

2026



STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Dearest Friends,

The gospel is a story of abundance. In John 6, the disciples found themselves facing an impossible situation. A crowd of more than 5,000 people stood before them—hungry, far from any source of food, and looking to them for help. All they could find was a young boy's lunch: five loaves of bread and two fish. By every human measure, it wasn't enough. But Jesus took what was faithfully placed in His hands and multiplied it beyond anything they could have imagined.

That is the impact of your generosity across the Middle East and North Africa. Every gift becomes far more than a donation. It provides food for the hungry, refuge for families fleeing violence, training for pastors serving on the frontlines, encouragement for persecuted believers, and a powerful reminder that Christ has not forgotten His people.

This week, I witnessed that miracle with my own eyes. I welcomed a mother and her children who arrived with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. After her husband fell under the influence of a radical Muslim group, he came under increasing pressure to surrender his own wife and children to them. As he was manipulated and drawn deeper into their control, this mother realized she had only one opportunity to save her family.

With the help of her church, she fled through dangerous border crossings, carrying nothing and trusting God with every step. After they arrived, I sat with them. I looked into the uncertain eyes of children who had lost their home and their sense of safety. The mother: exhausted, grieving, traumatized, and overwhelmed. They are now refugees in a country that does not want them, with no possessions, no stability, and no place to call home. Yet they were not alone.

Because of your partnership with Ananias House, we were able to welcome this family into a safe house, pray with them, embrace them, and provide for their needs during this critical season. When they felt abandoned by the world, they encountered the love of Christ through His Church.

Their story is not unique. I have met family after family whose lives have been marked by persecution, displacement, and unimaginable loss. Each encounter reminded me that your generosity is not simply sustaining programs—it is bringing Christ's compassion to people who desperately need hope. At Ananias House, we face needs that far exceed our own resources. Yet we serve a God who continues to take what His people faithfully place in His hands and use it in ways only He can.

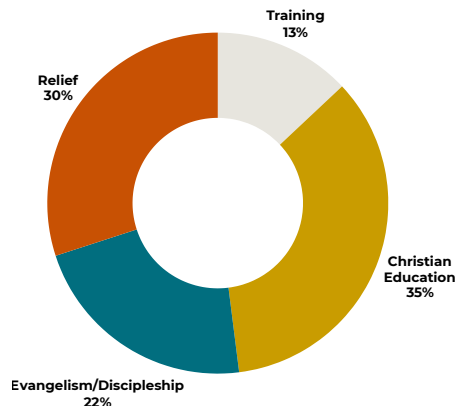
Thank you for offering your "five loaves and two fish" and trusting the Lord to multiply them for His Kingdom. Because of your faithfulness, families are finding refuge, churches are standing firm, pastors are being equipped, and the light of Christ continues to shine in some of the darkest places on earth.

- Pray that those who have lost everything would discover the living hope found only in Christ.
- Pray that the weary would find rest in Jesus.
- Pray that we, the Body of Christ, would never grow comfortable while our brothers and sisters suffer.

May we never forget that when God's people give in faith, He still multiplies it for His glory

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

With gratitude in Christ,
John Samara
 Founder & Executive Director



PROGRAM

Allocations

Program Funds equal 88% of expenses to date and are disbursed directly to our field partners.

Operational and Fundraising expenses equal 12%.

From large crusades to private home visits, evangelism continues to play a critical role in the growth of the Church in the Middle East and North Africa. **So far this year, an estimated 200,000 people have been reached through evangelistic efforts by 46 Frontline ministry partners.**



This year, approximately 356 leaders across 12 countries in the MENA region have participated in various training cohorts. These cohorts focus on deeply relational theological and leadership training, equipping men and women to lead in their churches and strengthen the body of Christ. By discerning between the culture and the Kingdom of God, the church becomes more rooted in Christ, enabling them to withstand persecution and be a light in their communities.

Local churches across MENA have served an estimated 10,000 families by providing food packets, winter items, hot meals, medical care, and more. In addition to meeting these immediate practical needs, relief outreach has expanded to include legal defense funding and community sustainability through small-business support in many previously underserved and unreached areas.



