



# THE ORDER OF MALTA LEBANON

## Beirut Harbor Explosion Crisis Response Report.

25/08/2020

[www.orderofmaltalebanon.org](http://www.orderofmaltalebanon.org)





# Introduction.



In light of the immediate crisis response to the explosion that shook the core of Beirut City on August 4, 2020; amidst a pre-existing financial, economic, social and sanitary crisis – the ‘Order of Malta Lebanon’, thanks to its generous donors, was able to initiate a rapid response plan to address the different unprecedented and emerging repercussions from the recent blast in Beirut, while continuously responding to the healthcare and social welfare needs across the country, in addition to addressing the resurgence outbreak of the Covid19 pandemic.



# First three-weeks support response in Beirut.



## HEALTHCARE

- FIRST AID RESPONSE
- DEPLOYMENT OF MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS
- SUPPORT FOR DAMAGED PHCs
- COVID19 PANDEMIC



## LIVELIHOOD

- YOUTH VOLUNTEERS ACTIONS
- CLEANING DAMAGED HOMES
- ASSESSMENT OF GEITAWI AREA
- OFFERING READY TO EAT FOOD AND HYGIENIC KITS



## PSYCHOSOCIAL

- SHELTER IN CHABROUH FOR DEVASTATED FAMILIES
- FREE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT
- MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AND TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS





# HEALTHCARE SUPPORT.



# First Aid Response.

In the immediate aftermath of the blast, our primary healthcare facility in Ain Al-Remmaneh (Beirut) began receiving large swaths of people who were injured in the blast. Due to the influx of individuals and immense gravity placed on Beirut hospital beds and emergency departments, the Ain Al-Remmaneh health care center responded in lifting a load off hospitals through aiding and assisting the mildly wounded individuals in need of immediate medical aid. The center is always open to receive and treat every patient in need.

● The Order of Malta Primary Healthcare Center in Ain el Remmaneh is receiving patients with mild injuries following the explosion in Beirut. Please call the center for more info on 01/559986.

ان مركز الرعاية الصحية الاولى التابع لمنظمة مالطا في عين الرمانة يستقبل حاليا المرضى ذوي الاصابات الطفيفة الناجمة عن انفجار بيروت. الرجاء الاتصال على رقم المركز: ٠١-٥٥٩٩٨٦

<https://g.co/kgs/aiigcX>







# The Mobile Medical Units.

The Order of Malta mobilized 4 of its 6 Mobile Medical Units in a rotational manner that responds to the emerging needs rising from the explosion, all without affecting the response action to the existing needs in the other regions.

Whether from the Southern Border, North East Beqaa or Akkar (all 3 in collaboration with Malteser International), or Kefraya in the West Bekaa (in collaboration with Fondation Pierre Fabre), the two different Mobile Medical Units that were allocated in Karantina and Bourj Hammoud served as a first response division

through the offering of medical aid, in addition to medical consultations for all in need. This response plan contributed to taking the pressure off Beirut hospitals and damaged PHCs.

Through an organized and systematic operations process and with the support of a specialized medical staff; the fully equipped mobile medical units were successfully able to offer immediate relief, medical consultations, as well as medicines, in line with people's needs.



**The MMUs treated 1,068 patients the first 2 days.**



# The Mobile Medical Units.



**Around 300 patients per day were offered free emergency aid and comprehensive healthcare services in each MMU.**





# Primary Healthcare Centers damage assessment.



5 major hospitals and more than a dozen Primary Healthcare Centers were damaged by the blast. The Order of Malta Lebanon has reacted very quickly in its assessment and has pledged to restore 5 PHCs in Beirut (Bachoura, Keragheusian, Dar el Fatwa, Mother and Child and its center in Ain el Remmaneh). The rehabilitation will also include complementary medicines provisions.





# Covid 19 Pandemic.



The Covid 19 pandemic is spiking. During our intervention, we made sure to keep, as much as possible, all the safety and security measures, even in very difficult circumstances. Our next steps will involve hygiene kits distributions and multiplication of prevention and awareness campaigns.



A busy street scene in an urban area. In the foreground, a woman with short red hair and a white face mask is carrying a large cardboard box and a brown and black zebra-striped shopping bag. To her left, a woman wearing a grey hijab and a maroon top is walking. In the background, many other people are walking, some wearing face masks. A woman in a red shirt and blue jeans is walking away from the camera. On the right side, two women in red vests are standing near a wall. A black SUV is parked on the left side of the street. The overall atmosphere is one of a busy, everyday life scene.

