

## Sanad Initiative

The SANAD Initiative was launched to address the service gap and create a community for Gazans stranded in Egypt, with a focus on those living in the Greater Cairo area. Sanad volunteers recognize that a community-focused response is critical to ensuring that support is identified and led by those affected. This community-led initiative will assist in the urgent and required response to provide comprehensive psychosocial support to Palestinians stranded from Gaza. With no exact number of stranded Palestinians and no formal services to support the immediate needs of Palestinians, Sanad stood out. As a community-led initiative to meet immediate needs and provide psychosocial support. Led by Palestinians unable to return home in Gaza, SANAD volunteers seek immediate support while strengthening resilience through community and outreach.

As for the work inside the Gaza Strip and the role of the Sanad team inside Gaza, the team works on three aspects

First: Preparing hot meals for hundreds of displaced people inside the shelters and gathering

Second: Distribution of direct emergency financial assistance by hand (due to the multiplicity of needs among the cases that appeal to us)

Third: The bread project is preparing more than 1000 loaves of bread and distributing it to the displaced inside the tent community

### - **Purpose:**

- Since 7 October, there has been an increase in the number of Palestinians receiving services. The stranded people of Gaza have no access to resources, and their savings and resources have been depleted. They need immediate help to access food, shelter, medicine and psychosocial support/services

### - **Methodology:**

- Data of Palestinians who turn to partner organizations for services
- Two focus panels with 15 stranded Palestinian women and men in Cairo: 28 November 2023

### - **Team:**

- Currently led by five Palestinian volunteers
- Support the building of operational and institutional capacity from the Community Outreach Department

### - **Mission & Vision**

- **Mission: To provide support and assistance to stranded Palestinians.**
- **Vision: Create a supportive and resilient community for stranded Palestinians, and foster a sense of solidarity and empowerment among those facing significant challenges.**

### - **Objectives:**

1. Meet immediate needs: Provide essential support to stranded Palestinians, including winter clothes, medicines, rental assistance and food.
2. Financial support: relieve financial pressure on individuals who have exhausted their money, assistance with housing, food, and other basic expenses.

3. Psychosocial support: Providing psychosocial support services to address the emotional and mental well-being of stranded Palestinians.
  4. Peer Sessions: Facilitate peer sessions to create a supportive community environment where individuals can share experiences, share support, and build connections.
  5. Volunteer-led assistance: Ensure that funds raised are geared towards the immediate needs of stranded Palestinians, with a focus on a volunteer-led approach to maximizing impact.
  6. Establishment of referral pathways: Conduct a survey of existing service providers working with Palestinians to ensure that services are not duplicated and that the initiative's resources are not exhausted. Provide the initiative and establish referral pathways with relevant service providers to refer Palestinian cases at risk.
  7. Community Empowerment: Empowering stranded Palestinians by involving them in the decision-making process and leveraging their expertise in responding to community-focused emergencies.
- **Fundraising and resources:**
    - Drafting a concept note for dissemination to relevant partners and stakeholders
    - Support mutual aid from diaspora communities in the Global North
    - Business owners' donations for winter clothing and other related needs
    - Local service providers able to receive referrals for Palestinian at-risk cases

Donations Link:

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/sanad-supporting-palestinians?utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link\\_all&utm\\_source=customer](https://www.gofundme.com/f/sanad-supporting-palestinians?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer)

**What has Sanad provided so far:** (although we work according to what we receive from donations)

**In Gaza:**

- 1- Providing hot meals to 5,000 displaced people in shelters over several days.
- 2- Providing emergency financial assistance to 100 families in Gaza, including injured and displaced people.
- 3- Distributing bread over days to more than 200 families in the Rafah area, gathering tents.
- 4- Providing winter clothes and winter food.

**In Cairo:**

- 1- Implementation of 10 psychosocial support sessions for those stranded in Egypt, each session includes 20 people, women and men.
- 2- Distributing emergency financial assistance to 150 families.
- 3- Home visits to many Palestinian families stranded in Egypt.
- 4- Visits in hospitals for the wounded who were then evacuated from the war.

- 5- Referrals to clinics and hospitals to receive free medical service in cooperation with doctors.
- 6- Realizing the dream of 5 children stranded in Egypt.

- **Community Engagement:**

- Sanad launches WhatsApp group for members of the Palestinian community in Cairo to access relevant information and updates
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