



# ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

*Growing To Meet the Needs*





# COLLATERAL REPAIR PROJECT

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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.



# GROWING TO MEET THE NEEDS

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Greetings from Amman. Another year has passed and more people from Iraq and Syria have been forced to leave their homes and loved ones due to horrifying levels of violence and insecurity. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, by the end of 2015 Jordan was host to 664,100 refugees, mainly from Syria and Iraq. Jordan has the sixth-largest refugee population in the world. These refugees are waiting and hoping for conditions that will allow them to return home or rebuild their lives elsewhere.

The mission of Collateral Repair Project is to make life for refugees a little easier and more dignified. Despite the immense needs, overall funding for refugees in host countries like Jordan is decreasing. This means that Collateral Repair Project is needed more than ever. Your compassion and generosity allow us to step in and make a difference. Without your kindness and support last year, we would not have been able to send over 450 children back to school or provide food vouchers that put supper on the table for over nearly 11,000 people. You enabled us to run our bustling community center with programs that help people heal from their trauma while making new friends and learning new skills. For so many refugee families, CRP is a lifeline.

We take pride in the fact that many people come to us initially for emergency assistance but then stay on as volunteers. Most of our programs are led or supported by members of the CRP community. This active engagement helps combat the depression and hopelessness that often accompanies life for refugees. It also tells us that the programming we provide is valued and important to the community.

We are grateful for the institutional support we received this year. Grants from **Dining for Women** and **The Embassy of the Netherlands in Jordan** helped us establish long-term programs to teach and promote gender equality and women's leadership skills. Support from the **Zimmer Foundation** and the **Douglas A. Campbell Foundation** allowed us to reach more refugee families than ever with critical and timely emergency assistance.



Photo Credit: Annie Sakkab

**Road to Mafrag** and the **American Women of the Eastern Province** in Saudi Arabia have been crucial supporters to getting children in school who otherwise would have not made it into the classroom.

We are delighted to share with you a few of the highlights from the past year in this 2015/2016 Annual Report. A heartfelt THANK YOU from all of us at CRP, for the hope, love and solidarity that you provide through your continued support.

Sincerely,

Abbie Taylor  
Board President

Amanda Lane  
Executive Director



# EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The typical family that knocks on CRP's door has less than \$40 left to their name. They have rent to pay and a few hungry children to feed. Barred from working in Jordan, whatever resources they may have brought with them have quickly been depleted. They are truly living a nightmare. Within a day or two a staff member will visit a new refugee home to assess their needs and make sure they meet our eligibility criteria. Due to our small size and dynamic structure, CRP is able to very quickly provide relief in the form of food vouchers, household goods and fuel to families that qualify. The number one need of the refugees we see is food and shelter. For this reason, emergency assistance is the bedrock of CRP's work.

In 2015/16 the demand for food assistance increased dramatically due to cutbacks in support from large international aid agencies. The right kind of assistance when it is needed most is critical to preserving the dignity and well-being of refugee families.

To verify eligibility, CRP conducts home visits and interviews with potential beneficiaries and, where possible, cross-references their information with other aid organizations.

In 2015/2016, thanks to the generous support of our donors, and special emergency assistance grants from the **Zimmer Foundation** and the **Douglas A. Campbell Foundation**, CRP provided:

- Just under **11,000 Food Vouchers**;
- **320 Heaters** and almost **9,000 Fuel Vouchers**;
- **1240 Blankets**;
- Over **2,700 Health and Hygiene kits**.



# COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMS

At CRP, people come together in our busy, two-story community center to learn new skills, connect, and support each other. All of the programming at the center is volunteer-led — and many classes, including **English, Computer Skills, Yoga, and Health and Wellness**, are led by refugees or members of the local community.

We believe the second most important way to assist refugees, once they can meet their basic needs, is to support them to rebuild the sense of community that they have lost when they fled their homes.







