

Situation

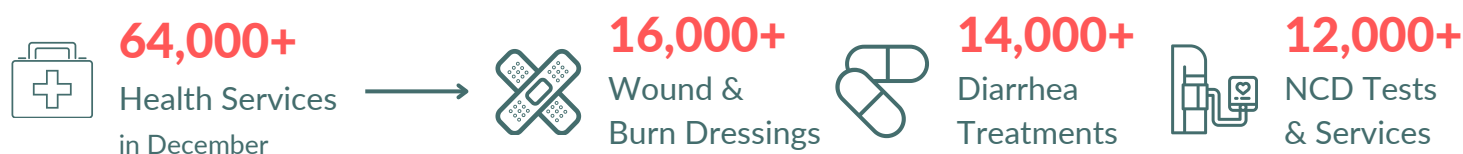
Since October 7, the war-ravaged Gaza Strip has witnessed devastating Israeli bombardment from air, land, and sea. As of the date of this report, attacks have resulted in the tragic loss of more than 22,000 Palestinian lives, including more than 9,200 children and 6,600 women, and injured more than 58,000, according to the Ministry of Health in Gaza. Up to 1.9 million people (over 85% of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip, majority of whom were forcibly evacuated to the South, an area first redeemed safe but now overcrowded and under fire. UNRWA school shelters, hosting thousands of displaced individuals beyond their capacities, are reporting detrimental conditions and lack of resources, exposing more than 1.4 million people to disease and illness. Lack of food and water is dire, as it is being reported that 9 out of 10 people in Gaza are not eating everyday and that 4 out of 5 people experiencing famine in the world are currently in Gaza. The healthcare system is almost completely collapsed and medications, medical services, and equipment are extremely scarce, with only five hospitals currently partially operating across the entire Gaza Strip. Day after day, the needs of the people of Gaza grow along with their catastrophic hunger, thirst, lack of shelter, and poor health, as humanitarian operations continue to face challenges due to bombings, blocked roads, scarcity of fuel, and limited communications. Tensions are also rising in the West Bank, where some 329 Palestinians have been killed since October 7, as raids, military closures, settler violence, clashes, and displacement are escalating.

Updates on Juzoor's Response in Gaza

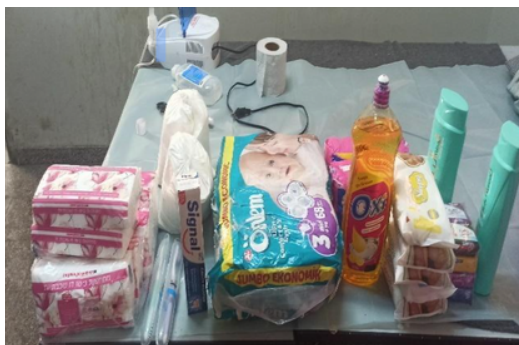
Expansion of Health Teams

Earlier in the war, Juzoor assembled health professionals, including doctors, nurses, and midwives, from among the displaced individuals and established health committees in shelters. These committees have been serving everyone in need, focusing on children, pregnant women, the elderly, people with NCDs, and wounded people, by offering health support and medical attention including wound and burn dressing. In response to the recent evacuations and bombings affecting many of shelters we oversee, our medical teams have had to adapt and cope with the evolving dynamics by restructuring the teams according to needs and mobilizing resources from less utilized shelters to those experiencing a high volume of injuries. The teams' scope of work has expanded to include surgical interventions such as stitches, the removal of foreign bodies, and intravenous infusions. Delivery rooms were established in some shelters, resulting in more than 30 successful deliveries facilitated by professional midwives through December. Furthermore, team members have started migrating to nearby shelters and communities, especially those that are enclosed, to provide services to those in need.

Health Services Conducted



In December alone, more than 64,000 health services were conducted by our health teams in shelters, including more than 16,000 wound and burn dressing services and more than 14,000 treatments for diarrhea. Our health teams have been conducting a variety of health services with the minimal equipment and supplies they have, including non-communicable disease care, skin disease management and administering Ventolin through inhalation for cases of respiratory distress. Antenatal care was also offered to pregnant women, some of whom received iron and folic acid supplements and most of whom received hygiene kits. In total, our teams have conducted nearly 110,000 health services in the period between October 20 to December 31.



Distribution of Supplies & Resources

Juzoor has been supplying shelters with supplies and consumables on a regular basis. Up until November, we had supplied more than 12,000 hygiene kits, 600 clean delivery kits, 2,000 cash vouchers, 350,000 bottles of water, and many emergency kits, medications, and food items to displaced people and families in shelters in the North. As of December, we have been receiving and distributing additional aid to shelters, clinics, hospitals, and our warehouse in Gaza. 24,000 water bottles were distributed to 7 shelters and clinics, 60 crates of ready-to-use milk (around 150,000 200mL cans) were distributed to 6 hospitals and clinics, and more than 350 boxes of ready-to-use therapeutic food and oral rehydration solution were distributed to 4 clinics. We have also received packages of medical supplies including at least 140,000 5mL and 3mL syringes, 20 first-aid kits, and boxes of gauze (at least 700 pieces), medical wraps (at least 67 pieces), IV solution, and various medical and humanitarian kits such as sterilization kits, obstetric kits, midwifery kits, and delivery kits. Juzoor continues to work with our global partners to supply shelters and the people of Gaza with the resources they need, focusing on medications and health necessities.

