



# 2021

## ANNUAL REPORT

“With You, Life remains”

[www.caritas.org.lb](http://www.caritas.org.lb)



## Caritas And Lebanon **2021**

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    Caritas Lebanon

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# Message From The **President**

Dear Caritas family,

Over the years, you have experienced the splendor of working for the Lord in the service of others, especially those in need. Many of you have been playing a great and effective role in Caritas building blocks, helping us to reach where we are today. Today, we cannot but seek God's mercies and thank Him for His work through His Church; we cannot but chant with the Virgin Mary: "My soul glorifies the Lord.... His mercy extends from generation to generation".

"Who do they say that I am"? this was Jesus' question to his disciples in the area of Caesarea Philippi. Caesarea has vanished along with many empires throughout history, while the Church remains, standing tall in the face of the gates of Hell; and it will live over all challenges!

"Who do they say that I am?", a question that Jesus addressed to his disciples. He was not standing before them as an ordinary leader like all other leaders, but as a God who gave them life to complete His mission in the world. This is how we stand today, with regards to Caritas Lebanon, the Church's social apparatus, to ask ourselves, each one, from his own position and responsibility: what does distinguish Caritas as a charity association in this society? If we do not have the answer, then, we have lost our identity and lost our way. Then, we will dissolve into the material world, and we will drown in

anxiety in search of who will ensure our continuity.

**What distinguishes Caritas, is that it acts in the name of Jesus, and only for Him; it seeks his presence in the moaning of those who are suffering, and in the faces of the poor and the marginalized. Caritas works in the name of the Church and completes what Jesus, who is always present, started. Jesus inspires us; He gives strength to all those working for Him. Jesus prayed on the night of his Passion: "My prayer is not that you take them out of the world, but to protect them from the evil one". This is how Caritas seeks to be present in this world, all over the country, within the universal Church, and with the international community, to serve the poor with all its might.**

**Caritas feels the needs of people, especially those who suffer in silence, far from the eyes of others, except those who are close to them on the ground; and who is more knowledgeable than Caritas in these matters? Yes, Lebanon is a small country and receives a lot of aid, but there is a lack of coordination between the associations on the ground. Caritas is here, to work objectively on both local and international levels, in all the projects it implements, and through its various activities all over the Lebanese territory. Caritas is present thanks to your efforts as heads of sectors who reflect the volunteering face of Caritas; it is present through your ethics as workers in the Caritas departments.**

**You know the needs of the people who come and knock on our door.**

**We said to His Holiness, that we have doubled our aids, but the number of people knocking on our door is very large, and we cannot help everyone. Should we remain silent? of course not. Rather, we will do everything in our power to complete our journey.**

Internationally, we have opened channels of communication with the ambassadors and donors as well as with the Lebanese expatriates; we are very grateful to all the dioceses that are helping us, and to those organizing meetings here and there enabling us to show our brothers in the diaspora the importance of their work and to highlight the difference they are making when supporting us.

A head of state once asked Mother Teresa, "Can you feed the poor?" She replied, "Maybe I can, but I cannot help the rich feel satiated." Our work, brothers, is not based only on making the poor feel satiated, but on giving the opportunity to many people to do good, and training hearts to be sensitive to people's needs and pain. This is what we are doing with the Caritas youth, the dynamic face of Caritas, the pump of life at every corner; we are creating a generation that knows God and sees Him in the face of every human being, thus building a civilization of love, not only for the future but for the present as well.

We do not only want to help the poor, we also want to help people deepen their spirituality of love for the poor, by delving into God's word and love. People are hungry for God's word. Still, people are knocking on our doors seeing in us a source of aid

only. Our duty is to help them get to know God. We want to go to heaven together. "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God".

Caritas rules and regulations ensure that its role is not limited to feeding people and to social work, but rather to reviving their social sense and urging associations to work together; this is what we seek through full coordination with local, ecclesiastical and international associations.

Jesus prayed for his disciples: "My prayer is not that you take them out of the world, but to protect them from the evil one." So, we have to be global. Although Caritas is an association of the Church, it is working hard to reach the international level; at the administration level, we have done it, by creating a structure in line with international frameworks. We have established and strengthened the oversight departments in the association to guarantee further transparency, and comfort for everyone who participates and works with us.

The new poor are knocking on the door of Caritas... Tens of thousands of people, who lack various basics, come to us for help... Can we meet all their needs? We say it plainly: No, we can't at this hour; this is why we are raising our voice and asking for help. We have strengthened all our previous programs and added a lot to them. God has been with us during the past fifty years, and He will be present forever. We will not fear the challenges lying ahead; we will continue the journey, because God, who gave us strength fifty years ago, will not take it away from us today.

We hold on tightly  
**to our hope  
and faith.**







# Introduction

## **We hold on tightly to our hope and faith.**

Hard times... difficulties... still, we hold on tightly to our hope and faith! This is the main reason behind the creation of Caritas Lebanon and its humanitarian mission; a mission that it launched and will keep generation after generation!

Since its foundation in 1972, Caritas' journey in Lebanon has been marked by a "message of hope" for every vulnerable, sick and oppressed person. Today, more than ever, CL is making tremendous efforts to restore human dignity for prisoners, migrants, children, adults, women, men, sick and outcast! It is fighting against all kinds of social exclusion and discrimination, and is seeking to spread the spirit of solidarity among people, despite all the hardships and crises afflicting the country.

## **A year of extraordinary efforts in the face of major challenges.**

Alike the previous two years, the past twelve months were hard and far from normal for all citizens; economic,

financial, health, social and living levels were all affected.

Year 2021 ended with an exchange rate of about 27,000 Lebanese pounds, with peaks of 30,000 at moments, resulting in a 40% inflation rate and a gradual lifting of subsidies leading to an unbelievable rise in the prices of fuel, medicines, bread and foodstuffs. Repercussions on the daily life of citizens proved catastrophic at a time when Lebanon is suffering a financial collapse, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the aftermath of the Beirut Port blast in 2020; all this is added to the difficult global economic situation.

In summary, concern, fear and signs of despair prevailed over the citizens, whose only objective became to obtain a bag of milk, a bottle of oil and a pack of bread. People had to experience again the humiliation of queues at the doors of banks and gas stations, in front of bakeries, pharmacies, and supermarkets; they had to undergo the long hours of waiting in front of the General Security centers to obtain passports; they had to face death

at hospital doors... Despite all this, no practical measures were taken to prevent any further deterioration in the health, nutrition, social and economic situation and to protect the needy families and the most vulnerable women and children.

According to the World Bank report, "The scale and scope of Lebanon's deliberate depression are leading to [...] a collapse of the most basic public services; [...] and mass brain drain. Meanwhile, the poor and the middle class, who were never well served under this model in the first place, are carrying the main burden of the crisis."

The Economic Monitor for Lebanon report estimated that "the real GDP fell 10.5 percent in 2021, following a recession of 21.4 percent in 2020."

## **Serving others with Love**

In light of this reality, an increasing number of Lebanese are knocking on the doors of the multiple Caritas Lebanon centers spread all over the country; their purchasing power eroded, their ability to secure their most basic needs waned, and their mental health significantly deteriorated.

Born to serve the human being, Caritas is keen, through its emergency and

immediate assistance programs, its social assistance budget, and the donor-supported programs, to help and assist thousands of families in need with regards to health and psychological support, and social, educational and developmental assistance.

In this context, Caritas Lebanon's health and nursing staff continue to provide free primary health services in CL centers all over the Lebanese regions; it is also helping through its Medical Mobile Units that provide basic medical examinations and medicine for chronic diseases, for children, elderly, women and girls over 12 years. And recently, CL offered assistance in hospital expenses.

Caritas Lebanon achieved more than 89 projects, of more than \$20 million all over Lebanon. Its programs targeted the most vulnerable, including children, elderly, refugees, displaced and migrants, with all kinds of social services such as food rations to hundreds of thousands of people, financial assistance to the neediest, rehabilitation of damaged houses in the vicinity of the Port blast, shelters for those who lost their homes, emergency financial aid, psychosocial support and follow-up on the needs of the victims of the Beirut Port blast.



In light of the economic and living crises, namely the existential and belonging crises that Lebanon is witnessing, pushing more than 200,000 competent and skilled young men and women to emigrate, Caritas Lebanon's assistance went beyond its conventional services; it helped in sustainable development and securing job opportunities that allow people to invest their potential in agricultural cooperatives, food processing centers, rural projects, and other humanitarian and social enterprises.

With regards to education, Caritas Lebanon has four centers for people with learning difficulties in Fghal (Byblos), Dahr El Sawan (Mount Lebanon), Zahle (Beqaa) and Lebua (South), benefiting more than 300 students in primary and intermediate classes. CL schools adopt an inclusive program for autistic and children with special needs, children with learning difficulties, hearing impaired and others. Caritas contributes to 80% of the education cost of children who are followed by a specialized educational team. Afterwards, students are enrolled in a vocational training on several disciplines, including culinary art, candle making, ceramic art, and others.

On the other hand, the Caritas Lebanon

Protection Department - Refugees and Migrants continues to provide various types of social, legal and medical services to refugees and migrant workers, regardless of their race or religion, with the aim of legally protecting them, given the increasing number of cases of trafficking in persons, and the large number of migrants coming from Asian and African countries. Since some of them, namely domestic workers, experience problems, such as having their identification documents withheld, being deprived of communicating with their families abroad, deprivation of wages, physical, sexual and mental abuse.