# RESTORING LIVELIHOODS.





# The Youth Volunteers.

From the second day of the blast that ripped through the City of Beirut, 200 Order of Malta Youth volunteers have been engaged in widespread relief operations aimed at providing livelihood support for all affected and stricken individuals.

Working around the clock, the youth volunteers were split into three groups, made of several teams, each tasked with different objectives embodying the value of solidarity.

**The first group** was tasked with surveying, assessing, and providing support for families, while initiating cleaning operations that entailed removing rubble and debris from both damaged homes and the streets, with a focus on the Geitawi area, with the support of specialized engineers.

**The second group**, worked on the distribution of meals and ready to eat food to all the families and individuals in need, mostly those whose kitchens have been damaged.

The food assistance program lead by the youth volunteers reaches **1,000 individuals per day**.

**The third group** is involved in the Chabrouh hosting center for devastated families (*see psychosocial section*).



# The Youth Base camp.

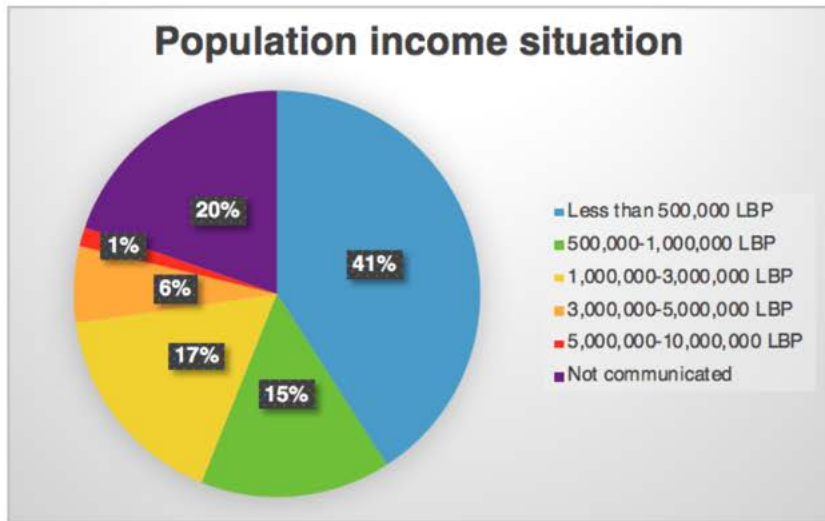
Team leaders getting organized in their informal back office in the Geitawi area.