Today, Ananias House supports 7 schools, serving approximately 1,400 children. Youths are intentionally disciplined and developed to become successful, talented, Christ-centered leaders for the Church. Over the next 8-16 years, we are investing in their spiritual growth, character, education, and leadership so they will be equipped to lead the next generation for Christ and make a lasting impact for God's Kingdom.



Message from an ADVOCACY PARTNER

Today, 65 believers are facing legal cases and possible imprisonment simply for following Christ. Behind every case is a family that is deeply impacted and a church community desperate to support them. Ananias House is committed to coming alongside families like these, offering support for legal defense and relief wherever possible. This year, 10 of our frontline partners and 55 other ministry workers have faced charges related to such accusations.

Earlier this year, I met with courageous church leaders from across North Africa—men and women who quietly carry the Gospel into places where following Jesus comes at an unimaginable cost. I listened to stories of persecution, prayed with believers who risk everything for their faith, and witnessed a depth of commitment that is both humbling and inspiring.

One story continues to weigh heavily on my heart. It is the story of a former Muslim named Zaid. When Zaid first encountered Jesus, everything changed as the anger and emptiness that once defined his life were replaced by the love of Christ. Filled with joy and transformed by the Holy Spirit, he longed for others to experience the same freedom he had found.

His decision, however, came at a devastating cost. His father erupted in anger. His mother grieved as though she had lost a son. His brother threatened to kill him. And Zaid was forced from his family home.

Despite this hardship, persecution could not extinguish the fire God had ignited within him. Zaid devoted himself to sharing the Gospel,

traveling throughout his home country and helping others discover the hope he had found in Christ. In time, God blessed him with a wife who shared his faith and courage. Together, they fled to a neighboring country and welcomed a beautiful baby boy into the world.

Zaid's commitment to Christ eventually led to legal charges against him for his evangelistic activities. Hoping to resolve the case, he returned to his home country with his family. He was immediately arrested at the border and imprisoned. His young wife, now alone with their newborn son, shared shakily: "I am destroyed emotionally and physically. His family rejected me and kicked me out. They wanted nothing to do with our son or me."

Her words and their experience stayed with me because this is not someone else's story. This is our Church family. This is the Body of Christ. Each night, our sister puts her baby to sleep without knowing what tomorrow holds. She grieves for her husband, carries the weight of uncertainty, wonders how she will provide for her child, and when she will see her husband again. Ananias House strives to stand with families like this one facing persecution by providing safe housing, food, and the love of Jesus.

PERSECUTION

For Faith

What should have been a simple journey to worship became a defining test of faith for Khaled. As he and three other believers traveled 140 kilometers to attend a church service in Algiers, police stopped them and took them in for questioning.

Authorities proceeded to search Khaled's home, confiscating Christian books and worship materials. A month later, he was summoned to court and charged with insulting Islam, encouraging others to leave the religion, distributing Christian literature, and maintaining ties to foreign entities—accusations commonly used against believers engaged in Christian ministry.

On appeal, Khaled was sentenced to six months in prison and fined 100,000 Algerian Dinars. His case remains pending and unresolved before the Supreme Court. He is one of many Christians living in prolonged uncertainty as legal proceedings drag on.

Despite the pressure, Khaled continues to faithfully disciple nine believers and hosts a home church, providing a place for worship, biblical teaching, and fellowship in a country where public expressions of Christian faith are increasingly restricted. In countries where Islam is the state religion and legal systems are influenced by Sharia law, believers frequently encounter restrictions that force churches to gather quietly and exercise great caution, such as Khaled's home church.



A gift of \$1,200 a year, or \$100 per month, provides a training opportunity for a pastor.

His story reflects both the cost and courage of following Christ in the MENA region today. Wrought with the legal challenges and discrimination that persist within the persecuted Church, leaders like Khaled continue to persevere, shepherding others and sharing the Gospel while fully trusting God with the outcome.

As Ananias House supports local frontline partnerships, these trusted men and women are equipped to serve as a reflection of Jesus within their communities. Through evangelism, ministry outreach, relief, and discipleship, they begin to transform the lives of those around them.