For this purpose, Caritas established 4 safe houses to protect migrant workers and victims of trafficking in persons, and a community center offering recreational and cultural activities for migrants. In addition, Caritas also has the "Beit Aleph" center specialized in fostering and educating children of migrants and refugees.

Furthermore, it organizes awareness-raising meetings for migrants with regards to their rights and duties and the danger of trafficking in persons. Thus, it has become a reference for communities in such cases.

Caritas Lebanon's work does not stop

there. It holds continuous meetings with the Ministry of Labor, embassies and relevant authorities to improve the living and working conditions of migrants; it launched several advertising campaigns to raise awareness about their rights, to build a society capable of accommodating, receiving and embracing everyone and abolishing the sponsorship (Kafala) system which it hopes will be reconsidered.

Caritas Lebanon spared no effort to provide primary services and assistance all over the country through its regional sectors that play a key role in the organization, being the only body able to conduct social work by the Catholic Church. The sector is the link between the HQ and the rest of the Lebanese regions. They are the ones to attract the beneficiaries who wish to obtain support through the various social programs of Caritas. Social workers and program officers work on a daily basis to deliver services to individuals and families alike, with the aim of reducing the effects of poverty, fighting hunger and enhancing access to education and medical services. They work in coordination with other programs in line with the national commitment to the objectives of sustainable development. The social department plans and implements

programmed activities. The sectors' boards plan and implement theirs as well, in collaboration with the HQ through the coordination between the heads of sectors and the sectors coordinator who supervises their work and activities, and encompasses the establishment of a constructive communication with civil and pastoral bodies in the regions, execute the administrative memoranda and programs issued by the HQ, and follow up on the financial and social conditions of beneficiaries. Technical, financial and moral support is given to these sectors to attract local financing aimed at local development and reducing rural exodus.

The sectors' activities are mainly implemented by the Caritas "dynamo", Caritas Lebanon Youth is a volunteer group that serves the community and is ready at any moment to stand by the people through thick and thin. They are always ready to serve everyone in need of help of any kind through distributing: food, medicine, hot meals, baby formula, diapers and personal items for adults and children, in addition to carrying out developmental activities and rehabilitation works, cleaning and painting homes that lack the minimum health conditions, and activities dedicated for all: children, youth and elderly.



## The “new poor” and the urgent need to involve the Lebanese diaspora

Caritas Lebanon is a link between the local people who are in need, and those with better means living locally and abroad. Today, more than ever, it is in dire need of the support of all benefactors in light of the great increase of needs in Lebanon, especially that many previous benefactors turned into help seekers, or “new poor”, after their purchasing power decreased significantly.

Some people are dying at home because they are unable to bear the costs of hospital fees. There are patients who do not take their medicines because of the outrageous prices, their poverty and deprivation; and there are families who are unable to pay the school fees for their children!

Hence, CL relies on the Lebanese diaspora energy all over the world, to help it continue its humanitarian mission and confront the crises hitting the country, and thus serve the people, meet all their emerging needs and provide all kinds of assistance: food, hospital expenses, medical, educational, social, and developmental aids.

In the midst of these ongoing activities and fundraising campaigns, the Programs and Business Development team works to provide every support to the poor and offer benefactors the opportunity to do good, the Media and Communications Department team strives to highlight CL work and humanitarian goals through its online platforms, social media and conventional audio-visual and print media outlets, drafts statements, news and materials related to its activities and work.

The team also built the Caritas Lebanon website to broadcast the HQ and sectors news and activities. It is currently working on developing an integrated media strategy covering audio-visual, print and electronic media.

In conclusion, CL extends its thanks and appreciation to all its partners and supporters, and extends its gratitude for all their support in its humanitarian mission, especially in light of these difficult times. Without them, it would not have been able to stand by the citizens and continue to provide its services, while everything else around is collapsing.

## Partners and Donors

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Caritas Health Department  
consists of

**10 PHCCs**  
**9 MMUs**

distributed  
throughout  
Lebanon

# 1. Health Department



One of the most dangerous repercussions of the Lebanese crisis is the one the health system is undergoing: scarcity of fuel, medicines and basic medical supplies, migration of a large segment of the medical staff, decline in the ability of citizens to obtain health care or bear hospital costs, to name a few.

Still, despite all the challenges and obstacles it faced, Caritas Lebanon centers were ready to receive and support all those seeking help. At all times, and at the different stages of the crisis, the CL medical staff were present to provide a variety of different primary health care services free of charge to all citizens without discrimination. Medical campaigns, primary health care centers and MMUs were all mobilized to serve the citizens everywhere.

MMUs distribute medicines and provide on-the-spot medical examinations and laboratory tests for those who cannot reach hospitals or pay the medical fees or laboratory tests; PHC centers offer vaccination services, dental services, physical therapy and psychological follow-up; CL also endeavored to provide secondary health care services through covering part of the hospital bills with a budget estimated at 1.5 billion Lebanese pounds; CL medical outlets also provide long-term and continuous support to patients of all ages: infants, children, adults, elderly,....

Currently, Caritas Health Department consists of 10 Primary Health Care Centers (PHCC) and 9 Mobile Medical Units (MMU) distributed throughout Lebanon; they provide the following services:

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Medical examinations      | 9. Distribution of masks                                 |
| 2. Distribution of medicines | 10. Dental Care  |
| 3. Psychomotor therapy       | 11. Life Saving Services                                 |
| 4. Nursing care              | 12. Medical campaigns                                    |
| 5. Speech therapy            | 13. COVID-19 response                                    |
| 6. Diagnostic tests          | 14. Educational and awareness sessions                   |
| 7. Physiotherapy             | 15. School health programs                               |
| 8. Vaccination               | 16. Mental health services (psychiatry, psychology, PSS) |

Lebanese facing multidimensional poverty passed from

**42 to 82%**  
**between**  
**2019 & 2021.**

## 2. Social Department



Although more than a year has passed since the Beirut port blast, the residents of the capital are still struggling to put an end to socio-economic repercussions it has cast on them.

Furthermore, the escalation of the economic crisis led to an increase in poverty, inflated prices and a limited access to basic services such as electricity, water, food and health, and to the erosion of their purchasing power. The daily burden for both Lebanese and non-Lebanese residents all over the country became unbearable.

According to a recent United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) study, the percentage of Lebanese facing multidimensional poverty passed from 42 to 82 % between 2019 and 2021.

In the same context, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) indicated that more than one million Lebanese need assistance to cover their basic needs and the World Food Program declared that one of four people in Lebanon needs food assistance.

These facts prompted CL to adopt an emergency intervention and launch nationwide projects of food distribution, milk and diapers for children, and basic aid, shelter and protection services to the neediest communities.

The Beirut blast response team continued to implement various social projects in its designated area of work and in places where it has social centers, providing:

- Multipurpose cash assistance
- Basic assistance for the poorest households
- Social support
- Distribution of milk and diapers
- Winterization: financial and in-kind support
- Distribution of foodstuffs
- Distribution of hygiene kits
- Distribution of hot meals
- Distribution of solar energy power banks



## 3. Development and Livelihood **Department**

Within the framework of its national strategy, the Development and Livelihood Department aims to support local economic growth and market in order to preserve job opportunities and generate income through:

- Promoting micro, small and medium enterprises and increasing productivity and competitiveness
- Empowering vulnerable communities by providing them with technical and personal skills to meet the current needs of the labor market
- Supporting local development initiatives and rural communities by initiating and supporting agriculture and agrifood projects a special focus on solar energy projects.

Caritas Lebanon Livelihood and

Development Department is a member of the Livelihood, Sector, Cash for Work, Shelter, Social Stability and Food Security Working Groups.

Caritas Lebanon coordinates with several stakeholders such as the Federations of municipalities, local and international NGOs, CBOs and CSOs working with people at risk, and UN agencies in the field of implementation. It also nurtures excellent relations with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and the private sector, in order to adequately promote livelihood and economic opportunities.

The Development and Livelihood Department provides the following services:

- Distribution of non-food items (sanitary items, mattresses, bedding items and ventilation fans to the people affected by the explosion)
- Support for small and medium enterprises
- Rehabilitation of shelters and schools for migrants
- Rehabilitation of semi-free schools
- Rehabilitation of homes damaged by the Beirut blast
- Rehabilitation of small and medium enterprises affected by the Beirut blast
- Cash for activities
- Youth empowerment
- Rehabilitation of social housing buildings
- Improvement of the social, economic and cultural capacities of municipalities and federations of municipalities
- Support to NGOs and faith-based organizations in meeting the urgent needs of poor communities

## Projects

The Development and Livelihood Department projects had an excellent echo among beneficiaries; it worked on building alliances for progress, development and local investment- BALADI Program; Beirut Blast Emergency Response Program-DART; Hand in Hand for an Integrated Social

Protection and Enhanced Livelihood; Rehabilitation of Caritas social housing buildings; reducing the Direct Economic Downturn on Vulnerable Communities in Lebanon: UNDP; contributing to improving the living conditions of Syrian refugees and the poorest Lebanese in the Bekaa and Mount Lebanon - Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ Livelihood); rehabilitation of damaged houses or the Beirut Blast - Red Helmets; responding to the Beirut explosion through the restoration of homes and shops EA21/2020-Y2; financial support to the commercial shops damaged by the Beirut blast and the repercussions of the Covid-19 crisis - BAHIA.