Initiating Vaccine Program

In November, Juzoor collaborated with the Palestinian Ministry of Health and UNICEF to plan for the initiation of a vaccination program in Gaza shelters. Early stages of this program are currently underway, as Juzoor's Gaza team organized a vaccine education and training session for 30 volunteers at Al-Awda Hospital. Additionally, a partnership agreement has been signed with the hospital, establishing a collaborative effort to work together with the trained team once vaccinations become accessible. Juzoor, with the help of UNICEF, MoH, and WHO, will ensure the implementation of a cold-chain monitoring system to maintain good quality and efficacy of vaccines by using solar-powered refrigerators to store these vaccines within a certain temperature range.



Psychosocial Support Program

Since the beginning of the war, Juzoor has implemented a comprehensive psychosocial support program tailored for individuals affected by the situation. The program focuses on creating a secure environment to help people, especially children, process emotions, develop resilience, and navigate the psychological impacts of war, and incorporates conducting creative arts interventions, psycho-education workshops, caregiver engagement, recreational activities, and capacity building.

Our trained professionals have been conducting group counseling sessions in shelters, addressing trauma and facilitating coping strategies. They have also distributed recreational kits to families in these shelters. Between November 15 and December 14, our teams successfully reached approximately 11,000 children through various activities. In recent weeks, efforts have expanded to target approximately 700 children daily, mainly in the South of Gaza. Notably, the program also emphasizes referrals, ensuring that individuals requiring specialized support are appropriately directed to additional resources. This multifaceted approach aims to holistically support the psychological and mental well-being of the people of Gaza.



Expanding Support Helpline

In the early stages of the war, Juzoor established an emergency helpline to provide essential primary healthcare and psychosocial support to the people of Gaza. The helpline encompassed first aid and psychosocial services and aimed to provide help for individuals unable to access medical care and those requiring urgent assistance. By dialing our toll-free number at [1800-500-600](tel:1800-500-600), individuals can connect with specialized professionals skilled in addressing calls and offering coaching support. The helpline has also extended its services to provide support for women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postnatal period, guiding them on the care and health of their children. To enhance accessibility, we've recently recruited more professionals to the helpline team and have extended the scope of work to address calls from the West Bank, which is now seeing an escalation of events and violence.

Juzoor's Emergency Preparedness Response in West Bank

In light of the situation, Juzoor has initiated an emergency preparedness plan for the West Bank, through which we offer training sessions for health professionals and volunteers across various locations in the West Bank in order to build the capacity of the healthcare system in place. Our team completed a Trauma & Disaster Team Response (TDTR) course for 25 participants at Al-Ahli Hospital in Hebron on December 26-27. Trauma and disaster preparedness are crucial in emergency contexts to appropriately manage trauma and reduce the long-term impact on the healthcare system. The TDTR course was developed by CGS-MUHC to provide healthcare professionals with the proper trauma management skills, including disaster response contexts, and includes didactic lectures, skill sessions, and team exercises.



We have also launched an ongoing program to train youth as first responders. The program focuses on Heartsaver First Aid, CPR, and AED skills, teaching participants to respond to emergencies like first aid situations, choking incidents, bleeding control, and sudden cardiac arrests. Two-day courses are designed for individuals with limited or no medical training who need a completion card for job or regulatory requirements. Successful participants receive a completion certificate valid for two years, contributing to a network of prepared first responders in the West Bank.



Gratitude to Global Partners and Urgent Appeal for Support

Juzoor's work would not be possible without the support and assistance of our global partners and supporting organizations. A heartfelt thank you is extended to UNICEF, Save the Children, Oxfam, Amplify Change, Caritas Germany, and IMC, among others, whose invaluable support has helped us carry out our most recent work (since early December) that's highlighted above.

While Juzoor has been actively addressing health issues across Gaza, the situation has reached a point of catastrophe. Our teams have been working tirelessly, even in extremely challenging conditions, including direct bombings, to ensure that essential medical supplies along with health and psychosocial support reach those in need. Nevertheless, the severity of the situation and the growing demands surpass our current resources.

Juzoor appeals to the international community and global humanitarian organizations and entities to continue to assist Juzoor on the ground in Gaza. Your support and collaboration have always been invaluable to us, and your contribution can have a substantial impact on alleviating the people of Gaza's suffering and saving their lives.

For additional details on Juzoor's response in Gaza, kindly visit our website where you can review earlier response reports, appeals, and ongoing projects.

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info@juzoor.org