As people come to faith, they are empowered to share the Gospel with family members, friends, and neighbors. Through this approach, the Church continues to grow—not through large public gatherings, but through personal relationships and faithful witness that spread from one life to another.

Frontline leaders in MENA are determined to continue building His Church—one life, one family, and one faithful witness at a time.



A gift of \$500 per month, or \$6,000 per year, supports a pastor in their spirit-led ministry.

MINISTRY *Outreach*



“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”
(Galatians 6:10)

A gift of \$50 per month, or \$600 per year, provides food relief for a family.

Ongoing conflicts in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, South Sudan, and Pakistan have left thousands of families vulnerable, wrestling with both poverty and persecution. Ananias House confronts the problem through diverse relief efforts — meeting physical needs by providing food assistance, hygiene supplies, and medical care; and meeting spiritual needs through fellowship opportunities, leadership training, biblical resources, and educational opportunities.

Our mission is to reflect the love of Christ in both word and action. Many of our frontline partners engage in multi-faceted, holistic outreach that begins with food and medical aid and extends to fellowship, church planting, and biblical training opportunities: a meal shared with a hungry family, a child receiving an education, a pastor encouraged to continue serving, or a seeker finding a safe place to ask questions about faith.

Acts of compassion create opportunities for connection. Through relationships, local church leaders and frontline partners can walk alongside those who are searching - praying with them and pointing them to the truth found in Scripture, empowering them to explore the hope of Christ safely.

Many Turkish churches aggressively embraced outreach and evangelism opportunities after the devastating earthquakes of 2023. After extensive displacement and loss, one of our partner churches became the epicenter for outreach efforts in their community. By meeting the immediate needs of those devastated by the earthquake, people began to see a reflection of a Savior they wanted to know more about.

Since then, God has continued to bring new individuals and families into the fellowship community—people whose lives were forever changed by tragedy and who now seek spiritual answers. Through faithful home visits, church leaders walk alongside those who still grieve, listening to their stories and sharing the hope found in Christ. Their ministry is built through being present, meeting people in their pain, demonstrating the love of Jesus, encouraging knowledge of the Gospel, and providing opportunities for spiritual growth.

The fruit of this work is evident through their annual women's leadership conferences, children's programs, and relief outreach. To date, 368 people have committed to handwriting personal Bibles, and 22 new believers have been baptized, publicly declaring their faith in Christ. Each baptism represents a story of transformation, a life being drawn from despair to hope, from brokenness to faith.