## Project activities and results

### **Building alliances for progress, development and local investment - Baladi Program:**

The concept of the project is to encourage municipalities to participate in the formulation of development projects and to push NGOs and citizens to unify their efforts in order to achieve local development.

Baladi's projects fall into the following areas: agriculture and agro-processing,

sustainable and renewable energy, sports centers, equipment provision, recreational and multi-purpose facilities, and eco-tourism.

A total budget of \$ 14,649,561 was set for this program, with 88.9 % spent by the end of 2020 for 23 projects, benefiting 47,265 beneficiaries through 23 municipalities or federation of municipalities.

The projects covered 13 districts (cazas): Metn, Baabda, Aley, Hermel, Baalbek, Zahle, Western Bekaa, Rashaya, Hasbaya, Nabatiyeh, Marjeyoun, Bint Jbeil and Saida.

### **Emergency Multisectoral Humanitarian Response to the Beirut Blast - DART:**

The emergency response project targeting the Beirut blast area was divided into two components:

#### **Basic and health assistance:**

The project started on September 4, 2020 and ended on December 3, 2021. An amount of \$2,400,000 was funded by USAID to implement the project, the purpose of which being:

- The distribution of sanitary supplies, mattresses and bedding supplies
- The distribution of ventilation fans to affected households

It is noteworthy that the total number of assisted households increased from the original target of 1,414 to more than 10,000; 7,700 individuals received the necessary health assistance.

### **The Hand in Hand for integrated social protection and enhanced livelihood project:**

This \$10,77,365 project is funded by Caritas Switzerland and covered the period from July 2020 to June 2022.

It contributes to the sustainable poverty reduction of vulnerable host communities and refugees in Lebanon through:

- The renovation of social buildings owned by Caritas Lebanon in Dekwaneh
- Cash for work
- Productive job opportunities for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese.

The number of individuals assisted through cash-for-work reached: 74 Lebanese households (370 individuals), 120 refugee households (600 individuals), and 30 Lebanese households with experienced workers (150 individuals).

Caritas Lebanon is building on similar experiences of cash-for-work projects in order to replicate its success in the Hand in Hand project.

### **Reducing the Direct Economic Downturn on Vulnerable Communities in Lebanon:**

This project was funded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and aims to support vulnerable people who have lost their livelihood, through supporting targeted cooperatives that respect the preventive guidelines for the response to COVID-19. The purpose is to increase their productivity and local production capacity in the sectors required to manage the crisis such as agriculture, food production and the production of personal protective equipment and disinfectants.

The main objective of this project is to give cash-for-work for vulnerable Syrian and Lebanese beneficiaries through activities requiring hard work and productivity.

### **Improving the living conditions of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese in the Bekaa and Mount Lebanon - Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ:**

This project was funded by Caritas Germany for a period of 22 months, extending from May 2018 to April 2021. The main objective is cash-for-work for Syrian and Lebanese beneficiaries through the rehabilitation of 19 semi-free schools.

Short, medium and long-term employment opportunities for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese communities are supposed to improve the living conditions of this target group in the Bekaa and Mount Lebanon.

### **Rehabilitation of houses damaged by the Beirut blast - Red Helmets:**

In response to the 4th of August Beirut blast, in which more than 300,000 housing units were destroyed or damaged, this project was funded by Hungary Helps association (1 million euros) and by Caritas Germany (805,000 euros). It started in August 2020 and ended in January 2021. 1845 housing units were rehabilitated in the Beirut blast area.

### **Response to the Beirut explosion EA21/2020-Y2:**

Caritas partners offered the amount of \$54.649,607 to fund the project for the period extending from September 2021 to March 2022. The response targets vulnerable groups affected by the blast in both Beirut and Mount Lebanon. 645 beneficiaries and 50 affected SMEs received multi-purpose cash assistance. In addition, 1,000 medical services were provided, along with 56 diagnostic tests and 4,315 medications.





**Rapid response to control the COVID-19 spread and mitigate its multidimensional effects on the humanitarian crisis in Lebanon - BAHIA:**

This project was funded by Caritas Belgium with €603,053 for a period of 11 months from February 2021 to December 2021.

It included awareness sessions on COVID-19, mental health, psychosocial support, and distribution of hygiene kits. Small grants were offered to small enterprises so that they resume their activities. In-kind food items were also distributed to beneficiaries to help them meet their basic needs and help individuals in quarantine.

**Health support through in-kind distribution to the population in the Beirut blast affected areas:**

Caritas Poland funded the project with \$93,458,144 for a period of 6 months: from October 2021 to March 2022. The objective of this project is to distribute food kits for 1,000 families having children aged 0 to 3 years, food kits for 2,000 families having children aged 1 to 3 years, and hygiene kits for 1,717 households having elderly and women's hygiene kits for 3,000 households in the Beirut area.

## Challenges

As a result of the COVID-19 spread and the economic crisis in Lebanon, the payment process and the workflow took a long time to be completed due to the devaluation of the currency. The majority of the officers in charge of the project had to work from home, thus delaying the direct contact with work plans, pricing and the purchasing process, and delaying the implementation of different projects.

## Future projects

A project to create sustainable job opportunities for youth in Lebanon, funded by the Novo Nordisk Foundation in cooperation with Caritas Switzerland and Caritas Denmark, with a funding of \$ 1,751,022.43 extending from March 2022 to April 2024.

The objective of this project is to support and train 660 young people (50% Lebanese and 50% Syrian) aged 18 to 30 and 130 small and medium-sized enterprises in Beirut, Bekaa and Mount Lebanon, to be able to secure productive, well-paid work in the following sectors: Agriculture / Agricultural business, light construction and information and communication technology.

## 4. Specialized Education Department Through the Humanitarian Centers

Caritas Lebanon strives to achieve a comprehensive educational system that enables all children, regardless of their ability, background or belief, to achieve their aspirations, providing them with greater opportunities to learn, just like their peers.

The organization tackles different levels; formal education: basic through secondary education, vocational education and training, and non-formal education starting with out-of-school children (OOSC), after-school support programs to assist with the homework (HWS), basic literacy and numeracy services for children / basic literacy and numeracy services for young people. The Education Department seeks to support children with physical

disabilities/or intellectual learning difficulties so that they obtain equal opportunities to learn and work to build a sustainable future for them.

Caritas educational programs are designed to provide education for vulnerable children aged 3 to 18 and facilitate their academic progress; and the development of literacy, numeracy and life skills by offering the appropriate learning environment through an Individualized Education Plan. Educators, psychologists and psychomotor therapists at Caritas resort to a special curriculum and teaching methods to help students grow and lead fulfilling lives in which they explore their full potential. Every year, Caritas Lebanon helps

around 350 beneficiaries acquire social and professional skills. They also participate in various activities, awareness sessions and workshops, such as gardening, cooking, preparing chocolate, decorating candles, mosaics and ceramics.

It is noteworthy that Caritas Lebanon has four educational centers, one in the Bekaa, two in Mount Lebanon and one in the South:

1. HOPE's two centers - Bhersaf center and Beit Georgette and Hanna Romanos center in Libaa cater for students with learning difficulties, and children with disabilities, mild intellectual disabilities, mild autism spectrum disorder, and behavioral problems.

2. The Patriarch Sfeir Center - Zahle team works with students with learning disabilities under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. It also caters for students with hearing impairment and others with intellectual disabilities under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs.

3. Mar Sassine Fghal Center is a vocational school that cooperates with the Ministry of Social Affairs, caters for students with the Down syndrome and severe mental/intellectual disorders (children and adults).

Caritas Lebanon has around 100 teachers, therapists, social workers, psychomotor therapists, speech therapists and special coordinators, all of whom ensure that vulnerable children receive specialized support and individualized education that meets their needs.

Caritas Lebanon's education initiatives are designed not only to prevent early dropout, delinquency and child labor, but also to help students achieve academic and personal success. Nearly 41,000 children and 45,000 parents and caregivers have benefited from Caritas Lebanon's programs, which provide academic, financial, social and professional support.

At the international level, besides the partnerships amongst the Caritas Confederation member organization, CL has woven multiple partnerships with UN agencies, for example:

1. UNHCR: Refugee Protection Project in Mount Lebanon, Bekaa, North and South Lebanon, since 2015.

2. Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood- Kindermissionswerk: After-school support program in Bourj Hammoud and Dekwaneh

Caritas partners have been providing support to Caritas Lebanon over the years, in addition to providing different



types of support including capacity building:

1. Capacity building to strengthen protection and feedback/complaint mechanisms (Trócaire)
2. Capacity building for the Protection Department to provide training for staff (Caritas Austria)

Caritas Lebanon also signed various memoranda of understanding with government ministries, such as:

1. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education MEHE: accreditation to implement non-formal education, and work in private education centers.
2. The Ministry of Social Affairs: to provide 50% of tuition fees for students with special needs attending Caritas Lebanon schools.

Caritas Lebanon believes that every child should receive quality education regardless his identity, his place of residence or his family's financial situation; it seeks to involve refugees and help them access educational services through specific programs that enhance their learning and directly respond to their needs.

