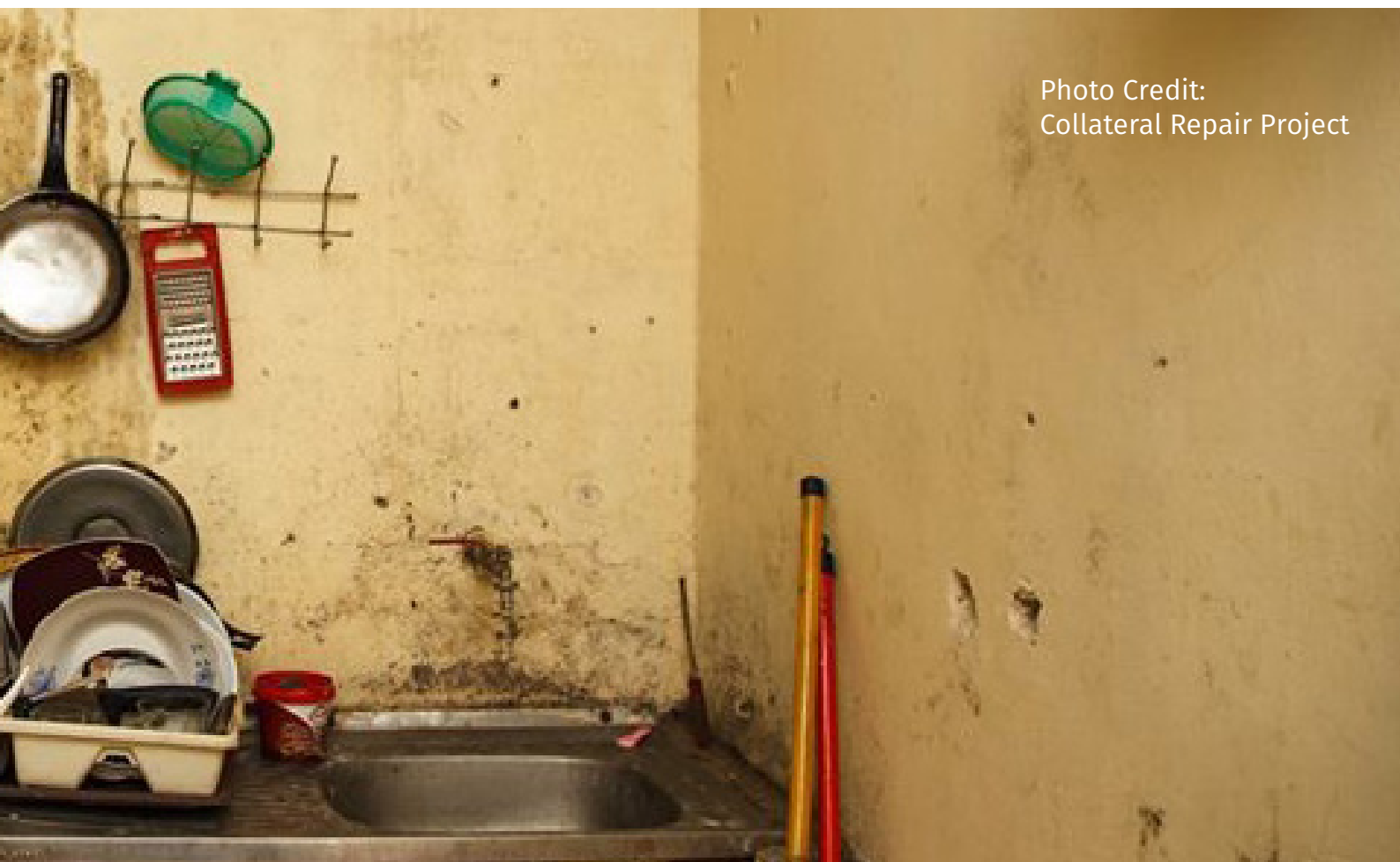
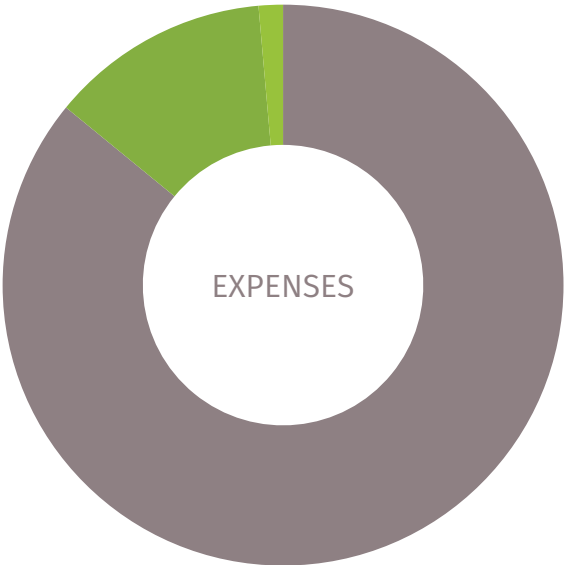