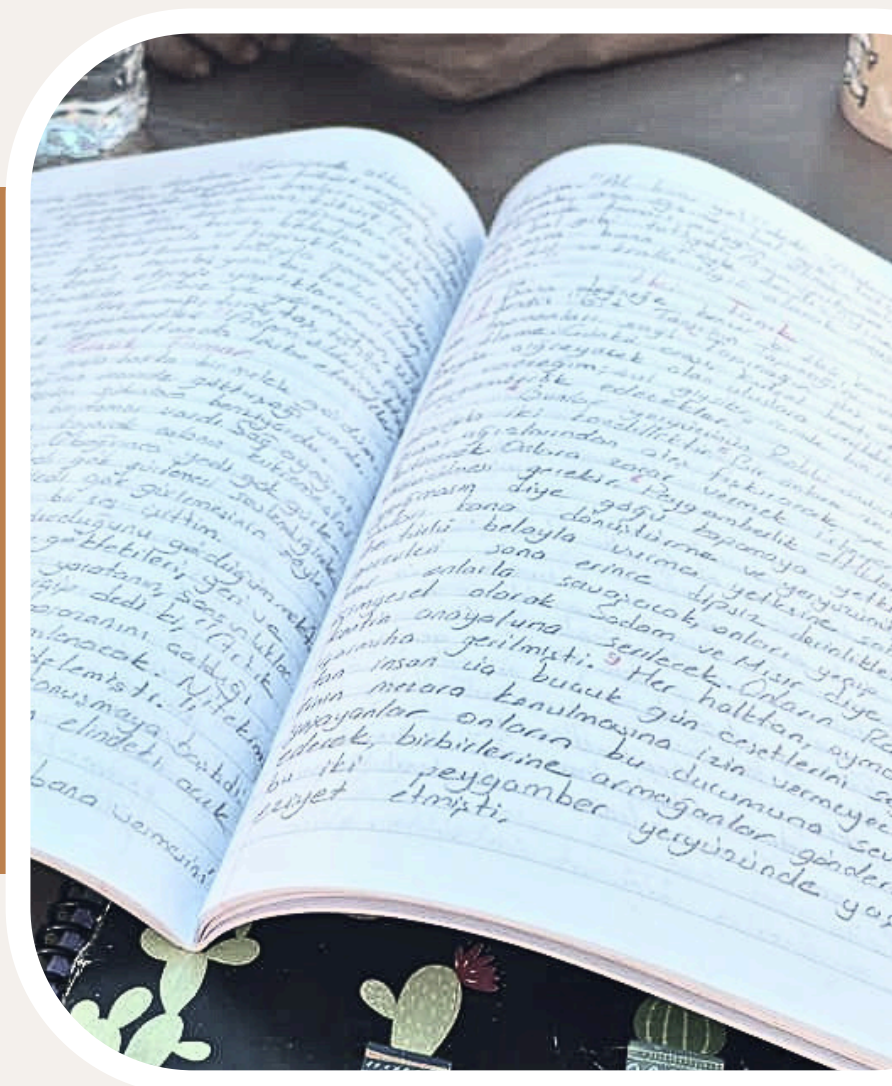
As leaders continue to carry the burdens of their communities while navigating their own experiences of grief, they remain committed to faithfully sharing the Gospel and discipling new believers. By partnering with Ananias House, you can help equip churches with physical and spiritual resources and training opportunities so that they can serve as a lifeline and a light in their communities.

Pray for believers to grow rooted in Christ and experience His healing in every area of their lives.

Pray for the children, many of whom are growing up in the shadow of loss, that they would encounter God's presence in a real and restoring way.

Pray for the church leaders, that they would be strengthened and sustained as they faithfully share the Gospel and care for those God has entrusted to them.

A gift of \$100 prints 25 bibles.



GENERATIONAL *Impact*



Through leadership training and Christian education, Ananias House is cementing a foundation for lasting transformation. Pastors are encouraged to lead faithfully, teachers are equipped to shape the next generation, and families receive the support they need to move toward greater stability and hope.

Diverse leadership training cohorts from Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Pakistan, Turkiye, Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt continue to receive theological training, equipping them to lead in their churches and strengthen the body of Christ through the families in their communities.

Unfortunately, these families continue to navigate poverty, fear, loss, and conflicts of war. These debilitating circumstances affect both quality of life and the belief that they will ever escape that reality. In the darkest of circumstances, Christ is the hope that lights up that darkness. Ananias House is blessed to deliver this hope through Christian education in six countries.

"In our home, our children have slept under the stairs every night for the past 19 days, seeking safety. Canceled school days have led to online learning for the foreseeable future. No normal life. Leaving home only when necessary. Yet in that confined space, God is present."

We tried to transform the place of fear into a place of His presence. We placed a small screen under the stairs and filled that space with God's Word—Bible stories, worship songs, and prayers. Our children fell asleep to a different sound... the sound of hope, not war."

Through Christ-centered education programs, children's minds and hearts are nurtured, and doors to future opportunities are opened. During this past year, some schools were affected by regional instability, resulting in enrollment setbacks from flooding, airstrikes, Syrian refugee migration to/from Syria, and job losses.

As we enter the third quarter of the year, we anticipate increased enrollment, as administrators and church leaders are seeing more Alawite and Christian refugee families move into the area. Despite various obstacles and logistical roadblocks, we are prepared with the opening of a new school expansion in northern Lebanon, ensuring there is an open path for the potential influx of students.

A devoted Christian mother from one of our partner churches in Qatana, Syria, was faced with an unimaginable crisis. She faithfully follows the Lord, and her four children—Sarah (14), Neda (11), Michael (10), and their youngest sibling (7)—have been raised in the church and are active participants in Sunday school.