The services provided are the following:

- Identify children with educational needs and refer them to formal and non-formal education
- TVET Training

- Foreign Language Programs
- Educational awareness
- Specialized Services
- Support to enrolment in schools
- Coverage of transportation costs
- Follow-up with the family regarding attendance and dropping out
- Community commitment and awareness sessions
- Cash program and provision of educational material and others
- Support with homework
- Building the capacity of teachers
- NFE Supplies/Special Equipment

Caritas Lebanon targets a wide variety of beneficiary groups, including the host communities, refugees, asylum seekers, Palestinians, migrants and people with special needs. It does not discriminate between nationalities in terms of providing services and activities; target groups are assisted according to their needs within the aid and services that fall within all program areas.

With regards to educational projects, CL targets children who have dropped out of school, refugees (Syrians, registered Palestinians, Lebanese and other nationalities), migrants, Lebanese children in both morning and evening shifts, primary and secondary education, parents, caregivers, and students with special needs (learning, physical and mental disabilities). Education includes activities aimed

at highlighting the importance of education and enhancing the learning environment through:

- After school and homework programs
- Basic literacy and numeracy services for children / Basic literacy and

numeracy services for young people

- Educational community outreach
- Education Volunteers
- Educational awareness sessions and campaigns
- Identifying and supporting dropout students



## 5. Social Enterprises Department

This department was established in October 2020, to include all social enterprises which main objective is to provide income that finances social programs and provide job opportunities for the neediest. A social enterprise is defined as a commercial enterprise with specific social objectives to achieve the main purpose of the enterprise.

Caritas Lebanon has many social enterprises:

### **Intajouna**

Al-Mahabah (Charity) Cooperative aims at selling local products, known under the trade name “Intajouna”. It works on marketing the agricultural products of local farmers and associations in

different regions. The Deir al-Ahmar Agrofood Center (DAAC) is one of the most important providers that the cooperative buys from to then market and sell them. It also buys from other local farmers, and agrifood producers and industries.

### **Deir el Ahmar Agrofood Center**

This center aims to produce traditional Lebanese “mouneh” (provisions) made by the residents of the region, by purchasing raw materials from local farmers. Their whole aim is to create job opportunities and support agriculture in the Deir el-Ahmar region, to achieve CL objectives: support farmers with all means possible, thus reaching various







social aspects within the general and comprehensive developmental vision of CL, including:

- Keeping farmers in their villages and securing the sustainable exploitation of agricultural lands and periodic marketing of their products, thus guarantying their self-sufficiency.
- Supporting CSOs (associations, cooperatives, small farmers and producers...) by marketing or buying their products for resale.
- Strengthening developmental ties with organizations, associations and cooperatives.

## Social housing project

This project allows obtaining safe and decent housing for the neediest among Lebanese, and aims to achieve effective social investment, and reduce poverty in a sustainable manner. In this context, caritas Lebanon will work in 2022 to rehabilitate 48 housing units.

## U-feed

Caritas' social kitchen, U-feed, was launched in May 2019.

It is divided into two parts:

- 1- Al Mahaba (charity) restaurant (free restaurant): it provides hot meals to needy individuals 3 times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). Beneficiaries come to the center and receive two food rations.

- 2- The non-free section: it offers different meals (the day's special - breakfast and lunch...) for a fee. Prices are set at 20% less than the market price, because it has a social mission.

## Academia

The Academia was launched in December 2016; its purpose is to enhance the CL employees' capacities in terms of computer literacy, and highly advanced and professional IT programs with the development of services and projects. It expanded its activities to encompass non-staff individuals. This activity aims at the development of knowledge and providing educational services for the largest number of people.

Academia offers the following courses:

- Digital literacy
- Microsoft office specialist
- Microsoft office expert



## 6. Protection Department





Caritas Lebanon, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, continues to strengthen its response to support and protect refugees; it takes part to several UNHCR and other service providers working groups.

## Protection

CL promotes protection and education interventions targeting Syrian refugees, asylum seekers and other target groups through 11 community development centers and service centers in Mount Lebanon, Bekaa, South and North Lebanon, and two shelters for GBV survivors and their children. Protection includes activities aimed at meeting protection needs and emergencies:

### Legal aid:

- Since 2019, Caritas Lebanon's migrants' legal department has been the only legal partner for UNHCR in Beirut for the Beirut and Mount Lebanon governorates; and since 2020, the only legal partner for UNHCR in the South Lebanon governorate
- Legal services:
  - Legal advice
  - Legal aid and legal representation before the courts

- Awareness campaigns about registering children born in Lebanon, registering marriages and deaths, and obtaining legal residency
- Follow-up on refugees' files in CL shelters

→ Recently, the Department produced short videos for refugees, featuring the steps for registering marriages, births, deaths and obtaining residency. Videos also include the Legal Department hotlines for any assistance, inquiries and follow-up. The videos covering the 4 abovementioned sectors come in two parts: one targeting the Syrian migrants and the other targeting other nationalities.

- Situation assessment
- Cash or in-kind assistance (emergency cash, protection funds, cash assistance to cover protection programs)
- Psychosocial support
- Community empowerment activities, training on specific skills or life skills, solidarity initiatives, and information or outreach sessions
- Child protection
- Protection from gender-based violence
- Supporting people with special needs
- Providing shelter



## 7. Migrants and Safe Shelters **Department**



In 2021, the number of migrant workers who were subjected to domestic violence increased in Lebanon, when at their employers' home. Many also faced problems such as false promises, trafficking in persons, confiscation of identification documents, prevention of freedom of movement, difficulty in communicating with families abroad, non-payment of salaries, physical, sexual and moral abuse, and others...

At many occasions, we personally witnessed workers leaving the employer's house, heard about suicide attempts, saw people offering workers for sale on social media, and workers complaining of being beaten and deprived of their freedom; we also heard audio recordings of a worker calling for help, then a few days later, committing suicide.

Being involved in protecting the rights of migrant, and those of Lebanese women and girls, and protecting migrants victims of violence in Lebanon, since 1994, caritas Lebanon provides protection services, basic assistance and education to all of them, regardless of their gender, religion, race or political beliefs.

Since 2000, Caritas Lebanon is the only entity authorized by the General

Security to work around the clock, seven days a week, in their detention center- department of investigation and procedures; the mandate is to provide humanitarian, medical, psychological and legal assistance and recreational activities for detainees; in 2005, CL also signed a Memorandum of Understanding, to refer victims of trafficking in persons to its shelters. It also signed Memoranda of Understanding with other service providers, stakeholders, and government agencies, such as the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labor and, the Sûreté Générale, the Embassy of the Philippines, and the Syndicate of Recruitment Agencies.

## Main activities

**The main activities carried out by caritas Lebanon during 2021 are:**

- Permanent presence of CL staff in hosting centers during the Covid-19 pandemic, around the clock.
- Uninterrupted assistance to migrants suffering immunodeficiency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and imposing health safety measures in shelters.
- Capacity building of staff on issues related to case management for adults , teen-agers and GBV survivors
- Topping up phones of children at

Beit Aleph school for children learning via online and for case managers.

- Increased cooperation with other NGOs regarding referrals to safe houses.
- Coordination with the Ministry of Labor and participation to the national vaccination plan against COVID-19 set by the Ministry of Health.
- Establishment of COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and the process for receiving domestic workers in shelters.
- CL safe houses adopted as the only ones qualified to accommodate those infected with the covid-19 virus.
- Launching the advertisement video # kafala\_enough.
- Holding 2 meetings to advocate for the rights of migrants with regard to health and mental health services and the referral pathways.
- Activation of the communication and reintegration program with partners in home countries.
- CL participation in the Global Compact for Migration, as a member of the multi-stakeholder panel.
- Receipt of honorary medal from the consulate of Nepal.
- Austrian ambassador René Amry and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime presence for the launching of an animation program for students

at the CL free kindergarten for children of migrant workers "Beit Aleph". The ambassador and UNODC members toured the school and the safe house and discovered the handcrafts made by beneficiaries and children.

- Launching of a medical campaign for migrants at Camille Chamoun school in Ashrafieh, for 400 migrant workers who received free medical services provided by the health care team, consisting of two obstetricians and gynecologists, two family doctors, a pediatrician, a nurse in internal medicine, and nurses in the Medical Mobile Unit (MMU). These services included free medical examinations: nursing care, general laboratory tests, mammography, distribution of medicines and food rations.
- Visit of the Belgian delegation to the safe house: Hubert Kormann (ambassador of Belgium) and Mrs. Miriam Ketter (Minister of Cooperation in Belgium).
- The Countess of Wessex, a member of the British royal family, along with the UK ambassador to Lebanon Mr. Ian Collard, joined an online meeting while the UK deputy ambassador Mrs. Alison King was visiting the safe house to discuss updates related to GBV and migrants.

## Challenges

- School fees of children aged 3 to 6 years at safe houses
- Transportation fees to school or medical classes
- Funds to employ more social workers and shelter assistants to respond to the enormous need to serve migrants in this difficult time of the crisis
- Medical assistance for psychological cases
- Primary services for prisons
- Primary services for migrants

## Services

The Department provides first aid services, food assistance, social follow-up, medical and legal assistance, education, etc...:

- Education and awareness
- Educational programs at “Beit Aleph” school, established in 2010: a preschool that receives children of migrant workers and refugees from the Middle- East, Africa and Asia, aged 3 to 6 years. Seven classes (nursery, KG1 and KG2) were created in cooperation with Caritas Austria / diocese of Salzburg and the Lazarus fathers.
- Vocational training in shelters
- Awareness on children’s rights and child protection.

