



**Report for St. Gabriel Center
in the area of Kilo 4.5, Cairo
Annual Administrative Report**

(November 2012 (opening) - 31 December 2013)

Introduction

This report is designed to cover just over one year of activities of the St. Gabriel Center . It is to inform and update you about work done, achievements, work in process and future plans. It will also highlight some of the challenges faced by the Center's management in carrying out the work.

Background

St. Gabriel Center is affiliated to St. Michael and all Angels Anglican Church (SMAA), which runs both social and spiritual activities among Sudanese refugees in Cairo in the area of Kilo 4.5. This area east of Cairo was mostly illegally constructed, hence without any governmental oversight. This also impacts the level of governmental services to the area: that is minimal.

Kilo 4.5 is relatively cheap and secure for most Sudanese and for people from other African nationalities. The community shares a low standard of living with the Egyptians in the neighbourhood. We share in their poverty, illiteracy, chronic children's diseases (like malnutrition and the lack of calcium) and other types of diseases. But most

important is that we live together with some social harmony as we all share the same circumstances.

The Center rents two joint apartments from one Christian person, who is generally speaking gentle and cooperative. The neighbours in the direct environment are mostly Muslims who have emigrated from rural areas of Egypt seeking a new life in the big city.

Vision, Mission, Goals and Core Values

A Vision Statement

A viable transformed Sudanese refugee community in Egypt from every tribe in Sudan reconciled before God and worships the lord Jesus Christ.

B Mission statement

St. Gabriel Center in kilo 4.5 exists to serve refugee people of Sudan in Cairo –Egypt in various aspect of live and accordance with the will of God.

C Goals

Our overall objectives in the St. Gabriel Center are as follow:-

- Cooperation with all Sudanese refugees in Cairo without discrimination , sympathize with other communities having a similar situation
- Praying for Sudan and Nuba Mountains in particular to attain a just and lasting peace.
- Empowering Sudanese refugees in Cairo-Egypt with minimum, necessary skills in English language, handcrafts and domestic skills for women.
- To evangelise to reach those yet not reached, and deepening of our Christian discipleship.
- Capacity building to Sudanese refugees in Cairo for holistic ministry.
- Provides quality services, activities to Sudanese community in Kilo 4.5.
- Special care for women, children and vulnerable persons.

D Core Values

- Holistic Christian ministry to Sudanese refugees' community living in Cairo-kilo4.5.
- Promotions of peace, justice equality, respect for human rights and maintain our Sudanese culture.
- Faithfulness to the Word of God.

Major Programs

The Center runs these programs and activities:

1. Clinic

Concerning with health and sanitation activities for Sudanese refugees and surrounding neighbours in the area of Kilo 4.5. Many numbers of patients attending free medical outreach once a month from HARMAL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL/Manuf. Approximate attendance is estimated 420 patients per month. We also provide health awareness for women and children on weekly basis.

2. English Courses

Those courses are designed for acquiring knowledge and skills in the English Language to help Sudanese get some simple work as well as preparing those who seek to travel abroad when accepted by the United Nations as refugees. We deal with three levels of English courses namely (book one, two and three) in addition to grammar lessons and communicative skills. We use Oxford Readers for Africa and brighter grammar.

3. Handicrafts and Domestic Work

Women are targeted with this program. It empowers them with various skills in handicrafts work, skills in domestic work, and skills to cope with an urban life style in Egypt.

We train about 18 to 25 women every three months or so, to equip them with some modern skills.

We managed to finish with two groups of women so far. They study and work together as a group for 3 months, before we initiate a new group. We hope to increase the number and allocate more funds to the program.

4. Discipleship

Discipleship is one of our essential programs in the Center, as we intent to produce strong faithful Christian and bring so many to Christ and integrate them in our Church community at St. Michaels Church.