Earlier this year, her husband came under the influence of radical Muslim clerics, who have increasingly gained power and influence in Syria. Despite repeated attempts by church leaders to intervene and support him, he abandoned his Christian faith, converted to Islam, and joined the extremist group.

This group began grooming him and demanding that he take his wife and children to live under this Islamic influence. This potential reality for the family was terrifying—the mother would most likely be subjected to abuse and exploitation, and the children would be separated from her and indoctrinated into Islamic practices, stripped of the Christian faith in which they were raised.

The Syrian authorities sided with the father and the extremist group, leaving the mother and her children vulnerable and with nowhere to turn. Miraculously, the church was able to act on their behalf and sought help to secure the family and move them to Lebanon.

Through the Church network and partner support, God opened a door of hope. **This was more than a relocation effort; it was a rescue mission for a mother and four children whose lives, freedom, and faith were under threat.**

When the family learned of this opportunity and that the children would be welcomed into a Christian school in Lebanon, they could not contain their joy and tears of relief. Despite facing the heartbreak of leaving the only home they had ever known, they saw before them a new future. They would not be abandoned to extremism and would not be forced into a life without education, opportunity, or hope.

They were welcomed into a new Christian community in Northern Lebanon where they could continue to grow in their faith, expand their education, and rebuild their lives in safety. What seemed like the end of their story became the beginning of a new chapter filled with possibility.

RESTORATION

& Hope



Because of your support, families find refuge, protection, education, and the hope of Christ when they need it most.

Together, we are providing a future for those who otherwise would have none.





At first, Rama kept her distance. Her grief was still raw, and trusting God again felt impossible. The women at the center loved her faithfully, walking beside her without pressure or judgment. Her heart began to heal as she experienced genuine Christian community and saw God's faithfulness reflected in the lives of other women. What began as a place of refuge became a place of transformation.



Today, Rama is an active part of the Blessing Center community. She faithfully participates in Bible studies, discipleship gatherings, and fellowship with women she now considers family. Surrounded by sisters in Christ, she no longer carries her burdens alone. The center continues to provide practical support, spiritual encouragement, and opportunities that help her care for her children with renewed confidence and hope.

Rama often reflects with gratitude on how God met her in the darkest chapter of her life through the faithful presence of His people. The Blessing Center became the place where her hope was restored.

When Rama's husband died unexpectedly, her world changed overnight. In her early thirties, she became the sole provider for two very young children—one a toddler, the other an infant. Without a completed education, steady income, or financial security, she faced an uncertain future. Her grief was heavy, but so were the daily questions every widow knows too well: ***How will I care for my children? How will we survive?***

In those first difficult months, Rama's extended family helped care for her children. But no one could ease the loneliness, heartbreak, and spiritual questions she carried. She wrestled with God, wondering why He had allowed such devastating loss. It was during this season that women from the Blessing Center began reaching out—not only with practical help, but with compassion and an invitation into community.

The Blessing Center has become a haven in Jordan for widows and other women in vulnerable situations. It is a safe place where Christian women can gather for fellowship, Bible study, prayer, and discipleship. There, women who often feel isolated discover they are not alone and that God has not forgotten them. Through vocational opportunities, a new hope is born, allowing these women to earn an income, restore their dignity, and provide for their families.

Our Jordan ministry partner offers a place of refuge and hope, where vulnerable women are discipled in their faith and encouraged to lead in their families and communities. Here, the next generation has the opportunity to grow in their relationship with Christ through mentorship and spiritual formation—helping to build a stronger Church today while raising the next generation of faithful believers.