Photo Credit:
Collateral Repair Project

FINANCES

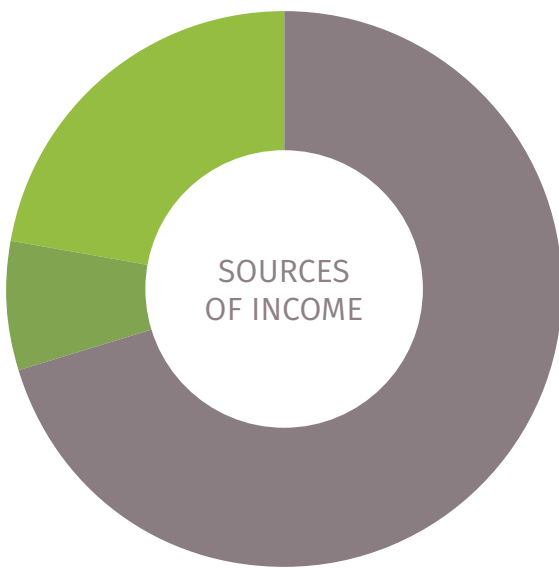
(APRIL 1, 2014 - MARCH 31, 2015)



■ 85% | PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
■ 13% | MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION
■ 2% | COST OF FUNDRAISING



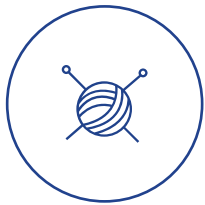
■ \$108,036 | EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
■ \$22,974 | COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMMING



| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| ■ | \$124,087 | ONE-TIME DONATIONS |
| ■ | \$13,237 | PARTNERS IN REPAIR-MONTHLY DONORS |
| ■ | \$39,044 | IN-KIND AND OTHER |



CRP BY THE NUMBERS:



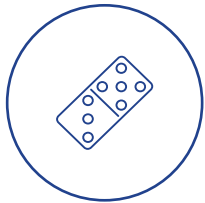
539

Hats knitted and sold by the 20 women in CRP's HOPE Workshop. 10% of sales went back to sustain the collective and buy materials, with the remainder going to individual crafters.



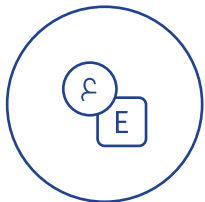
20

Girl Scouts ages 9-13 meeting weekly at CRP. The girls engage in activities ranging from drawing and crafting, first aid, cooking, and digital photography. The Scouts are mentored in teamwork, communication, and critical thinking.



15

men, on average, participating in weekly Sunday night **dominoes** sessions.



650

men and women attending **English classes** in 2014/2015.



80

children participating in **after school/homework club** every week.



5

Yoga classes offered at CRP each week.



9

CRP community members trained as **Yoga instructors.**



18

Sessions of **Trauma Release Exercise (TRE)** offered to refugees since this new program started in February, 2015.



30

CRP youth connected with **pen pals** at an elementary School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



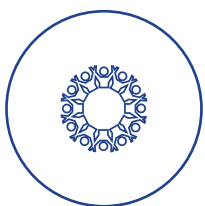
20

young men and women, on average, in CRP's **Weekly Teen Group.**



50

interns and international volunteers.



40

community volunteers.

MEET THE TEAM



Photo Credit: Sumaya Agah

ABU YUSEF

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR.

Abu Yousef is from Iraq, and began with CRP as a volunteer. He has a BA in English Literature and another in Political Science. He says that CRP is different from other organizations, “the staff know the people, they know the community, and we are in daily contact with them.” Abu Yousef says that CRP is a home away from his home in Iraq. However, “the job is difficult since the budget and the resources are limited. People always say to me that no one helps us except for CRP.” He looks forward to growing with CRP, reaching more people, and continuing to work as a family.

