

## IDRF Spread the Warmth Campaign: Backgrounder (Teacher's Copy)



### **What is the Spread the Warmth Winter Campaign?**

The Spread the Warmth Winter Campaign is designed to raise funds to support Syrian and Palestinian Refugees living in Lebanon survive the harsh Winter.

### **Here is some background information on why your support is important:**

- Since the conflict started in Syria in 2011 there's been an estimate 1 million refugees that have sought refuge in Lebanon
- There are 40,500 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon
- That's added to already 260,000 Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon
- Where it becomes increasingly problematic is that PRS don't fall under the mandate of UNHCR but instead UNWRA (UN Relief and Works Agency)
- UNWRA is underfunded and already over stretched

### **Why the focus on Palestinians?**

- All Palestinians in Lebanon are marginalized politically, economically and socially. Many are unable to find work and are heavily dependent on humanitarian aid

### **Where will the support be provided?**

- While Bekaa isn't the largest populated PRS region in Lebanon its significance to this project is its climate and region (remote rural region)
- Harsh winters where snow and flooding is common
- Wavel Camp (near Baalbek) first started providing shelter to Palestinian refugees in the late 1940s

### **Does IDRF have a experience running a Winter project in Lebanon?**

- Yes. IDRF has ran a similar project last year with the same project partners and in the same region
- Main differences between this year and last was it included warm clothes, bedding and fuel
- This year our focus will only be on fuel (oil - heating and gas - cooking) which was what 98% last year's voucher were used for.

### **How many people will IDRF support with your generous contributions?**

- 770 families OR 4235 individuals (50% women, 42% under the age of 18)
- Prioritizing based on: female headed households, 5+members of the family, member with a disability, chronic disease, elderly, lack of income generating activities

### **How will your donations be distributed to families?**

- Vouchers will be distributed to families in denominations of (6 x \$20) = \$120/family which provides 2 months of fuel
  
- **Why vouchers?**
  - Gives flexibility to the beneficiary and allows them to withhold their dignity/autonomy ○ Benefits the local economy ○ Cost-effective
  - It's a familiar method of support which is used many times within the Lebanese context