



100+ DAYS OF WAR

JUZOOR IN GAZA: HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AND IMPACT REPORT

Juzoor is among the few organizations continuously operating in the entire Gaza Strip to deliver aid and help those in need

Read more about our extensive work as highlighted in this report



CONTEXT

October 7 saw the start of distressing escalations in the Palestinian territories, notably marked by the initiation of an aggressive military campaign by Israel on the Gaza Strip from air, land, and sea. Nearly four months later, Israeli attacks have resulted in the tragic loss of more than 26,000 Palestinian lives, majority of whom are women and children, and the complete destruction of most of the region and its infrastructure.

More than 1.9 million people have been displaced, many of whom have had to move more than once and the majority of whom have evacuated to the South, an area first redeemed as a safe zone but now overcrowded and under fire. UNRWA school shelters, now hosting thousands of displaced individuals beyond their capacities, are reporting devastating conditions and disease outbreaks. Virtually every service, location, and sector in Gaza has been hit and is on the brink of collapse, with the healthcare system being the most fragile. Many incidents of attacks on hospitals, ambulances, medical centers, and healthcare workers have been reported, and more than 90 health facilities and 80 ambulances have been affected since the start of the war. There are currently only 14 of 36 hospitals that are partially functioning, and all lack medical supplies and health personnel. All kinds of resources are depleted and scarce, including food, water, medical supplies and medications, fuel, and power. Currently, more than 95% of the people in the world who are suffering from hunger and famine are in Gaza. It is likely that more people will die in the next few months due to disease and hunger than the direct impacts of war.

MESSAGE FROM OUR TEAM

Juzoor for Health and Social Development has long played a pivotal role in shaping the Palestinian health scene, and has been impacting the lives and well-being of Palestinians for nearly three decades.

Since October 7, Juzoor has been acting as a leader and catalyst in responding to the catastrophe unfolding in the Gaza Strip. Our dedicated teams in the West Bank and Gaza have been working tirelessly, sometimes in extremely challenging conditions, to ensure the success of our operations and provide help to those in need.

Thanks to the support of global partners and organizations, we have been able to alleviate some of the burdens faced by the people of Gaza through our humanitarian efforts and interventions. A heartfelt thank you goes out to UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, MDM Spain, Save the Children, Oxfam, Care, World Central Kitchen, Search for Common Ground, Amplify Change, Caritas Germany, IMC, PAMA, IRC, Italian Cooperation, PaLCH, Lions Club International, HelpAge, EFE, among other organizations, as well as all the individuals whose invaluable support and donation has enabled us to carry out our work.

Juzoor, along with all its faculty and executive members, is committed to continuing operations in Gaza and maintaining responsiveness and activity on the ground. We are determined to do whatever it takes to provide people with the help they need and the resources they lack.

However, despite our unwavering commitment, the severity of the situation and the growing demands exceed our current resources. Day after day, the needs of the people of Gaza grow along with their catastrophic hunger, thirst, lack of shelter, and poor health.

Juzoor appeals to the international community, as well as global humanitarian organizations, entities, and individuals, to join us in saving the lives of the people of Gaza. Your contribution can make a significant impact on the thousands of lives at stake.