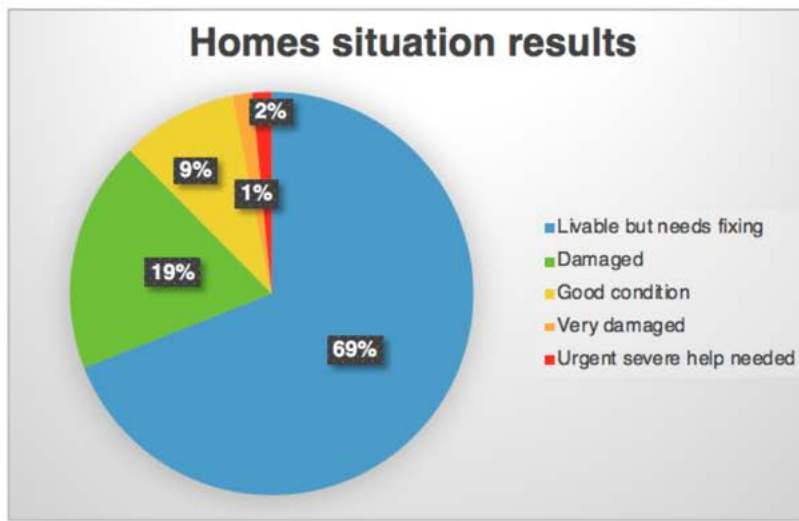




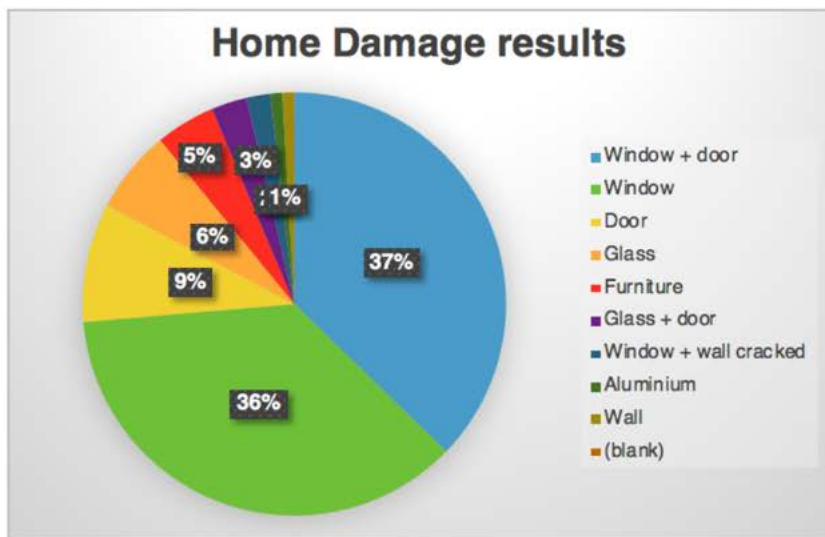
# Geitawi area assessment results.



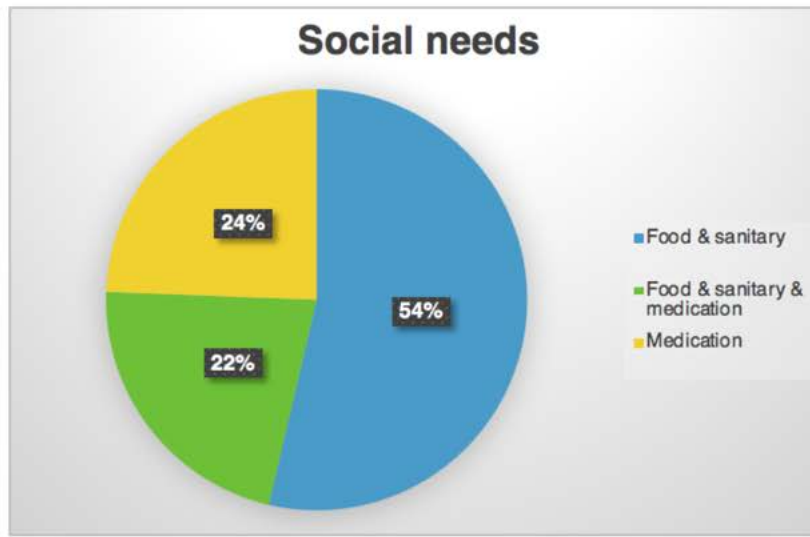
56% of the population live with less than 1 000 000 LBP/month (145\$)



31% of the total population have serious damages in their homes



73% of the damages are windows & doors



76% of the households needs are food and sanitary & 24% are medications

Sample reached :  
132 homes visited  
by the Youth  
volunteers and a  
team of experts.

Rate: 1USD = 7.000 LBP



# Cleaning Teams.







# Food Relief Teams.

Ready to eat food, warm meals and food packages distributions.







# Sanitary kits distribution.



**With the high cost of living, sanitary products are a must to provide for vulnerable families (shampoo, soap, cleaning products, tissues...)**





# Beyond the relief works: a message of Hope, Coexistence and Peace.



A nighttime landscape photograph featuring a sunset over a range of hills. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow glow where the sun has set. Below the horizon, a town or village is visible, with numerous small lights scattered across the hillsides. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of trees and a fence, with some ground-level lights illuminating the scene. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text 'PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT.' in white, bold, sans-serif font. A small red dot is positioned at the end of the word 'SUPPORT.'

# PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT.

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# Shelter and Mental Health support for victims.

Thousands of families have been left distraught, as a result of the extensive damage and destruction of thousands of homes, the Order of Malta has dedicated its center in Chabrouh as a temporary shelter for the affected families and individuals. The center can usually accommodate up to 170 individuals; however, in compliance with the social distancing measures followed to avoid the spread of the Corona virus, the center will only receive 50 people.



The center provides the individuals and families with adequate living conditions, including lodging, food, targeted activities program for children and the elderly. It houses those who lost their homes until the restoration of their properties is completed. Through a dedicated Team of experts, the center provides the necessary mental health support through a tailored program that helps them in dealing with the tragedy.

In order to ensure the safety of these families, the Order of Malta is taking all the necessary precautions and mechanisms to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Individuals and families are first welcomed at the organization's host center in Kfardebian for a period of 24 hours, where they undertake a PCR test before being received in the accommodation center in Chabrouh.