*I have been in Jordan less than a year and am using the opportunity to learn new skills and improve. CRP has really helped us. It has helped us make new friends and it gives us something positive to do with our time. Like today. Because I have an English class at 10, I will make myself wake up at 9 and get out of the house. These activities give me a routine and structure to my day, which is something I need as a refugee.*



*I've been coming to the center for 2 years as I had heard a lot of good things about CRP. I attend a lot of different classes – some that are exercise for my body, others are exercise for my brain. As refugees we have a lot of stress and pressure, so having a place where we can come and talk to others helps us have some peace of mind. I came to Jordan with my wife from Syria. We had one daughter but she was killed in the war. . . Coming here, keeping busy, it at least gives us hope. You cannot do anything, you cannot live without hope. My hope is to live in security and safety, and if things get better I hope God will grace us with a child.*

This year we received two generous grants from the **Government of the Netherlands** and **Dining for Women**. These funds allowed CRP to expand our community programming in important and innovative ways in 2015/2016:

### **Women's Leadership Program Partner: Dining For Women**

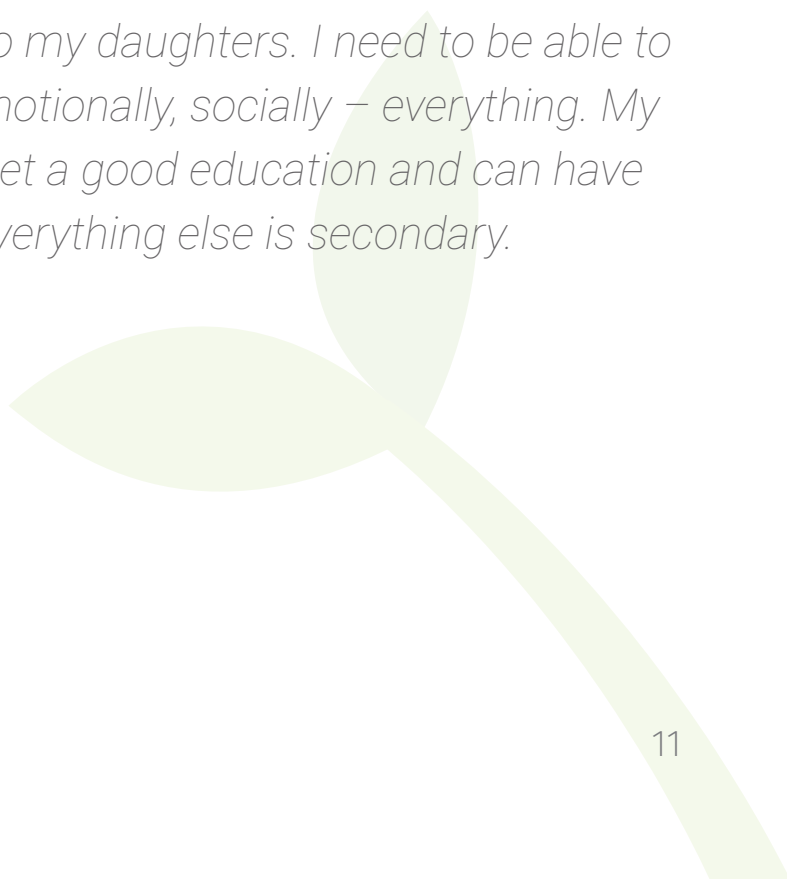
The Equipping and Empowering Female Leaders project reached **100 women** in the community. The program includes:

- leadership skills in order to encourage women to take active decision-making roles in the community and learn to advocate for themselves;
- psychosocial wellness through yoga, art therapy, and relaxation techniques;
- basic health and nutrition and how to choose the most nutritious food on a small budget.