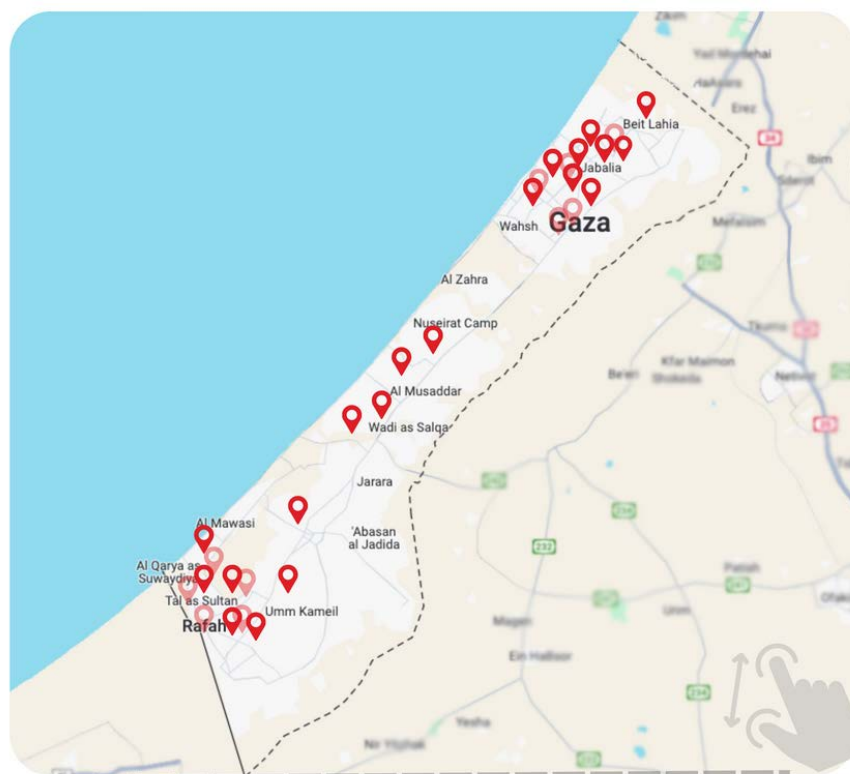
OVERVIEW

Since the start of this war, Juzoor has positioned itself on the frontline, taking charge of shelters in various areas across the Gaza Strip and covering all their basic needs. So far, we have taken charge of 44 shelters in the North and Middle areas along with 10 in the South, hosting more than 200,000 displaced individuals.

These shelters are provided with any and all of the health and psychosocial services conducted by our teams, as well as humanitarian aid such as food and non-food items, water, fuel, medical supplies and consumables, and even cash assistance. However, the nature of our work in the South is different from that in the North, due to the areas beyond closed from each other and the restriction and instability in the North.

It's worth mentioning that Juzoor is among the very few organizations still operating in the North of Gaza to provide services and aid.

Below is a map indicating the allocation of our shelters.



INTERVENTIONS

Juzoor's current humanitarian response and interventions in the Gaza Strip can be summed up into the following categories:



01 — Health and Medical Services



02 — Distribution of Supplies & Aid



03 — Psychosocial Support



04 — Vaccination Campaign



05 — Emergency Health Helpline



06 — Capacity Building



07 — Awareness & Online Resources



08 — Research, Policy, & Advocacy

HEALTH INITIATIVE

Within a week of the war, and seeing as the healthcare system was becoming overburdened, Juzoor initiated a health program to provide medical services to displaced individuals in shelters in the North, especially women, children, people with non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and those injured in the bombings. We mobilized displaced health professionals including doctors, nurses, and midwives, and formed health teams equipped with first aid kits, medications, and essential medical supplies.

At first, these teams only implemented first aid services and wound dressing, but eventually expanded to include psychosocial activities and more extensive health services.

Since mid-October, the health teams have been providing crucial health support and medical care in all our shelters and some nearby homes, using the minimal equipment and supplies at their disposal. Their services encompass a range of health interventions like dressing wounds and burns, administering Ventolin for cases of respiratory distress, providing medicine injections, caring for pregnant women and newborn babies, and offering care to the elderly, especially those with hypertension and diabetes.

As of now, the teams have provided more than 200,000 services in North Gaza alone, the most common ones being the treatment of diarrhea and providing check-up exams and medications for patients with NCDs.

This initiative now forms the heart and core of our operations in Gaza, standing as the most crucial element of our humanitarian efforts. It became even more significant following the almost-complete collapse of the healthcare system, underscoring the invaluable contributions made by our health teams to address the dire health situation and provide medical support to the thousands who lack access to it.