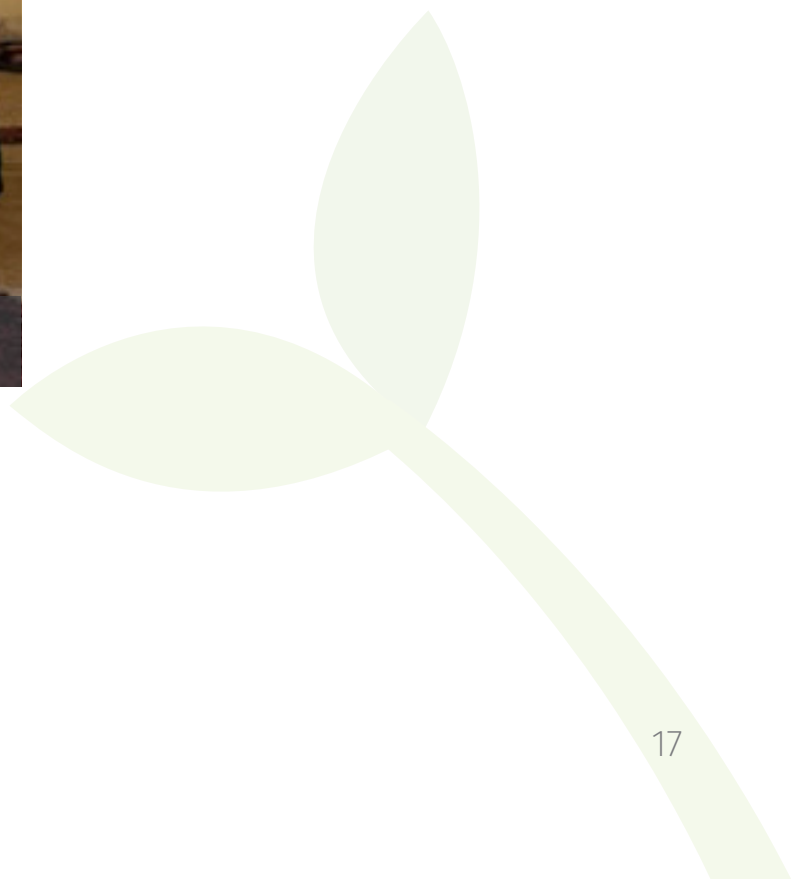




Photo Credit: Melinda Wells

SHATHA

PROGRAMS MANAGER.

Shatha is Palestinian Jordanian, and volunteered with CRP for two years before becoming a full-time Programs Manager in 2014. She says, "we are a team; we complement each other; and we work to make a difference." A former English teacher, Shatha says the spirit of cooperation, volunteerism and respect to all at CRP are values that she tried to instill in her students. She feels at home at CRP and wishes to increase the number of activities, the budget allocated for different programs, and space to accommodate more people and reach more families. Shatha says she particularly loves distribution days and "that mix of exhaustion at the end of a distribution and the feeling of satisfaction from a job well done."

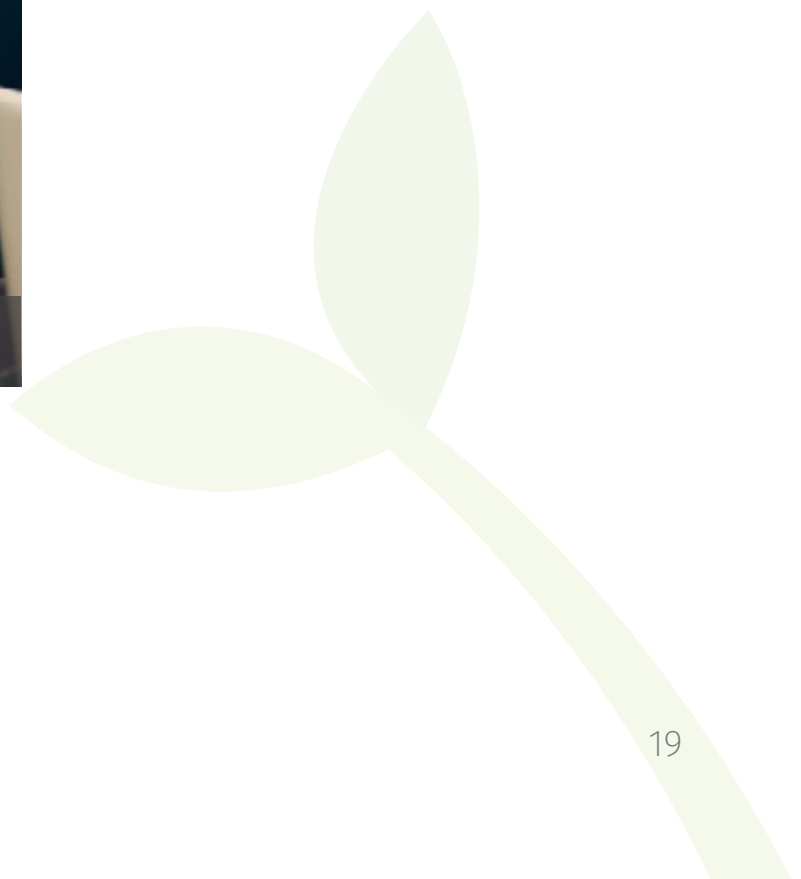


Photo Credit: Tali Jona

ABU NABIL

PROGRAMS MANAGER.