- Awareness about migration and trafficking in persons, rights and responsibilities
- Community Center
- Communication with migrant groups

## Basic Assistance

- Distribution of foodstuffs, hygiene kits and clothes in shelters and the “Beit Aleph” school.

## The Health

- Providing medical assistance when needed for people in 4 shelters (psychological counseling, hospitalization, general counseling, medication, nursing care) and in the “Beit Aleph” school.

## Protection

- Provide housing for up to 200 migrant workers in 4 shelters, including women, children, sick and the elderly; safe house as well for victims of trafficking in persons.
- Provide legal aid to beneficiaries at the shelters, to free-lancers and victims of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Reintegration and referral services in home countries.
- Psychosocial activities and psychological assistance.
- Reintegration and follow-up in home countries.

## Advocacy and lobbying

- Participation in meetings and events organized by local and international stakeholders.
- Launching of media campaigns to abolish the Kafala (sponsorship) system and to advocate for the rights of migrants.
- Caritas as a frontliner among NGOs with regards to its relationship and cooperation with the Lebanese government departments and ministries, especially with the national action team on migration and trafficking since 2012 and the national steering committee since 2006.
- Caritas as a pioneer in tackling the issue of trafficking in persons.
- Training courses for law enforcement personnel and judges.

## Number of beneficiaries per service / sector

- Providing assistance and protection for 190 migrant workers, 98 refugee women and children, and five Lebanese gender-based violence survivors, in 4 shelters.
- Providing 45,203 medical services to 293 migrant and refugee workers in shelters.

- 533 psychological treatment sessions in shelters.
- 460 psycho- social activities and one vocational training course in shelters for all residents
- Implementation of 33 health awareness sessions in two safe houses.
- Distribution of 6,999 sanitary items in shelters.
- Implementation of 1,536 social counseling assistance/call; assistance offered to 768 migrant workers.
- Distribution of 110 humanitarian aids to 110 migrant workers.
- Distribution of 45 ECA to 45 vulnerable migrant families.
- Providing one-time phone top-up card to 95 families.
- Enrolling 130 children in Beit Aleph school.
- Organizing awareness sessions for 1,799 migrant workers, in and out of safe houses, to teach them about their rights in Lebanon and report any abuse.
- 2 skills training for approximately 32 residents of the "Olive" safe house for victims of trafficking in persons.
- Awareness sessions and workshops for 194 Lebanese and partners.
- 21 festive events and 21 awareness sessions for 2,629 participants.
- 3 major outings for the residents of the safe houses and a big Christmas celebration.

Number	Activity
575	Detainees assisted by the health team
70	Detainees referred by the health team to doctors
1125	Detainees who underwent blood sugar testing
100	Detainees who underwent X-rays and laboratory tests
63	Detainees admitted to hospitals and recovered
16633	Detainees who benefited from medical aid and drug distribution
731	Medical tours
Number	Activity
26	Psychiatry sessions
29	Detainees admitted to mental health hospitalization
?	
Number	Activity
7241	In- kind assistance
7912	Personal hygiene items
6484	Detainees who received in-kind items
Three meals a day for each detainee	Meals
Number	Activity
3566	Detainees who participated in work groups
55	Group activity/work
3/850 participant	Miscellaneous activities



## 8. Media & Communication Department





The CL media and communication department team endeavored to highlight the humanitarian organization work and objectives through: its platforms and other social media; providing visual, audio and print media with statements, news and media materials related to CL activities and work programs.

The department established a website featuring all the organization news and activities all over its sectors and centers.

The department is developing an integrated media strategy that serves all CL departments, through communication with audio-visual, print and electronic media.



The 2021 campaign:

**“Together For a  
Better Life”**

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## 9. Sectors

### **The 2021 campaign: “Together For a Better Life”**

Sectors play a key role in Caritas Lebanon. CL is the unique body approved for pastoral social work by the Catholic Church. Sectors are the link between the headquarters and the Lebanese regions: the HQ is in permanent liaison with the heads of sectors and follows up on their activities through Sectors' coordinator. Sectors build constructive ties with civil and pastoral stakeholders in the different regions, implement the administrative memoranda and programs issued by HQ, and report on their financial and social situation.

Caritas Lebanon HQ and sectors have become the reference in humanitarian work; it stood by the citizens and helped them to face the economic and social

challenges that Lebanon is experiencing: the Beirut blast, the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic and social collapse, the striding unemployment, the drop in productivity, the lack of social protection which has led to more than 80% of the Lebanese people living now below the poverty line, not to forget the migration of nearly 40% of youth and families. This reality increased pressure on Caritas' humanitarian work, role and activities all over the country, through 35 sectors. Sector boards provide all kinds of assistance to citizens, and have demonstrated solidarity, steadfastness and cooperation, especially after the Port blast when all the regional sectors stood in solidarity by the side of their homologues in the capital, offering in-kind aid and financial contributions available through their own programs. They even took part in the restoration

of the destroyed houses and carried out cleaning and other works. Most importantly, they assisted through their moral and active presence among the citizens, spreading the spirit of hope and encouraging them to rise again despite the horror of the catastrophe that befell them.

They even went beyond their own geographical borders and launched appeals with dioceses and Lebanese communities abroad, urging them to help in securing the largest amount of material and financial support, medicines, food rations and even stationery.

Within the framework of the sectors' work and aid, it is important to stop at the role of Caritas Youth as they are actively present, offer various services in all fields, namely in emergency situations. Their programs are supported by the Youth Department that follows up on them in all Lebanese regions. They also played an important role in social assistance that contributed to mitigating the repercussions of this crisis and securing basic needs.

The spirit of cooperation and solidarity is at the heart of Caritas' work and the role of its president, Father Michel Abboud. Accompanied by the Sectors' coordinator, Father Roland Murad, he visited all Sectors, offered them instructions on the programs offered

by Caritas and how to implement them. This presence and assistance mirrors the transparency of CL humanitarian work that occurs far from any discrimination or division.

## Sectors' Mission

Caritas Lebanon includes 35 sectors that are spread across the various Lebanese regions. Its work is based on monitoring needs, keeping pace with the implementation of programs and carrying out initiatives and activities of all kinds. CL is mainly based on the voluntary work carried out by the heads and boards of Sectors, delegates and social workers in cooperation with Caritas Youth.

Sectors work under the supervision of dioceses and local parishes in coordination with social dignitaries and civil institutions. Coordination occurs through:

1. Meetings with CL president and the Sectors' coordinator
2. Full coordination with CL program managers.
3. Encouraging the role of delegates in parishes.
4. Communication, by the heads of Sectors, with the Catholic dioceses in Lebanon and abroad
5. Fundraising activities through meetings around lunch and dinner and holding exhibitions.

6. Distribution of food rations, medicines and continuous follow-up to families in need

7. Activities held for holidays and feasts.

8. Supporting children, patients and elderly.

9. Recreational activities (organizing trips - meals).

## Information and figures for 2021

Sectors	<b>35</b>
Chaplains	<b>35</b>
Delegates	<b>920</b>
Villages and towns	<b>1413</b>
Parishes	<b>1237</b>
Volunteers	<b>1400</b>
Youth	<b>1480</b>
Social workers	<b>35</b>

## Sectors' headquarters

### Owned property: 6

Buildings: (Baabda 1, Dekwaneh, Ballouneh, Batroun, Northern Bekaa, Tyre)

Owned plots: a plot of land in Deir el-Qamar offered by Minister Naji El-Boustany; a shrine dedicated to Saint Charbel on it was inaugurated on august 21, 2021 - property number 64-3000 m2  
A 2.000 sq meters plot for the use of Caritas Lebanon in Damour, offered by

the Ministry of Education (for no fees).

Plot 2710 / Chouf Littoral

A 700 sq meters plot of land in Jezzine provided by the Public Corporation for Housing (for no fees)

A 1.000 sq meters plot of land in Jbeil, from the endowment of Saint Elisha, Karam family. (For no fees)

Khirbet Qanafar - the Mariamite Maronite Order, plot 3126

3 prefab houses in Jbeil (for no fees).

Endowment of Saint Elisha school - plot. 1098-2000 meters) and Kesrouan 1 and 2  
21 apartments offered by parishes and religious orders (for no fees)

Zawia Sector, Dr. Antoine Nakad (for no fees)

7 rented properties : Rmeil, Tripoli, Littoral Metn, Deir el Qamar, Baabda 2, Tyre - Burj Hammoud

Headquarters offered by dioceses and parishes:

Maronite patriarchate (Sarba)

Jounieh Maronite Patriarchal Vicariate  
endowment of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Haret Sakhr)

The Patriarchal Vicariate (Zgharta - Ehden)

The Maronite Archdiocese of Beirut, Our Lady of the Rosary (Hamra)

Maronite Archdiocese of Antelias (Antelias)

Maronite Archdiocese of Tripoli (Qobayat)

Maronite Diocese of Tyre (Qal'ai'a)

Maronite Diocese of Zahle (West Bekaa)

Diocese of Baalbek-Hermel (Roman Catholic)



The Maronite Archdiocese of Sidon  
(Sidon - Jezzine)

The Maronite Sisters of the holy family  
(Jbeil)

Antonine Maronite Order (Zahle - Rayaq)

The Lebanese Maronite Order (Batroun,  
plot 2870: a large hall of 422 m<sup>2</sup>-Rmeish)

Jesuit Order (Jdita)

Basilian Order of Choueiryia (Khenchara)

Mariamite Maronite Order (West Bekaa)

## Social services

Caritas Lebanon offers social services to more than 100,000 beneficiaries of all age groups and caters for their needs all over Lebanon. It offers:

→ Aid in emergency situations in cooperation with the presidency of the

Council of Ministers and international associations.