**Juzoor's health teams
have offered more
than 200,000 health
& medical services**

In response to the evacuations and bombings affecting many of the shelters we oversee, particularly in the North, our health teams have had to adapt to the evolving dynamics by constantly restructuring themselves according to needs and mobilizing resources from less utilized shelters to those experiencing a high volume of injuries.

Team members have started mobilizing and migrating to nearby shelters and communities, especially those that are in closed military zones, to provide services to those in need.

The teams' scope of work has expanded from primary/emergency health services to include surgical interventions such as stitches, the removal of foreign bodies, and intravenous infusions, especially after most hospitals went out of service.



MATERNAL & CHILD CARE

At this moment, thousands of pregnant women and new mothers in Gaza are in dire need of obstetric care, yet they face a lack of access to essential health services. Pregnant women are having to deliver in shelters, at home, or even in the streets, and new mothers and their newborns are not receiving the level of care they urgently require.

Earlier in the war, Juzoor mobilized volunteers from its network of midwives to assist in births and deliveries happening in shelters. We offered these midwives orientation and sensitization sessions to equip them with up-to-date knowledge and skills, and provided them with comprehensive midwifery kits designed to equip them to carry out deliveries and regular check-ups, ensuring the safety of birthing mothers and their children.

There are at least 500 identified pregnant women residing in Juzoor's shelters. Our health teams have been providing them with routine check-ups carried out by our doctors and midwives, as well as hygiene products and antenatal care, including blood pressure and sugar exams, and supplements and vitamins like iron and folic acid.

In late November, our health teams assembled delivery rooms in some shelters, resulting in more than 35 successful deliveries in the month of December, facilitated by our team of midwives.

Additionally, women who have recently given birth are followed up with by our health teams for their health as well as their baby's, and are offered neonatal hygiene products and some postnatal medical care. Starting January, our health teams have also begun guiding new mothers on breastfeeding.

Juzoor's team established a partnership with Al-Awda and Kamal Odwan Hospitals in Northern Gaza to streamline the process of referring high-risk pregnancies, C-sections, and newborns/babies with medical issues from Juzoor's shelters when necessary.



SUPPORTING THE ELDERLY

Gaza's elderly population stands out as one of the most vulnerable groups in the war and in general. Older individuals encounter significant challenges, ranging from health vulnerabilities to emotional trauma, which are exacerbated by displacement and the lack of adequate health services.

Juzoor previously identified and has now been actively supporting thousands of older persons within its shelters. As a first step, these individuals were interviewed and examined for NCDs and were tested for their blood pressure, blood sugar levels, history of medication, symptoms of asthma and respiratory stress, and any surgical wounds. Many were offered medications, inhalers, wound dressings, food coupons, and multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help alleviate their circumstances.

Juzoor continues working with its partners, particularly HelpAge and Caritas Germany, to provide aid and procure devices and supplies for these individuals. However, these people are facing extreme hunger, cold weather, and poor living conditions that are life-threatening for any person, and the procurement of winter clothes, blankets, and assistive devices is becoming challenging.



2577

**Children aged 0-12+
months vaccinated in the
first week of vaccine
campaign in North Gaza**

VACCINE CAMPAIGN

Following 3 months of the complete suspension of vaccine administration in North Gaza and the emergence of alarming disease outbreaks in the region, Juzoor launched a collaborative vaccine program in partnership with the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), which went into effect on January 13th, 2024 in Northern Gaza. Juzoor was able to successfully secure the vaccines after tedious efforts, and implement the cold chain system through the supply of solar-powered refrigerators by the MoH.

The vaccine program aims to provide around 20,000 children under 2 years of age with the required vaccinations according to the Palestinian Immunization Program, as well as screen children for malnutrition by measuring their mid upper arm circumference (MUAC). Those that are identified as malnourished are referred to a pediatrician and provided with the needed supplements.

