



Roebuck Residents Association,
50 Farmhill Road,
Goatstown,
Dublin 14.

18th of December 2023

Dear Everyone in Roebuck Residents Association,

On behalf of UNICEF, I would like to formally acknowledge receipt of your generous donation of €1,000 in support of UNICEF's emergency humanitarian response in Gaza.

I was in Gaza on a UNICEF monitoring mission shortly before the war began. Never could I have imagined what was about to transpire there in the coming weeks. As we have all watched the events unfold on our screens, it is clear that a catastrophic humanitarian situation has rapidly developed inside Gaza. As I write to you the reports we are receiving from our team are of a devastating situation. A major humanitarian relief operation is currently underway and that will need to be sustained and expanded over the coming weeks and months. When I was in Gaza, I was inspired by UNICEF's substantial operation on the ground which was focused on providing water, sanitation, hygiene, education, food and psychological support for children who have been traumatised by what they had experienced previously. That work will need to be accelerated in the coming weeks and months and that is why your generous support to UNICEF is hugely appreciated at this stage.

With support like yours, UNICEF has been able to transport huge amounts of humanitarian assistance to Egypt for onward delivery through the Rafah border crossing into Gaza for distribution to those in need. From the outset, UNICEF's humanitarian aid (including 11 Airlifts) has been among the first deliveries which have passed through the Rafah border crossing as soon as it was opened. As I write to you, during and since the recent temporary pause, UNICEF has transported in hundreds of trucks of aid including :

- **Water** - Under the United Nations humanitarian system UNICEF is the designated lead responder for water in humanitarian crises. When I was in Gaza before the conflict arose, I visited a UNICEF sponsored water desalination plant just south of Gaza city which has the capacity to provide water for 450,000 people on a daily basis. Our supplies will help get that plant (and 4 other water treatment plants) up and running again. In the meantime, during the recent pause we transported in 7.5 million litres of water for those living in UNWRA shelters. In addition, over 300,000 water purification tablets have been delivered.
- **Hygiene Dignity Kits** - As you will be aware, at least 1.5 million people are now internally displaced within Gaza itself - many of which are in United Nations schools and shelters. The sanitation/hygiene conditions in those shelters is very poor and we are greatly concerned about the increase in waterborne diseases which is already happening. It is now a very pressing problem. UNICEF has already brought in 250,000 Hygiene/Dignity kits. We are currently replenishing that stockpile.

- **Tents and Blankets** – As winter approaches, temperatures drop dramatically in the region, and we are concerned about the lack of warmth for displaced children – particularly those living in UN shelters. Last week UNICEF delivered 70,000 blankets and 120,000 items of warm winter clothing for children.
- **Food** - Already 2000 children have been diagnosed with severe malnutrition and UNICEF has brought in stockpiles of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF).
- **Psychological Support** - A key part of UNICEF's response is to provide psychological support for children who have been deeply traumatised from seeing things that no child should ever see. Prior to the crisis we already had a strong psychological unit providing trauma therapy. Your support will enable that to be scaled up to meet a huge demand.

All these supplies will need to be replenished on an ongoing basis from our global supply depots. Inside Gaza, UNICEF has a committed team of 37 humanitarian specialists. As I write to you, our teams are working on the supply chain logistics to deliver the humanitarian assistance that I have outlined above to our various operational implementing partners on the ground for distribution.

As you can see from above, this complex logistical supply operation involving airlifts, trucking and distribution is very costly and that is why your support today, along with the incredible support from the Irish people for UNICEF, will allow us to scale up our operations over the coming weeks. It will also allow us plan for the replenishment and delivery of further life-saving supplies. On behalf of our committed team inside Gaza as well as our logistical supply chain colleagues, please accept our huge gratitude for your support.

Unicef greatly appreciates this strong support from the Association for our Emergency Response in Gaza.

Peter

Peter Power
Executive Director.



A young girl watches on at what remains of her home. She, and many thousands more, will need vital humanitarian assistance over the coming weeks and months.

unicef  for every child

Many thanks again for your generous support for Unicef's Emergency humanitarian Response in Gaza.

I would invite you to scan the QR Code below for a video showing how your support will have an impact on the ground.

Thank You.

Peter



Message from Majed Altwal,
Deputy Representative
Operation State of Palestine



Message from Peter Power,
Executive Director
UNICEF IRELAND