Abu Nabil was a lawyer in Syria who found CRP when he came to Jordan with his family two years ago. He became one of our Programs Managers at the end of 2014. He believes “CRP erases the sounds of the war and replaces them with knowledge and smiles.” Abu Nabil says CRP has exposed him to a wide variety of people, all treated equally regardless of their ethnic, religious, and political backgrounds. “I feel alive when I am working, whether it is following up on programs, meeting refugees, preparing aid lists, or distributing aid to those in need.” He says the most rewarding part of his work is the smile he sees on the faces of refugees and the thought that he contributed to it.





ABU ABDULLAH

FORMER PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Abu Abdullah has a degree in administration and economy from the University of Baghdad. He co-owned a business in Iraq until a severe security threat forced him to flee to Jordan with his family. He learned about CRP in 2007 when his mother and sister began volunteering there. Abu Abdullah became a volunteer in 2009. Through his work at CRP, he improved his English and became an indispensable part of the team, well-known and loved by his colleagues and the community. He believes CRP gives refugees hope for tomorrow by empowering them to lead themselves. Although Abu Abdullah and his family were resettled to the United States this year, he continues to contribute to CRP in important ways. He is a member of the Board of Directors, conducts regular mentoring sessions with CRP staff via Skype, and works to raise awareness of the refugee situation through speaking engagements and outreach in his new home. Abu Abdullah says "CRP was a home away from home for me and my family. It broadened my horizons, and gave me all the skills and experience to overcome negativity, turn it to positivity and to always have hope."

LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS

Abbie Taylor (President), Washington, D.C.

Monica Greco (Treasurer), Brooklyn, NY

Melinda Wells (Secretary), Amman, Jordan

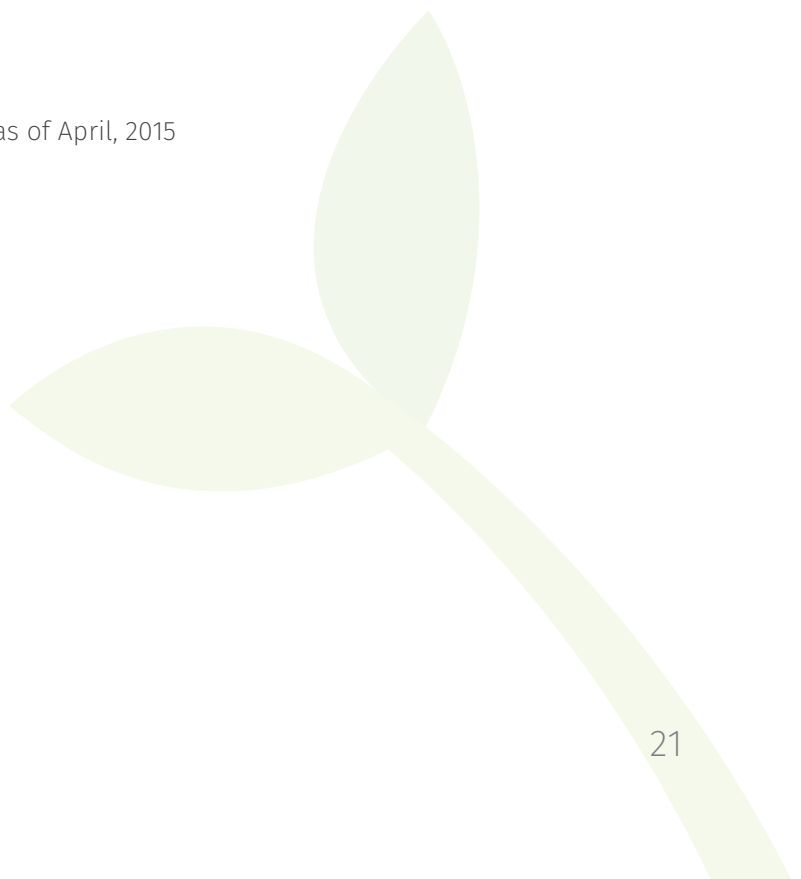
Amanda Lane (Executive Director), Amman, Jordan

Ghazwan Altaee, Dallas, TX

Rosemary Nuri, Framingham, MA

Tara Sutton, Toronto, Canada

*Board Members and Officers elected and ratified as of April, 2015



THANK YOU!

Thanks to all our supporters! We could not do this work without the ongoing support we receive from our donors, international and community volunteers.

Special thanks to our **Partners in Repair**, the monthly donors who help ensure a stable funding base for our programming throughout the year.

"The fact that refugees in Jordan cannot work and cannot put food on their table has really affected me. I take for granted the fact that I can feed my family. By making just a few smarter choices at the grocery store every week, I can easily donate what I save to CRP"

- Julie Swinehart, CRP Partner in Repair





/Collateral Repair Project



@crp_amman



/CRProject



/The Collateral Repair Project

Collateral Repair Project is a registered 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization in the United States providing emergency services and community programming to urban refugees in Jordan.

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**COLLATERAL
REPAIR PROJECT**