Ministry Areas of IMPACT

	MINISTRY AREAS	DESCRIPTION
RELIEF & PERSECUTION RESPONSE	General Relief	Thousands of families are supported each month through food coupon distribution, trauma counseling, and spiritual counseling, including home visits, prayer, and pastoral care from churches. Medical relief in the form of medications and some surgeries. Referrals to licensed Christian psychologists in cases of high-risk issues such as suicide.
	Clinic Aid	Medical care provisions such as daily medications, prescriptions, wound care, and minor procedures are provided through both relief distribution and stand-alone clinic centers.
	Legal Defense Initiative	Providing legal support to persecution cases, imprisonment defense, family relief support due to hardship.
	Church Network Relief	Food security for thousands of families in Syria and Lebanon as part of outreach with partner churches and local relief organizations; food coupon distribution, trauma healing training through churches, and focusing on evangelism and counseling/ pastoral care
TRAINING	Pastor Leadership Training Program	Opportunities for mature believers in Iraq, Türkiye, Pakistan, Syria, Lebanon, South Sudan, Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco to teach biblical doctrine. The purpose is to empower leaders to be godly, competent, and confident, able to connect with those in their communities through evangelism and discipleship.
	Women's Leadership Training	Rigorous 5-year programs developed for vetted and committed partnership churches/women. Women learn leadership and facilitation skills, how to obtain a deeper interpretation of the gospel, accept vulnerability, nurture forgiveness, heal through trauma counseling, and grow through cultural awareness.
	Evangelism & Humanitarian Conferences	Awareness and networking conferences to elevate and collaborate among pastors throughout the MENA region; pastors meet and share experiences and strategies to better develop a cohesive approach and learn from each other.
EVANGELISM	Christian Counseling	As a result of the earthquakes and economic crisis, a spiritual awakening occurred among the people as they saw the churches throughout the region act as first responders to the crisis. Where there was no government support or other aid, the churches were already established with relief connections and were able to provide for their communities. Churches are working to establish a national family Christian counseling organization, which would be the first of its kind. Recently applied to the government to establish official registration of the church; first of its kind.
	Front Line Church Ministry	Approximately 46 partners. The Church Ministry Partner project empowers the Church through its pastors, leaders, and elders by equipping them with skills, biblical knowledge, and leadership experience. These skills, knowledge, and resources enable the leaders to engage, evangelize, disciple, and lead other believers to build strong, vibrant, self-sustaining Christian communities and churches.
EDUCATION	Christian and Vocational Schools	Provide education in a safe environment to refugee children in highly persecuted areas who would otherwise not receive it. Basic education curriculum provided (math, science, Arabic, English, literature, history) and supplemented with daily devotionals and weekly biblical teachings. A holistic approach by extending support and building rapport with parents through literacy classes for the mothers, and support in building relationships with children, discipline, goals, and spiritual development. Vocational training is available to 67 teens and young adults who need opportunities to develop work-related skills in carpentry, hairdressing, sewing, and auto repair.

	Morocco	Algeria	Tunisia	Egypt	N. Sudan	S. Sudan	Lebanon	Türkiye	Syria	Jordan	Iraq	Pakistan
Persecution Response	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Evangelism	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Relief	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●
Training	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●		●	●
Education			●	●		●	●		●			●

Get involved

CONNECT

Join the Journey

& PRAY



Pray for those preparing for baptism, that they would be firmly rooted in Christ.

Pray for the children growing up in the shadow of loss and conflict, that they would encounter God's healing presence.

Pray for church leaders who continue to serve tirelessly, that God would strengthen and sustain them as they bring the hope of Jesus to hurting communities.

Pray for the believers facing persecution and imprisonment.

Pray for guidance in how you might stand with them during this difficult season.



Financial Gift

Financial support is the gateway to physical resources that equip local believers in their ministry to spread the gospel. Whether it's through relief efforts, education opportunities, gospel distribution, or direct leadership training.



Join the Heartbeat Group

Become a monthly donor and join a private group where exclusive information and prayer requests are shared from the field. **Consistent support allows us to continue expanding the gospel and serving our beloved brothers and sisters.**



Unite in Prayer

"May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice...." If you would like to join others for monthly prayer or be part of the Prayer Team, we would love to connect with you.



Resources

Learn more about the persecuted Church and the systemic, cultural, and religious targeting by downloading free resources such as *The Faces of Persecution, Honor, Shame, and Faith in the Middle East*, or pray specifically for countries using our guided *Prayer Booklet*.



Subscribe to our Newsletter

Connect with us regularly through our online newsletter to follow the progress of our programs and supported projects, and hear perspectives from our founder and ministry partners.