*I have two daughters, aged 17 and 10 years old. I attend the women's empowerment sessions because I want to know what women's rights are, so that in the future if I encounter any related problems I know my rights. In Iraq we were in a state of war so I did not have the chance to know this stuff, but now I have the opportunity here at CRP. I think it will help with my daughters – I will be a teacher and role model for them at home so that they know the capabilities and rights of women. I am a widow so am currently a mother and father to my daughters. I need to be able to provide for them financially, emotionally, socially – everything. My dream is that my daughters get a good education and can have stability in their lives. Everything else is secondary.*



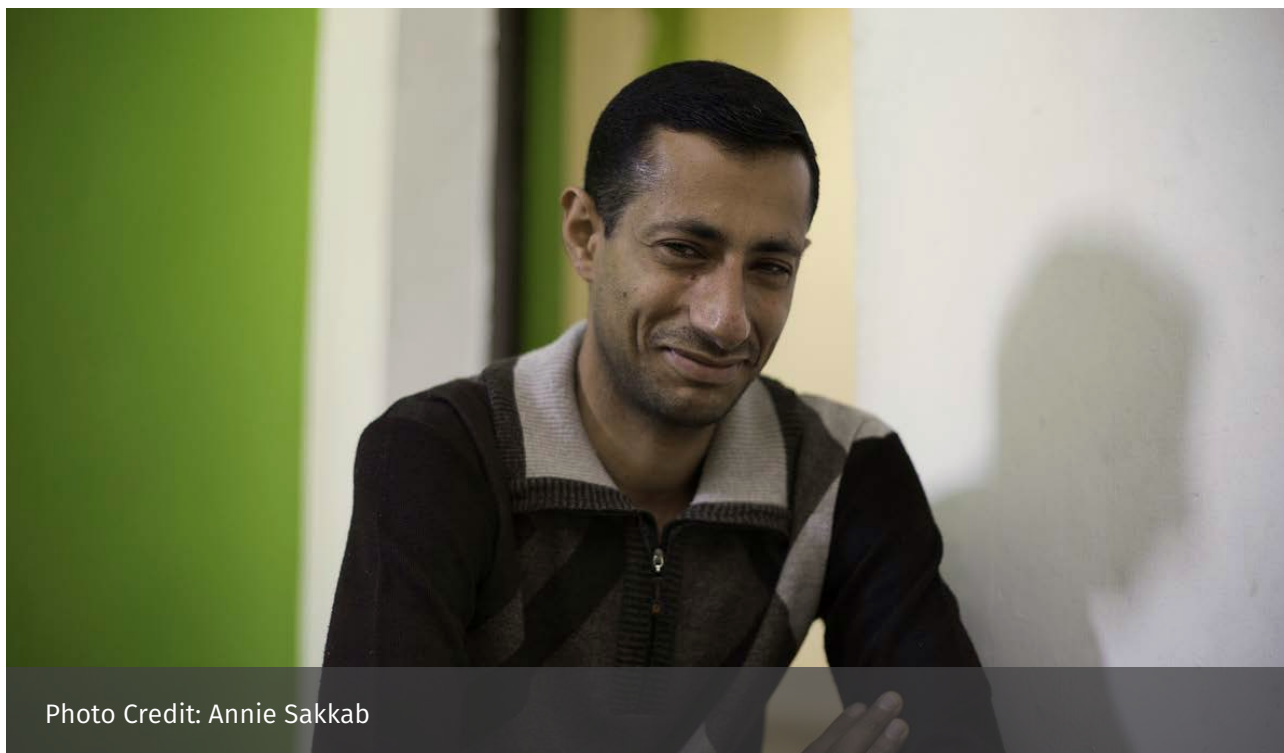


Photo Credit: Annie Sakkab

**Community Based Awareness Raising on Human Rights and Violence Prevention Partner: The Government of the Netherlands**

Human Rights Awareness and Domestic Violence Prevention among Urban Refugee Communities in East Amman was launched in September 2015 and has already engaged **75 women and men and 15 teens**. Experience tells us that our programming has the most impact when beneficiaries define the issues that they face, prioritize goals, and imagine possible solutions within the context of their lives and community. This community-based initiative is the first of its kind in Jordan and works to:

- build the capacity of CRP's staff and core volunteers to understand women's rights and effectively and professionally respond to families struggling with domestic violence. Our staff and volunteers come from the community and are therefore also important agents for community mobilization and change.
- promote peer-to-peer support strategies aimed at encouraging beneficiaries to help each other cope in a positive way with the many difficulties they face.
- raise awareness of the rights of women, men, boys and girls to live lives free of violence, by engaging adults and youth from the community in interventions that promote rights education and awareness, violence prevention, healthy relationships and wellness.