# Chabrouh, the House of Love and Compassion.

 ORDER OF MALTA  
LEBANON

in collaboration with The youth 



**CHABROUH, THE HOUSE OF LOVE AND COMPASSION**  
Chabrouh center welcomes devastated families  
touched by Beirut blast in a safe and serene environment







# Touching Lives.



**Camil, hosted in Chabrouh with his family, has decided to enroll with the Youth volunteers.**



# Mental health support for volunteers and recommendations for addressing PTSD.

Training Lectures were provided to the The Youth team leaders and volunteers by a Mental Health expert for victims of torture and war, specially commissioned by Malteser International, to assess the needs and respond to the current Lebanese crisis.

The focus of the lectures were on the management of post traumatic stress disorders (PTSD) when recovering from an explosion, addressing two parts:

First and foremost the mental health and well-being of the volunteers, allowing them to share their coping skills after this tragedy, learning how to channel their emotions.

Second, the different ways to address and help survivors to take preliminary steps to emotional recovery during their field interventions in the devastated areas.







# Free psychological consultations.

شبكة الرعاية  
الصحية الأولية  
وزارة الصحة العامة

ORDER OF MALTA  
LEBANON

## THE ORDER OF MALTA ALWAYS AT YOUR SIDE!



The Order of Malta's Community Health Center in Ain el-Remmaneh is offering **free psychological consultations** at the center to help you cope with the repercussions of the tragic event to which a large part of the Lebanese population has been exposed, and that could have a significant impact on your current and future mental health.

For those who wish, the Order of Malta also provides telephone counselling sessions for psychological support

 **MONDAY TO FRIDAY**  
9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

Do not hesitate to contact the therapist who is ready to support you on the following number

 70 98 81 39

**WE STAND BY YOU!**

Ain El Remmaneh, Georges Tayar street,  
next to the St. Georges Church – Chiyah – Tel : +961 1 55 99 86

In order to help victims and affected persons to cope with the repercussions of the tragic event, a hotline has been created to offer telephone counselling sessions with the psychologist of our health center in Ain el Remmaneh, which is also open to receive consultations at its premises.



# Support for people with special needs.



Our guests with special needs have not been forgotten in this crisis emergency response. The Order of Malta “Project Karim”, is offering support to our partner psychiatric institutions and our guests with special needs (who usually attend the holiday camps at the Order of Malta center in Chabrouh) with scarce/expensive basic supplies and reparation aids to the damages resulting from the blast.





# BEYOND BEIRUT.

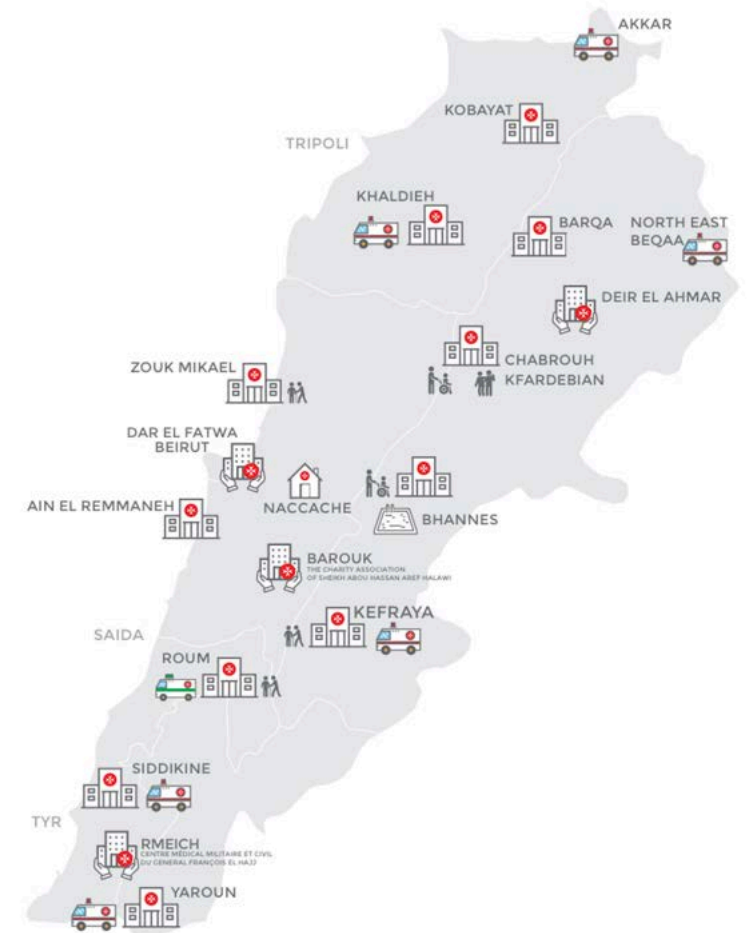


# Continuous quality healthcare in times of crisis.

The Beirut blast occurred amidst a financial, economic, social and sanitary crisis. Despite the hardships Lebanon is currently facing, we continue to provide our widespread primary healthcare services through our 9 Community Health Centers and 5 Mobile Medical Units, which are distributed over different regions throughout the Lebanese provinces, mainly in Akkar, Kobayat, Khaldieh, Ain Al-Remmaneh, Zouk, Barqa, Deir al Ahmar, North East Beqaa, Kefraya, Siddiqine, Yaroun and Roum (Jezzine).

