



Sheffield Emergency Aid for Gaza

Autumn Update 2025



Since our last Bulletin, the overall situation in Gaza has deteriorated even further. A vanishingly small number of people now dispute that we are witnessing a fully-blown genocide - and those who do dispute it fly in the face of the evidence of their own eyes, let alone the informed commentary of international experts.

Nowhere in Gaza is safe or protected. Those who provide health care in desperately damaged hospitals, those who report to the world what is happening – in fact, anyone providing an essential service - is a target. The civilian death toll mounts daily, the injured have no relief, those taken captive by Israel are lost in some sinister state torture chamber. People of Gaza face intense bombardment, forced and repeated evacuations from place to place, with the cutting off of supplies of food, water, fuel, electricity and medicines – and now a policy of enforced starvation and very real famine.

The Israeli Occupation Forces have driven people south, into just 15% of the Gaza Strip. But with remarkable heroism, amidst dreadful deprivation, the Emergency Fund team are organising food distribution to the neediest, as well as play and education sessions for the children.

And at last, after months of denial of entry by Israel, some commercial lorries have managed to enter Gaza (welcome, but inadequate for the need). The team have ramped up their work in response.



The commercial lorries arrive, unload and food is rapidly parcelled up and delivered.

Thanks to your generosity and solidarity, these are the headline figures:

- *The Emergency Fund has now supported over 12,000 families.*
- *In total, as of September 1st, £461,500 has been sent to Gaza since October 2023.*



LEFT: fresh vegetables, when available, are prized, if costly. A typical parcel contains 1kg tomatoes; 2kg potatoes; 1.5kg molokhia (leafy greens); 1kg onions; 0.5kg cucumber; 125g chillis and garlic. Such a veg box costs £75 per family and the last batch given out went to 130 families.



NB: Faces of recipients are concealed

RIGHT: The *Smile of Hope* Camp in the north of the Gaza Strip is home to many children with cancer. One food initiative here was created by our friend, Abdulqadir. He and some of his

companions cooked a special dish, Summaqqiya, for wide distribution. This Gazan speciality usually has meat, but even without this, families welcomed a cooked meal.



Using local initiative: Al Mawasy is now the largest camp for forcibly displaced families, with over 800,000 crowded in. The team came across a family of new arrivals with no shelter. So they set about providing the tent you see to the left.

Another water initiative: Our team had established 18 distribution points for water across Khan Younis, which now cannot be used because of the forced evacuation of this major city.

After a gap when no water could be sourced, the Fund is now able to provide pure water from a licensed water station - but it is expensive. A tanker costs approximately £1,300 and will provide drinking water for 11,500 people for just 2 days. If hygiene use is included, that number falls to 2,450 people.

This water is essential for the powdered milk for babies, still a key element. **Our friends on the ground aim to provide a tanker a week.**

Similarly, people needed wood for fires to cook whenever they could. Regrettably, the wood comes from destroyed homes, but firewood is essential, since Israel cut off electricity and other fuels.

The Emergency Fund team are subject to the same dangers and privations as everyone else in Gaza. Not a single one of them has a house – all live in tented camps.

From this position, living like everyone else, they understand what material help is needed. Their connections mean they can spot an opportunity to obtain goods and, because of the high levels of trust built over the years, we rely on the team to say what the priorities are. Their established practice of accounting for everything given to families (recording names, circumstances, numbers in the family) – means that we know exactly how donations are being used on the ground.

We also know that the displacement of people is so great that families from north to south of the Gaza Strip are being supported - from Beit Hanoun, Beit Lahia, Jabalia, the Beach Camp, Gaza City, Nussairat, Burajj Camp, Deir el Balah, Al Mawasy, and Rafah.

Support is varied. Some, who have access to the Bank of Palestine App, receive cash (200ILS = £40 approx.) Others receive goods of various kinds. Flour is still very expensive but essential, so it is carefully weighed.



Some women in Al Mawasy have built clay ovens. They use these for their families, but for a small token they bake bread for other families, which the team then distributes. **(Above: careful weighing of flour. Larger families receive proportionately more.)**



Nothing in this time of genocide is stable; everything is subject to change. Over a million people in Gaza City are enduring yet more displacement, moving south to already cramped areas, which have no infrastructure to make life bearable. Khan Younis, previously one of the centres of our work, has been largely evacuated. We helped the Nouran Educational Centre with its relocation after it was destroyed, salvaging its desks and providing educational materials, but it has been bombed out yet again.

But one thing that is totally stable is the team's - and our - commitment to work for the benefit of families and children in Gaza.



Before the genocide, our 4 Children's Centres provided a planned programme of complementary education and psychological support for children then living under a brutal siege much older than themselves.

We had scheduled discussions on Zoom with the team and admired their warmth, professionalism and clear understanding of children's needs. When it is possible, these discussions will resume.



The work of the Emergency Fund provides a glimpse of normality for children living in the most abnormal of circumstances. The youngsters know they are not forgotten.

We respect, admire and salute the selfless dedication of our friends in Gaza. They are among the many unsung heroes of Palestine.

Your support enables the work to continue. We value all contributions: either a donation to Sheffield PSC or to SPaCE charity (which may attract Gift Aid). Please email if you set up a Standing Order to SPaCE or would like an acknowledgement of a donation: Sheffield.pace@gmail.com

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