→ The Soup Kitchen program, which offers free hot meals throughout the week.

→ The third age program in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs.

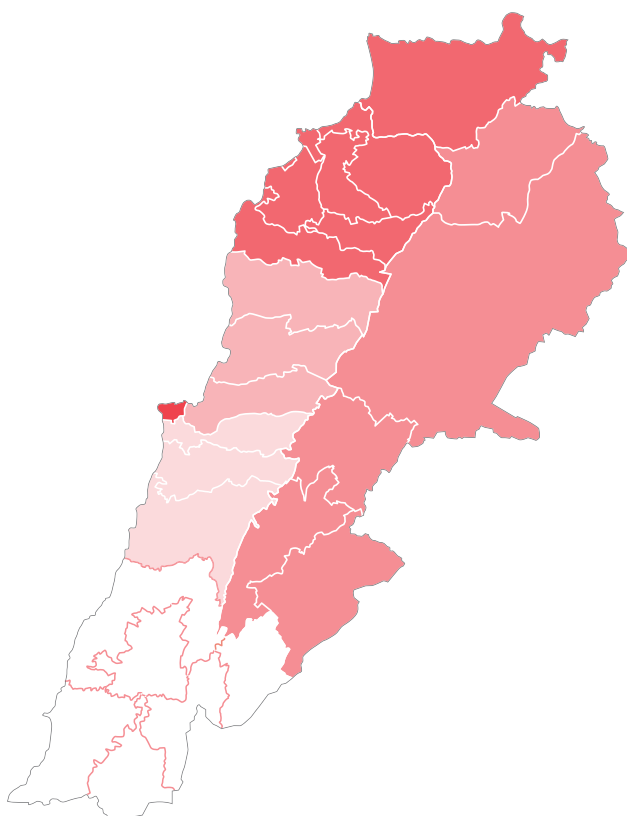
→ The Charity home for elderly Andket - Akkar, 22 elderly beneficiaries.

→ Support to local social associations to reach the largest segment of beneficiaries.

→ The Returnees Program, which aims to help the Lebanese, who are returning back to their homeland, integrate and adapt to their society, in cooperation with international organizations.

## Caritas is present all over the Lebanese territory

●	Beirut
●	Northern Lebanon
●	Bekaa
●	Mount Lebanon 1
●	Mount Lebanon 2
○	Southern Lebanon



**Beirut: 3 sectors**

Ashrafieh	Mrs. Elena Joseph Azar Abi Khair
Rmeil	Mrs. Paula Shukrallah Naim Sehnaoui
Ras Beirut	Ms. Antoinette Kamel Nicolas Sandouq

**Mount Lebanon I: 8 Sectors**

Metn I	Mrs. Hoda Jamil Nassar al-Rayes
Metn II	Dr. Paula Abdo Karam Hrawi
Metn III	Mrs. Marie Therese Gerges Labaki
Metn IV	Father Youssef Michel Chahine
Metn V	Mrs. Laudy Gerges Imad Nseir
Kesrouan I	Mrs. Gracia George Atallah Romanos
Kesrouan II	Mr. Antoine Ayoub Seif
Jbeil	Mrs. Alexandra Moussa Terezia Aoun

**Mount Lebanon II: 6 Sectors**

Baabda I	Ms. Fadia Abdullah Brax
Baabda II	Dr. Charbel Hanna Boutros
Aley - Bhamdoun	Mr. Boulos Nassif Yammine
Upper Shouf	Ms Souleima Youssef Ghorayeb El- Boustany
Littoral Shouf	Mrs. Jocelyn Amin Matar
Upper Metn	Mrs. Rola Edmond Murad

### **Bekaa: 6 Sectors**

Zahle	Mr. Fadi Anis Saba
Middle Bekaa	Mr. Ghassan Nassar Nassar
West Bekaa-Rashaya	Mrs. Carol Jean Karam Abboud
East Bekaa	Mr. Roukoz Ibrahim Fleihan
Northern Bekaa	Monseigneur Paul Sobhi Keyrouz
Baalbek	Mr. Zuzu Tawfik Al-Droubi

### **Northern Lebanon: 7 Sectors**

Batroun	Eng. Elie Tannous El Samrani
Koura	Lawyer George Yaqoub Al-Tahan
Zgharta	Ehden, Father Youhanna Youssef Makhoul
Zgharta	Mrs. Margo Gerges Wehbe
El Jibbeh	Bsharre, Dr. Elia Elia Elia
Tripoli	Mrs. Katia Shukri Makari Rizk
Akkar	Mr. Michel Jamil Nassour

### **South Lebanon: 5 Sectors**

Jezzine	Lawyer Antoine Boulos Bou Rached
Saida al-Zahrani- Nabatieh	Mr. Yasser Siham Samya
Tyre	Father Maroun Youssef Ghafari
Marjayoun & Hasbaya	Eng. Basel Hanna Abdo Khoury
Bint Jbeil	Eng Tanios Badih Madi

Youth activities reach around

**200.000**

beneficiaries annually.

## 10. Caritas **Youth**

The primary mission of Caritas Lebanon Youth is to serve humanity, according to social teachings of the Catholic Church. The 1.400 volunteers who serve all over Lebanon, carry out more than 2,300 activities annually, all of which aim to support the needy and console the broken-hearted, through recreational, social or developmental activities such as rehabilitating homes, schools and prisons, habilitating public parks and playgrounds, religious, musical, environmental or sports halls... youth activities reach around 200.000 beneficiaries annually.

In collaboration with several Youth associations and committees nationally, CL Youth seek to reach the largest possible number of beneficiaries,

in addition to organizing several conferences and retreats.

They always manage to put a smile on the faces of all people they visit. They are always ready to intervene in times of crises, through the Emergency Response Unit. They held several training sessions for staff and volunteers from various Sectors to explain the principles of work during emergencies.

It is worth noting that the CL Youth are active in several Caritas Internationalis (CI) committees.

It goes without saying that Caritas mission goes beyond Lebanon; its international presence is gradually growing because it always lives up to new challenges!





# Board of Directors' Activities

In the midst of the severe social and economic challenges facing Lebanon, and in light of the high unemployment and extreme poverty rates resulting of the continuing political, economic and financial crisis in the country, it was necessary for the CL board of directors to take urgent measures to remedy the situation as much as possible and secure access to as much assistance as possible for individuals and families in need. The board of directors meets periodically, weekly or bi-weekly to discuss all activities and take the necessary decisions.

In an effort to strengthen the cooperation between CL and international, governmental, military

and official institutions, CL President Father Michel Abboud conducted a large number of meetings and visits, at his office in the Sin el Fil headquarters, or through visits he paid with members of the Board of Directors. He met many ambassadors, international community representatives, head officers of INGOs operating in Lebanon, and met with many ministers and representatives in the Lebanese state. He also held meetings with security officials and coordinated with the Lebanese army, the army Commander and his military aides. Father Abboud not only had several meetings with various ecclesiastical authorities; he regularly visits and meets all the Catholic patriarchs and bishops in Lebanon.





## CL General Assembly in Bqennaya

On July 19, 2021, CL held its General Assembly in the convent of Our Lady of the Well for the Sisters of the Cross in Bqennaya - Jal el-dib, headed by Father Michel Abboud, who stated in the opening speech, that "Caritas Lebanon, the church's social pastoral apparatus, is fully prepared and will not remain idly by." "We will knock on the largest possible number of hungry and needy families' doors; we will meet as much as possible of your needs, you are our responsibility and we will support you". He added: "Together For a Better Life" this is the slogan of our campaign. The campaign was large and our responses to the multiple crises were many and branched out to include the shock of the port blast, then the economic crisis and the COVID pandemic.

During the meeting, the secretary general, lawyer Fadi Karam, presented CL activities for 2020 and 2021; then treasurer Nadim Nader presented the financial report for the last two years, and then the report of the auditing report. After discussing the presented reports, the General Assembly concluded by approving the minutes of the meeting by a duly vote.

## Second Ordinary General Assembly in Bkerke

On November 13, 2021, CL general assembly held its second session, at the conclusion of the fifty-second session of the Council of Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops, in the patriarchal premises in Bkerke, in presence of the Maronite Patriarch, Cardinal Mar Bechara Boutros Al-Rahi. The session was headed by Bishop Michel Aoun, Caritas Lebanon General Supervisor, along with Caritas Lebanon President Father Michel Abboud. Bishop Aoun spoke about his experience with "Caritas, which is present in the midst of difficulties: after the Beirut blast, in its international fora and on the ground."