The centers are designated to meet the needs of patients and offer medical consultations, medicines and services in various fields that range from cardiology, pediatrics, gynecology, ophthalmology, dental care, orthopedics, dermatology as well as paramedical services.

The Mobile Medical Units offer free comprehensive healthcare services, including referrals to specialized consultations, laboratory and even hospitalization.







# Caring for lonely seniors in remote areas.



Seniors living in remote areas should not be forgotten, many of them are left alone, their families being abroad or living in Beirut (thus directly or indirectly affected by the blast). Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the 2 day care centers for the elderly located in Roum (Jezzine) and Kefraya (West Beqaa) are offering home visits to their patients, checking on their health and well-being, offering them their required medicines, warm meals, food parcels and hygiene kits.





REMAINING NEEDS  
FOR OUR BEIRUT  
RESPONSE.





# Immediate Identified Financial Needs.

The following needs for the short term crisis response have not yet been covered:

▲ **For psychological support:**

- Trauma of children who have been the most affected by the explosion; some of them can no longer sleep at night and are very destabilized
- Trauma for the injured and those who have lost loved ones
- Trauma of the injured who have lost their homes and are temporarily living with their loved ones while their homes are being renovated. These injured are very destabilized and have or will suffer from psychological problems

▲ **To ensure psychosocial support:**

- Home visits to the elderly and isolated people who refuse to leave their damaged homes for fear of being robbed or chased away by the landlords following the explosion; the vast majority of these people being tenants
- support for socially excluded people in the harbor area (drug addicts, undocumented persons...).

▲ **To ensure functional rehabilitation in post-trauma and post-Covid19**

▲ **To support the Youth volunteers in their relief efforts in the assessed Geitawi area**

Donation details on : [www.orderofmaltalebanon.org/donate/](http://www.orderofmaltalebanon.org/donate/)



# Immediate Identified In-kind Donations Needs.

The following needs for the short term crisis response have not yet been covered:

- **Disposable products, in particular for bandages**
- **Milk for toddlers (3<sup>rd</sup> age)**
- **Baby Diapers**
- **Adult diapers**
- **Sanitary pads for women**
- **Laboratory reagents, dental products**
- **Daily ready-to-eat food products and hot meals**
- **Hygienic products** (shampoo, toilet papers, tissues, wet wipes, toothpaste, tooth brushes, soap, detergents etc...)

For more info, contact us on [info@ordredemalteliban.org](mailto:info@ordredemalteliban.org)





# A BIG THANK YOU.

- To all our donors and partners who have immediately responded to our appeal and who are still doing so.*
- To the Grand Magistry, diplomatic corps, all the national associations and priories of the Sovereign Order of Malta around the world whose response made us feel like one big family. Thank you for the messages, calls, prayers, Holy Mass celebrations and of course the most needed and appreciated donations.*
- To Malteser International Emergency Assessment teams and Fondation Pierre Fabre representative for their presence by our side.*
- To Malte-Liban Association, the Global Fund for Forgotten People, Together for Lebanon, Malteser International, national associations, and all those who are helping us raise funds across the world.*
- To our healthcare teams on the field and all the staff who are behind their desks that are working day and night to respond to the crisis.*
- To all our Youth volunteers who make us proud and give us hope for a better future.*
- To all those who took the time to come and visit us and/or our devastated country in sign of solidarity:*





**PRESIDENT OF THE  
FRENCH REPUBLIC**



**GERMAN AMBASSADOR  
TO LEBANON**



**S.O.M DEAN OF  
PRESIDENTS AND  
PRESIDENT OF THE  
GERMAN ASSOCIATION**



**PRESIDENTS OF  
MALTESER HILFSDIENST  
AND MALTESER  
INTERNATIONAL EUROPE**



**MALTESER  
INTERNATIONAL  
LEBANON COUNTRY  
COORDINATOR**



**MALTESER  
INTERNATIONAL  
EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT  
TEAM**





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We will never give up.  
The day **after tomorrow**  
will be sunshine.