We managed to coordinate with the administration of Middle East Leadership Training Institute (MELTI) to bring professional tutors to teach our interested learners on a weekly basis. During this year, with dozens of young Sudanese we have gone through four books; namely:

- Aims of Christmas
- Life towards the goal
- Teaching effectively
- Share your faith

We are looking forward for more funds to support this viable program, so as to buy books and transportation allowances for resource persons. Many more young people were willing to join but it is difficult for most of them to pay the nominal prescribed fees regularly and in time.



5. Youth Activities

We have a large number of youth, who can be categorized into three groups:-

- General youth
- Teenagers
- Sunday school

Due to the large and huge number of youth, two days weekly were given for their activities. Which involve; bible study, practice new songs, prayers and preparation for Sunday service, in addition they have their own singing groups.

Also we provide sports session for boys, where we rent playground for two hours for football. And thinking to have some space for girls as well.

We also organise e a big convention once a month, in which youth present lots of talents in music, songs, preaching and prayers. The program last for three days.

6. Social Meetings



The aspect of this program is to enhance social ties and tackle some social challenges including, activities of "lost" boys and girls groups roaming the streets and standing up, sometimes violently against other groups in the society.

Also we organise meetings for lonely or single mothers who find it hard to provide some sort of good life to their children. Problems emerged from being single mother or

lonely woman struggling with issues of new different culture and new environment.

We arrange social activities and religious events, revival sessions; invite some leaders to address our Sudanese community about ongoing events in Sudan. Sometimes we do organise meetings concerning the situation in Egypt and how for our Sudanese community to behave, social awareness about cross cultural issues for instance .

We have special activities for non-Sudanese African fellows who live in a similar situation like us.

We do also campaign against bad habits, using our Sudanese elders.

Various social occasions were celebrated such as; engagements, birthdays, farewell parties and the like.

Summary of Managerial Achievements

The Gabriel Center was able to accomplish the following:



- Renovate and maintained the Center in and out.
 - Providing all necessary furniture to the offices and Hall.
 - Official opening to the Center by His Grace Archbishop Dr. Mouneer Hanna Anis.
 - Medical outreach with seven specialised doctors to check patients.
 - Provide quality domestic lessons for women. Involvement of Muslim woman resource person as a volunteer.
 - Conducted two workshops for 8 eight volunteers involve in Center activities and program.
 - Developed vision and Mission statement for the Center.
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- Cooperation with Middle East Leadership Training Institute (melti) to provide tutors for discipleship lessons.
 - Receiving some guests and donors; four bishops from Sudan, two Dutch donors and one German donor lady respectively.
 - We met with some entities such as; director of EpiscoCare, Director of Harmel Memorial Hospital, and exchanged visits with Refugee Egypt director and staff concern.
 - Appointment of one assistant-worker.
 - Having activities daily throughout the week.
 - Encouraged many Sudanese to attend Sudanese Sunday service in the church.

Constraints

- Increasing of Sudanese using the Center, space is small (the Hall).
- Considerable number of single mothers/widows and aged people (need assistance of kind and cash), sometimes urgent needs which is not available.
- Lack of regular funds to rent sports club for youth at least twice a month.
- A fund for handcrafts is little considering materials every week to be used by participants.
- There is demand for that free medical outreach once a month on regular basis for so many people in kilo4.5.

Recommendations

- Look for ways and means to support youth activities, as a key to avoid deviant behaviour, bad attitudes and inconvenient involvements.
- To acquire bigger place of our own to accommodate the large flow of Sudanese.
- Training workshops, seminars for staff and volunteers to produce quality of performance in the Center.
- To provide two desk top computers, camera and small printer to assist in Center.
- Urgent need for moveable partition in the Hall for multi-purpose events.....
- Priest in charge to visit the Center twice a year to celebrate some of our vivid programs with participants.

Conclusion

Despite so many challenges for Sudanese refugees in Cairo-Egypt, St. Michael's church is experiencing tremendous growth numerically and spiritually, which in return resulted into a very remarkable work, by having our St Gabriel Center in Kilo 4.5 where many Sudanese refugees reside, to carry out some social services and

support to the church members in that areas to perform mid-week activities and render social services to all Sudanese, and other communities around in the area of kilo 4.5.

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15 January 2014