This vaccination campaign is run by Juzoor as well as government and UNRWA vaccine staff located in Jabalia, Northern Gaza. In December, Juzoor conducted a comprehensive vaccine education and training session at Al-Awda Hospital in the North of Gaza involving 35 volunteers, including 25 nurses. The training covered essential topics such as vaccine-preventable diseases, techniques for administering vaccines, and hands-on training for the measurement of MUAC and use of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF).

Our team in the South also conducted training sessions for healthcare providers at the government clinics on RUTF guidelines.

Four groups were formed from these trainees, each including at least one UNRWA nurse and one government nurse, and were allocated to four vaccination sites in Jabalia. Additionally, a joint partnership was formed between Juzoor and Al-Awda Hospital, establishing a collaborative effort to work together on the vaccination campaign.

In the first week of the program's launch, more than 2,500 children were vaccinated with BCG, MMR, OPV, and pentavalent vaccines, among others.



DELIVERING AID

The situation in Gaza has left the vast majority, if not all, of the population to depend on humanitarian aid, given the extreme shortage of all essential resources. This is especially true in the North, where humanitarian aid is being restricted and the situation is the most catastrophic.

Through the help of our international donors, we have been able to procure and distribute various kinds of aid to both the North and South of Gaza, such as food and non-food items, emergency kits, multi-purpose cash assistance, baby diapers, and menstrual products.

In total over the past few months, we have distributed more than 12,000 hygiene kits to families in shelters containing items like cleaning wipes and soap bars. We have also distributed 600 clean delivery kits to 35,000 expectant mothers, pregnant hygiene kits to the 500 pregnant women in our shelters, and neonatal and postnatal kits to new mothers and their newborn babies.

Various other kits and supplies were also distributed to shelters to be utilized by the health teams, including safe delivery kits, first aid kits, sterilization kits, acute watery diarrhea kits, and medications and medical disposables such as syringes, gauze, medical wraps and bandages, IV solutions, glucometers, and various other medical supplies.





Family Hygiene Kits



Pregnancy/Clean Kits



Neonatal Hygiene Kits



Medications & Medical Supplies

Juzoor continues to work with our global partners to supply shelters and the people of Gaza with the resources they need, focusing on medical needs and health necessities.

NUTRITION

A significant aspect of Juzoor's response in Gaza has been dedicated to addressing the nutritional needs of the people of Gaza and promoting their overall well-being.

In November 2023, trucks of water bottles and nutrition kits, including oral rehydration solutions (for cases of diarrhea), micronutrient powders, zinc tablets, biscuits, food cans, and multivitamins were distributed to 20 shelters in the North.

Juzoor continues to receive these kits and other items on a regular basis (i.e. nuts, pregnancy and lactations supplements, etc.) and distributes them all over the Gaza Strip according to needs.

Children who were identified as malnourished by our health teams or during the vaccine campaign have also been provided with ready-to-use therapeutic food.

Juzoor community health workers follow up on malnourished children and provide awareness and advice on breastfeeding and nutrition for caregivers in the shelters.





17,160

Cans of fava beans distributed to 7 shelters in the North

151,200

Cans of 200mL ready-to-use milk distributed to 6 hospitals and clinics across the Gaza Strip

157,000

Packs of plumpy nuts distributed to 8 shelters and hospitals across the Gaza Strip

420,000

Water bottles distributed to shelters in the North and South

A young girl with a wide, joyful smile is the central figure. She wears a red hoodie with 'Hello kitty' printed in white, and a large, light-brown burlap sack is slung over her shoulders. In the background, other children are visible, including one in a pink hoodie with 'LOVE Smile' and another in a white hijab. The setting appears to be an outdoor area with blue and yellow structures.

A SMILE OF HOPE

**IN THE MIDST OF
DESTRUCTION**

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

War has a tragic effect on the health and well being of communities, and this war on Gaza has been nothing short of catastrophic. 100+ days since its beginning, it has created death and destruction in every inch of the Gaza Strip, leaving people with unimaginable pain and trauma and devastating psychological consequences that will linger for a lifetime.