For his part, Patriarch Al-Rahi saluted Caritas, represented by its president and members, and thanked their efforts to serve the needy. He pointed out that Caritas "is the Church main social arm and that it is based on: the "krygma", i.e the service of the word through preaching and teaching; on the pastoral grace at the service of the sacraments, completing thus the service of the word to generate faith and sanctify the souls; and on the service of love and charity. Father Abboud spoke about "Caritas, which operates with two lungs: the



volunteers, i.e. sectors, youth, partners, and staff, i.e. the administration and employees". He added: "Caritas wants to go far and bear what people need everywhere in Lebanon. In our country, we have the Lebanese and we have the migrants and refugees, in whom we see the image of Jesus and Mary taking refuge in Egypt..."

Regarding the work of Caritas last year, Father Abboud explained that it employed a budget of more than thirty million US dollars. He stated: "we are trying to attract tens of millions of dollars to cover health and hospital needs, including social, nutritional, educational, developmental and other... Everything a person needs to be able to live", stressing that "it is an opportunity for us to do good on earth, because we will be held accountable if we misuse the money of the poor."

In addition, lawyer Fadi Karam presented the association's activities and programs for the period extending from 1/1/2021 to 9/30/2021.

Then, Mr. Nadim Nader presented CL estimated budget for the period extending from 1/1/2022 to 31/12/2022.

This was followed by the discussion of the reports and the first general assembly minutes of meeting held on 7/17/2021, and they were unanimously approved.

## **Main media statements of Father Michel Abboud**

55

During his honoring ceremony with a group of Lebanese innovators in the fields of medicine, engineering, art, writing, poetry, music, acting and media, which was organized by the "Ard Elmobdiin" foundation for the third year in a row at the Liqa' center in Rabwah under the patronage and presence of the Minister of Culture, Muhammad Wissam Mortada, CL President said: "Caritas writes the pages of its book with the tear of a mother who bowed her head to ask for help for the first time; with the tear of a father who used to support Caritas in the past, and is today asking for help. Caritas writes its pages with the voice of a patient who calls from the hospital asking for financial assistance to be able to leave.

He concluded: "Caritas tries to satisfy the rich by giving them opportunities to give, because he who gives feels more satiated. A Lebanese saying states "do good and throw it in the sea," we say, "do good and reserve it in the sky" stressing that "the charitable work of Caritas is in assisting with food for the body and food for the soul."

In an interview with "Sawt El Nass" (the voice of people) program, with anchor Mario Abboud, through "Voice of Beirut International" and "LBCI", Father Abboud

stressed that "CL spends the money it receives with complete transparency, so that the donor can know where it was spent." noting that "any assistance provided is linked to the availability of funds." He continued, "after the August 4 blast, the burdens increased, the need increased, the volunteers increased, and the repercussions of the aftermath of the Beirut blast were huge, and were added to the crisis that the country is witnessing." He stressed on the transparency of the work, saying: "We have a report that details in numbers the work that Caritas Lebanon is doing."

Speaking about medical aid, Father Abboud said: "we are strengthening our medical centers; still, we do not stay in our centers, we rather go to those who cannot reach us," stressing that "there is real aid that is provided helping Lebanese to escape death." As he thanked "all the Lebanese expatriates for their help", he asked for "help and support from those who can do it to prevent the death of our people", adding "for this purpose you can contact us on the number 79/182477".

In an interview with the "Vatican Radio". Father Michel Abboud announced that "Caritas helps nearly forty thousand families in Lebanon, and has launched a campaign to request aid, so that it can continue its work. At the end of his

speech, he reminded that Lebanon is not a poor country; it was looted by political officials, filling the heart of people with constant anger, adding: "we carry the revolution in our hearts."

"Our people have been in pain and in silence for months, even years!"; this was the call CL President Father Michel Abboud, launched through the program "Kil Youm bi Yawmo" on radio Fan. He called upon the Lebanese expatriates to help and adopt families living in poverty and in dire need, saying: "multiple families abroad may adopt one family, by filling out an application posted on the website: [www.caritas.org.lb](http://www.caritas.org.lb)."

He also thanked the charity initiative launched by the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Church through a medical delegation specializing in eye surgery in cooperation with Caritas. He stated that "the number of those who called to receive the free service exceeded 1,000 cases for glaucoma and cataracts" while the offer specified a maximum of one hundred operations." Father Abboud affirmed that "Caritas will not abandon those who registered and did not have the opportunity to be treated." He promised, "to establish a specialized project for this purpose, especially for those who have been suffering from this problem for a long time and their financial situation did not allow them to undergo this operation and recover."

## Caritas Lebanon Board Members and Directors:

### Church authority

- Head of the Assembly of the Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops in Lebanon His Beatitude Mar Bechara Boutros Al-Raei
- Beatitudes and Excellencies the Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops of Lebanon
- Reverends, Catholic Abbots and Abbesses in Lebanon
- Representative of the Assembly of the Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops in Lebanon and the Supervisor of Caritas Lebanon: His Excellency Archbishop Michel Aoun

### General Assembly

Their Beatitudes, the Patriarchs of the Catholic Churches, residing in Lebanon

Their Excellencies, Bishops of the Catholic Dioceses

Three male representatives of the Council of Superior Majors

Three female representatives of the Council of Superior Majors

Affiliates

### Board of Directors

Father Michel Abboud	President
Dr. Nicolas Ibrahim Al-Hajjar	Vice-President
Lawyer Fadi Habib Karam	Secretary General
Mr. Nadeem Pierre Nader	Treasurer
Father Charles Elias Sawaya	Chaplain
Father Ziad Al-Haddad	Representative of men's monastic order
Father Rafi Ohanisyan	Armenian Catholic Church
Judge Mireille Al-Haddad	Roman Melkite Catholic Church
Mr. Serge Said Antoine Karnaby	The Syriac Church
Mr. Philippe Antoine Saleh	Latin Church
Mrs. Dola Hakim	Chaldean Church
Dr. May Merhej Sayegh	Representative of women's monastic order

### Administration

Mr. Gilbert Fares Zoueïn	Executive Director
Mr. Azar Azar	Director of Operations
Mr. André Kweik	Director of Social Institutions
Mrs. Nayla El Khoury	Director of Programs
Mr. Roger Chahine	Director of Finance
Mr. Georges Abi Hanna	Human Resources Manager

# Strategic Directions

## Health

The health department is keen to respond to the basic health needs of the neediest families. In this context, its main objective is to include health services within the “national primary health care system”, by enhancing access to comprehensive health care (PHCC), quality hospital care and referral to specialized centers.

## Education

The mission of the education department is not only to secure and ensure the quality of education in an equitable and comprehensive manner for all children, but also to work diligently with them to mitigate the

negative psychosocial impact of social crises, protect their psychological and physical health, and develop a strong personality capable of building successful and long-term social relationships with others.

## Social work

The social department focuses on socio-professional intervention to secure a better life for Lebanese beneficiaries through poverty reduction, eradication of hunger, provision of protection services, empowerment, reintegration, and emergency assistance. Different types of services are available. The department implements programs to target families, elderly, women, children, youth, and people with special needs.



## Development and livelihood

The development and livelihood department works to mitigate the effects of the social and economic shock of the Lebanese crisis on the most needy groups of the population, through capacity building, creating job opportunities and improving income

for individuals, providing temporary and sustainable assistance, improving housing conditions for some and providing safe houses for others, and many other humanitarian and social services that contribute to promoting respect and protection of the rights, well-being and dignity of individuals, in line with both international and local laws.



**“Belonging to Caritas”...**

between professional  
creativity & spiritual culture!

# Conclusion

“What you give has no value unless it is a part of yourself.” With these terms, Gibran Khalil Gibran summed up the concept of true giving, which has always been the focus of Caritas Lebanon’s mission and its primary role at the humanitarian, health, social, educational and developmental levels. It spares no effort to console and support all those who went through difficulties. It works hard to provide the basic necessities for every person in need, regardless of their color, nationality, language or religion. It endeavors to remain a refuge for the poor, sick and outcast, leaving no one behind! Keen on achieving balance between both professional and spiritual dimensions, the path of Caritas

Lebanon, the church’s unique body for social pastoral work and officially approved to serve charity and achieve social solidarity, is not limited to helping the communities that are the most in need, but extends to strengthening capacities and developmental, social and spiritual skills of Caritas Lebanon’s staff and volunteers, so that they reflect the spirit of Caritas and the image of God wherever they are, and become messengers of hope, joy and love for everyone who meets them and turns to them! Caritas Lebanon President Father Abboud always says, “every worker in Caritas should have a belonging to Caritas, to be able to carry its humanitarian message, and not be content only with working in it!”