*I train people at CRP about how to prevent family violence. When I first began attending the sessions, the facts and information were all new to me personally and to many of the attendees. The classes generate a lot of discussion, and the whole class enjoys them as we share our perceptions, opinions, and problems with each other. We really need this--a place to share with others who may be going through similar issues--so we can benefit from each other.*



# CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Life as a refugee is full of challenges for children and youth. Children need education, safe places to play and engaging activities to keep their minds and bodies active. Teens need a space where their skills and contributions are valued and where they can get the support they need to learn and grow into leaders. Providing these things is a huge challenge for refugee parents struggling to put food on the table.

## **Programs for Children and Youth:**

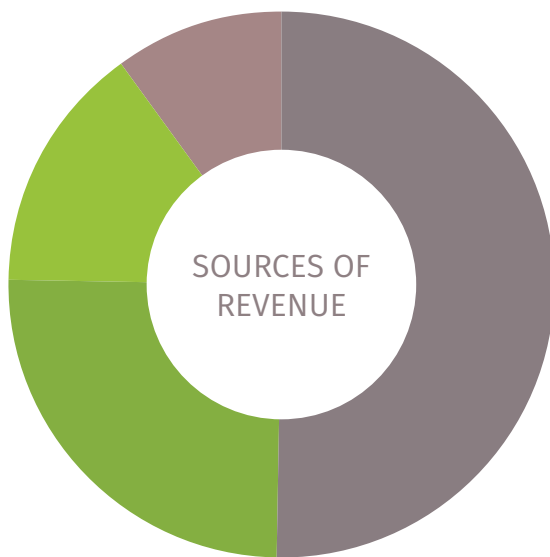
CRP offered financial support that was critical in getting **over 450 children into school** when their families were unable to cover the cost of uniforms and education materials. An average of 260 kids

per month participated in our daily **After School Programming** for children ages 6-12. **CRP's Girl Scout program** was attended by an average of 45 girls each month. Over **100 kids** attended our **weekend activities** every month.

On average, each month over **60 teens** attended our **Teen Group** in 2015/16. Teen Group members receive leadership training and plan their own activities and outings. They work hard to integrate newly arrived refugee teens into the group and into 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.

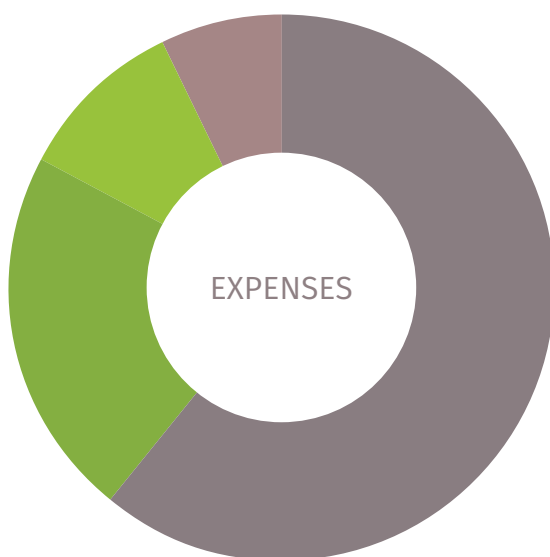


# FINANCES



\$191,142	One-Time Donors
\$95,610	Foundations and Grants
\$54,123	Monthly Donors
\$38,362	In-kind

Total  
\$379,238



\$196,006	Emergency Assistance
\$72,370	Community Center
\$31,353	Administration
\$21,969	Cost of Fundraising