In light of this, Juzoor has implemented a wide and comprehensive psychosocial program across the Gaza Strip, in partnership with Nafs for Empowerment and Ard El Insan organizations. We first took steps to train volunteers on psychosocial support, then recruited and deployed these individuals to our shelters by assembling psychosocial support teams. These teams are focused on providing assistance to women, the elderly, and, crucially, children—particularly those who have lost loved ones and are grappling with stress and trauma.



The teams have been conducting counseling sessions for more than three months now, addressing trauma and facilitating coping strategies. By January, we had reached tens of thousands of children in all our shelters through recreational activities such as handball, tug of war, and sack racing. Additionally, we supplied and distributed recreation kits for families, containing materials for activities like drawing, drama, and sports. We have also conducted numerous support sessions and meditation workshops for women and mothers, training them on how to cope with stress. The program also emphasizes referrals, ensuring that children requiring specialized support are appropriately directed to additional resources.





MORE INTERVENTIONS

EMERGENCY HELPLINE

Juzoor established an emergency helpline to provide emergency care to the people of Gaza. The helpline aims to provide help for individuals unable to access medical care and those requiring urgent assistance, and encompasses anything from first aid and psychosocial services to phone consultations, delivery instructions, and maternal and child care both before and after childbirth.



CAPACITY BUILDING

Our team in Gaza is continuously training and recruiting health staff and volunteers in various aspects of our interventions, whether for basic health care, psychosocial first-aid, or vaccine administration. 62 health staff were recently added to our initial health team staff. In late January, 16 health staff were given a 5-day training session to be recruited to a 3-month project for health care and support, and another 14 were trained and recruited to work on psychosocial support in 7 shelters in North Gaza.

AWARENESS & ONLINE RESOURCES

In light of people's lack of access to services, Juzoor has published first aid resources extensively across social media platforms that have reached more than 200,000 individuals in the Gaza Strip. These resources encompass guidelines and protocols addressing topics such as bleeding, breastfeeding, and offer valuable insights into psychosocial support and maternity care, including practices like kangaroo care for newborns. Additionally, we have shared step-by-step tutorials made by professionals to assist in managing deliveries, caring for newborns, and addressing burns.



RESEARCH, POLICY, AND ADVOCACY

Beyond our on-the-ground efforts, Juzoor has been advocating for the people of Gaza by publishing appeals, reports, and stand papers that shed light on the impacts of war on vulnerable communities. We have been working with international partners and coalitions to raise awareness on various issues and challenges arising from war, and promote initiatives that prioritize the well-being of marginalized groups. Juzoor has released two reports—one addressing the maternal and newborn health situation in Gaza and another focusing on the elderly population, which was shared with HelpAge. A statement on adolescents in Gaza was also issued through the Palestinian Coalition for Adolescent Health. Furthermore, Juzoor has collaborated with the Arab Network for Early Childhood Development to investigate the impact of war on children and their development.

RECENT UPDATES

- ▶ Juzoor is partnering with World Central Kitchen to provide food items (such as lentils, flour, vegetables) to Gaza's starved population, and we are in the process of opening two kitchens in the North and South to provide hot meals to displaced people
- ▶ Juzoor has signed an agreement with local NGO AlAwda for Health and Community Association to implement a 3-month project to provide psychosocial support for children in 7 shelters in the North
- ▶ Juzoor has recently purchased more than 3,000 child recreational kits and to be distributed to children to implement planned psychosocial activities, which include toys, drawing books, story and coloring books, balls, etc.
- ▶ Our teams in Gaza are packaging and distributing aid on a daily basis. More hygiene kits, food items, and other packages will likely be distributed in the upcoming days and weeks to families, pregnant women, and children
- ▶ The situation in Gaza is constantly shifting and changing. Our health teams have become mobile and move between multiple shelters in the North. We predict we will keep bringing more shelters under our care, covering more areas and implementing more interventions across the Gaza Strip



11/09/2023 15:15

SAVING THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF GAZA, ONE STEP AT A TIME