# 2021

# Grants



Project Name	Donor	Budget as in Agreement	Currency
Accademia 2021	Caritas Lebanon	58,144,000.00	LBP
Afterschool program for at Risk Lebanese and Refugee Children in Bourj Hammoud	Kindermissionswerk	178,900.00	EUR
After School Program Furn Chebbak 2021	Caritas Lebanon	28,400,000.00	LBP
After School Program Marjaayoun 2021	Caritas Lebanon	19,440,000.00	LBP
Syria Response – Protection Activity in Lebanon	Catholic Relief Services (Crs)	535,022.24	USD
Andkit 2021	Caritas Lebanon	351,120,802.00	LBP
Agile response to control the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate its multi-dimensional effects on humanitarian crisis in Lebanon	Caritas International Belgium	603,053.00	EUR
Emergency Multi-Sectoral Assistance to Families affected by Beirut Blast	Kindermissionswerk	258,000.00	EUR
Beth Aleph School Project for migrant and refugee children in Beirut	Caritas Salzburg	181,714.85	USD
Sustainable strengthening of primary health care centers in Lebanon to secure the health care provision and strengthen the resilience of refugees and vulnerable Lebanese with non-communicable diseases or mental health diseases	Caritas Germany	1,437,266.95	EUR
Contribution towards improving the living conditions of Syrian Refugees and Vulnerable Lebanese in the region of Bekaa, Akkar, and Mt. Lebanon	Caritas Germany	1,986,744.00	EUR
Financing of supplementary costs of BMZ Livelihood Project for improving living conditions for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese, 2018 – 2020	Caritas Germany	130,945.00	EUR
Build Back Beirut Consortium – Emergency Shelter, Cash Assistance and Psychosocial Support for Beirut	Caritas Switzerland (Cach)	2,397,420.87	USD
Buildings 2021	Caritas Lebanon	115,256,313.00	LBP
Rehabilitation of Beth Aleph School Project after Beirut Explosion	Caritas Austria	75,000.00	EUR
Co-financing of rehabilitation works at the migrant center (Camille Chamoun building) of Caritas Lebanon in response to the Beirut explosion	Caritas Germany	55,000.00	EUR
Caritas Lebanon: Capacity Building Project	Catholic Relief Services (Crs)	46,823.76	USD

Project Name	Donor	Budget as in Agreement	Currency
Caritas Darouna - Rehabilitation of Soup Kitchen	Raskob	27,000.00	USD
Caritas Italiana-Microprojects	Caritas Italiana	25,000.00	EUR
Caritas Roma Sponsorship Program 2020-2021	Caritas Roma	24,968.23	EUR
Primary healthcare services through medical mobile units for vulnerable populations in Lebanon	Caritas Spain	93,891.44	EUR
Cataract 2021-LBP	Caritas Lebanon	28,363.306.00	LBP
Cataract 2021-USD	Caritas Lebanon	41,951.00	USD
CHILD (Continuous and Holistic Integration of Learning and Development for the children of Beirut)	Caritas Austria	520,841.38	USD
Enhanced Protection of Juvenile Victims of Trafficking in Lebanon	Caritas Ambrosiana	141,294.79	EUR
Distribution of Food and Hygiene items among 930 families	Manos Unidas	50,430.00	EUR
CL-BB Emergency Hungary	Gouernment of Hungary	1,000,000.00	EUR
Rehabilitation of shelters of vulnerable Lebanese, migrants and refugees in the aftermath of the Beirut explosion, 2020-2021	Caritas Germany	775,000.00	EUR
CL-Emergency Beirut Blast Operational	Catholic Charities USA	99,982.00	USD
Building the capacity of Caritas Lebanon's youth volunteers in Catholic Social Teaching	Stichting Benevolentia	49,750.00	USD
Contribution to Safeguarding Trainings Lebanon	Caritas Austria	5,000.00	EUR
Access to health care and mental health services for vulnerable Lebanese and non-Lebanese affected by the Beirut Explosion 2020-2021	Development and Peace (Canada)	185,000.00	CAD
Emergency Multi-Sectoral Response to Residents Affected by Beirut Blast	USAID	2,400.000.00	USD
Education and Empowerment of Children and Women in Dbayeh Camp, Lebanon, 2020/2021	Caritas Germany	103,170.00	EUR
Reinforcing The Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Lebanon, 2021	Caritas Germany	143,015.00	EUR
Deir El Ahmar 2021	Caritas Lebanon	99,680,109.00	LBP
Intervention for vulnerable refugees and host communities in Lebanon	Caritas Partners	810,086.24	USD

Project Name	Donor	Budget as in Agreement	Currency
Emergency Assistance for vulnerable families of children in the Afterschool Program of Caritas Lebanon in Bourj Hammoud /Lebanon (3 - 6 months)	Kindermissionswerk	33,300.00	EUR
Education - Fghal 2021	Caritas Lebanon	440,000,000.00	LBP
Education - Hope 2021	Caritas Lebanon	505,000,000.00	LBP
Education - Lebaa 2021	Caritas Lebanon	130,000,000.00	LBP
Education - Zahle 2021	Caritas Lebanon	829,000,000.00	LBP
Give the students a chance to succeed	Caritas Spain	3,600.00	EUR
General Administration 2021	Caritas Lebanon	4,825,256,313.00	LBP
Local Development Programme for Deprived Areas in North Lebanon	GIZ	559,433.45	EUR
GS- RC Food Provision 2020	General Security	500,000,000.00	LBP
Health MMU 2021	Caritas Lebanon	430,000,000.00	LBP
Health PHCC 2021	Caritas Lebanon	2,500,000,000.00	LBP
Hungary Helps-Food donation	Hungary Helps Agency	29,279.65	USD
In-House Printing	Caritas Lebanon	5,972,250.00	LBP
Intajouna 2021	Caritas Lebanon	140,000,000.00	LBP
Beth Aleph Education for Children of Refugees and Migrants in Lebanon	Lazarists Fathers	453,620,25.00	LBP
Alleviating the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on vulnerable older persons, persons with disabilities, persons with serious medical conditions, other persons with specific needs from the refugee host communities including Syrians, Palestinians from Lebanon & Syria, migrants, other nationalities & Lebanese	OCHA	2,543,197.84	USD
Lent Campaign 2021	Caritas Lebanon	100,000,000.00	LBP
Protecting Women and Girls from Violence in Lebanon	British Embassy	84,986.00	USD

Project Name	Donor	Budget as in Agreement	Currency
Micro Credits	BOB	10,000.000.000.00	LBP
Shelter for Syrian women and children in Lebanon	Caritas Austria	110,000.00	EUR
Lebanon is running out of breath – COVID-19 O2C Response	Caritas Italiana	24,413.00	EUR
Parainage-Eparchy of the Annunciation Africa	Eparchy of the Annunciation Africa	159,522,500.00	LBP
Ensuring the Protection of Migrant and Refugee Workers' Fundamental Rights	ProVictimis	174,160.00	USD
Supporting Syrian Refugee Children with Disabilities in Lebanon	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	288,980.27	USD
Lebanon PWD Project- Bridge Funding	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	86,891.21	USD
Protection of Detainees at the Retention Center for Foreign Persons in Lebanon	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	270,000.43	USD
Regional Holistic Education Programme for Syrian Refugee and Vulnerable Host Community Children in Lebanon, Jordan and Syria (RHEP II)	Caritas Austria	673,104.00	EUR
Saint Charbel - Upper Chouf Saint Charbel - Upper Chouf	Caritas Lebanon	347,514,212.50	LBP
Sector 2021	Caritas Lebanon	76,758,000.00	LBP
Sector Aid Beirut Blast	Several Donors	200,000.00	USD
Social 2021	Caritas Lebanon	392,484,765.00	LBP
Sponsorship Australia	Maronites On Mission Australia	99,955.00	USD
Securing Women Migration Cycle	Italian Government	572,075.00	EUR
Third Age 2021	Ministry Of Social Affairs	350,000,000.00	LBP
Enhanced Protection of Juvenile Victims of Trafficking in Lebanon	U.S. department of State	800,000.00	USD



Project Name	Donor	Budget as in Agreement	Currency
Operation of Trócaire in Lebanon under Caritas Lebanon Umbrella	Trócaire	185,355.00	USD
UFEED 2021	Caritas Lebanon	199,729,895.00	LBP
Reducing the direct economic downturn impact on vulnerable Communities in Lebanon	UNDP	499,705.00	USD
UNDP/CSP Support 2020	Chemonics – Community Support Program (CSP)	54,754.96	USD
UNESCO Public Space in Beirut	UNESCO	20,000.00	USD
Enhance access to reproductive health services in response to Beirut Explosion	UNFPA	149,526.00	USD
Strengthening the protection for Syrian Refugees in Zahle municipality through Protection Monitoring and Community Outreach and empowerment	UNHCR	259,940,668.63	LBP
Strengthening the Protection Environment for Syrian Refugees in Mount Lebanon, Iraqi and other Nationalities in Lebanon	UNHCR	1,740,893,117.55	LBP
Strengthening the Protection Environment for Syrian Refugees in Mount Lebanon, Iraqi and other Nationalities in Lebanon	UNHCR	5,998,581,575.18	LBP
Basic assistance and Education in North Lebanon	UNHCR	1,854,326,274.00	LBP
Strengthening the Protection Environment and Education for Syrian refugees in South Lebanon	UNHCR	1,603,092,078.00	LBP
Urgent Aid 2021	Caritas Lebanon	5,000,000,000.00	LBP
Urgent Aid Beirut Blast	Several Donors	200,000.00	USD
Implementation of a WFP Assistance Programme	WFP	439,142.00	USD
Youth Engaged in Peace-Building 2020-2021	Caritas Italiana	50,000.00	EUR
YES: Youth Employment and Skills	Caritas Switzerland (CACH)	152,588.00	USD