

Jordan



The Kingdom of Jordan has been host to Iraqi and Syrian refugees seeking safety from the ongoing instability in their countries.

International Medical Corps has been responding to the refugee crisis in Jordan since the influx of Iraqi refugee in 2003 and the influx of Syrian refugee in 2012. International Medical Corps' innovative services and programs address the complex needs of the refugee in both urban and camp settings, as well as vulnerable host populations.

Although Jordan has one of the best health care systems in the region, the needs of vulnerable Syrian and Iraqi refugees create a burden on the national resources. Many refugees have sought residence in neighborhoods that are already facing challenges, including limited access to medical care, higher than average unemployment, substandard living conditions, and overburdened schools.

Moreover, the Government of Jordan has been hosting two Syrian Refugee Camps: Zaatari Refugee Camp and Azraq Refugee Camp, in which International Medical Corps collaborates in providing critical health services.



OUR WORK IN JORDAN

International Medical Corps understands the importance of a holistic approach that addresses the needs of conflict-affected people. Therefore, International Medical Corps:

- provides health care, mental health and psychosocial services to conflict-affected refugees and vulnerable host populations.
- provides reproductive health services; maternal, child health care, and nutrition,
- outreaches to the most vulnerable in remote areas through mobile medical units for further curative consultations, immunizations and basic medications.
- extends broad services in Jordan that include protection, youth empowerment, e-learning for health care practitioners, health capacity strengthening, and gender-based violence,
- improves the safety and resilience of vulnerable children in hazard-prone communities through Disaster Risk Reduction policies and school activities, and
- facilitates cohesive interagency coordination through the development of social service and referral systems.



HEALTH CARE PROVISION

International Medical Corps teams provide free, comprehensive primary health care services to Syrians in Azraq refugee camp, as well as for marginalized Jordanians, living in areas of the country that are underserved by health care providers. These teams provide over 7,000 health care consultations monthly in Azraq camp, including an average of 350 medical consultations to women in reproductive health and child care. International Medical Corps in Jordan also supports one Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) that travels every day to hard-to-reach areas and assesses the challenges in providing basic health care in those areas.

This MMU undertakes more than 190 visits to Southern governorates and villages, offering health services for over 15,360 beneficiaries a year.

International Medical Corps is also the only provider of primary health care in Azraq camp. In addition to essential drugs provision, expanding programs of immunity and establishing an integrated referral system, International Medical Corps stands out in Jordan as a pioneer of promoting women's health through antenatal and postnatal care, family planning and provision of essential treatment plans and health education for STIs (sexually transmitted infections), in Azraq Camp.

MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

International Medical Corps advocates for the integration of mental health care into the primary health care system as a means of alleviating pressure on the minimal resources available at secondary and tertiary levels of care. For particularly vulnerable individuals who require specialized psychiatric services, International Medical Corps provides direct care at primary healthcare centers throughout the country; including Za'tari and Azraq refugee camps..

Mental Health services are provided by a multi-disciplinary team consisting of a psychiatrist, mental health nurse, case manager and psychologist. Mental health services are guided by a strengths-based approach which assists clients with goal setting and empowerment practices. Case managers facilitate indispensable services for vulnerable individuals and families through a coordinated network of interagency service providers. Mental health services are integrated with the psychosocial activities. Children and youth with mental health concerns are engaged in structured activities that aim to relieve their concerns and improve their psychological and social wellbeing. The psychosocial support extends to clients' families and environment, and ensures that clients receive comprehensive care.

The mental health team receives ongoing theoretical and practical training including training on child protection and gender-based violence management and referral.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT, YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, AND PROTECTION

International Medical Corps provides protection and psychosocial activities to children and adolescents through Adolescent Friendly Spaces (AFS). At these spaces, refugees and vulnerable families can access case management services, which are provided for children, families, and youth who have mental health concerns, have experienced or witnessed violence or are at risk of violence, are experiencing family tensions or difficulties caring for children, are at risk of protection concerns as defined by UNHCR's vulnerability criteria for 2014, or require access to basic services such as health and education.

To support children and youth with psychosocial or psychological problems caused by traumatic experiences, International Medical Corps established Adolescent Friendly Spaces (AFS) in both refugee camps, and in urban settings. Within those spaces, children attend organized recreational activities, participate in sports activities, express their thoughts and life experiences within drama sessions, and may gather to chant traditional and cultural songs in a music session.

Early detection of a child experiencing psychological difficulties or cognitive impairments is crucial for a good outcome. The ability to screen for adjustment problems or cognitive deficits during childhood and teenage years means that these psychosocial issues can be addressed before they lead to behavioral issues. International Medical Corps addresses these symptoms with a family and peer-oriented approach.

The program has been established and has been implemented within various urban settings within Northern, Middle and Southern Governorates in Jordan, as well as both Al Azraq and Al Zaatari Camps for Syrian Refugees.



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GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

Within Al Azraq camp, International Medical Corps has established a protective environment where survivors of GBV are able to access supportive services and community members are equipped to advocate for increased protection.

In the camp, International Medical Corps facilitates the reception process and shelter allocation for female-headed households to reduce their risk of encountering violence by taking into account the special needs and vulnerabilities of this population. International Medical Corps case managers provide psychological first aid for arrivals along with dignity kits, and they link them with different services in the camp, such as health, mental health and protection.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)

DRR activities aim to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society in order to avoid or to limit the adverse impacts of hazards and to facilitate sustainable development. DRR include activities that can be carried out by a person, a village, a community, a government or an aid agency or in order to increase resilience to disasters. International Medical Corps is implementing this program in local Jordanian communities to enhance the safety and resilience of vulnerable children in hazard-prone areas through DRR policies and school activities. The program has reached almost 100 schools in disaster-prone communities in Jordan.



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS IN THE REGION

International Medical Corps has been active in the Middle East since 2003 when it was one of the first international agencies to reengage in post-invasion Iraq. Since that time we have built robust programming in Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, and have responded to emergency needs in Gaza. International Medical Corps' Middle East programs focus on humanitarian relief, community development and government capacity building.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

For over 30 years, International Medical Corps has demonstrated the ability to deliver major relief and development programs to improve lives and strengthen national capacity through health, education, and social programming. International Medical Corps has responded to complex emergencies and implemented transitional development programs in more than 70 countries worldwide.



Since its inception 30 years ago, International Medical Corps' mission has been consistent: relieve the suffering of those impacted by war, natural disaster and disease, by delivering vital health care services that focus on training. This approach of helping people help themselves is critical to returning devastated populations to self-reliance.

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