Total  
\$321,699

# BOARD MEMBERS

- Abbie Taylor (President) Washington, D.C.
- Monica Greco (Treasurer) Brooklyn, NY
- Melinda Wells (Secretary) Ottawa, Canada
- Amanda Lane (Executive Director) Amman, Jordan
- Tara Sutton Toronto, Canada
- Ghazwan Altaee, Dallas, TX
- Rosemary Nuri (Board Member Emeritus) Framingham, MA



# THANK YOU!

Every day we see the difference CRP is making to the lives of the refugees in our community. 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! We have seen a great increase in our the monthly donors who help ensure a stable funding base for our programming throughout the year. We are grateful for your trust and support.

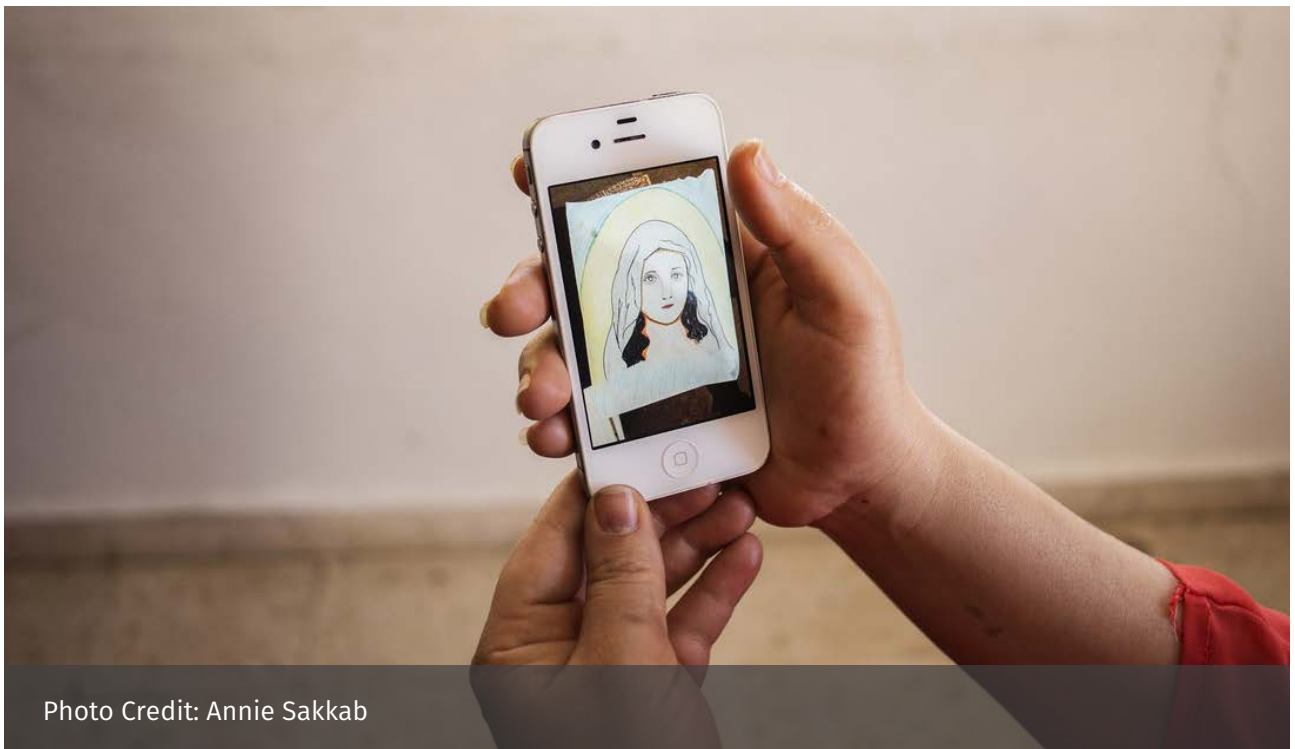


Photo Credit: Annie Sakkab



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/The Collateral Repair Project

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