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SPONSORSHIP NEWSLETTER



Artiom, happy resident of the Boghossian centre in Armenia



Huynh Bao Nhy, an 11-year-old Vietnamese girl, whose sponsorship is a matter of survival.

Changing a child's perspective

Each child we meet on our missions has a story to tell. The only thing they have in common is that their lives have not been a smooth ride...

We will never be able to change a child's past, but thanks to your sponsorship, you are giving them the opportunity to change the way they see their future. Together with you, Mission Enfance works on a daily basis so that more children can grow up on school benches.



Meeting with students housed at the Dinh Quan centre, a newly sponsored project in Vietnam

In the 2022/2023 school year, I was able to carry out three sponsorship missions in three countries: Armenia, Vietnam and Lebanon. These missions enabled me to meet 427 children for their annual interviews and over 1,000 children attending the centres supported by the project sponsorship.

Burkina Faso is not currently accessible to us because of recent events, but we maintain constant contact with our local sponsorship managers. So I can keep track of your godchildren on a daily basis.

In each of these countries, I meet the children, their families and the context in which they are growing up.

As in many societies weakened by political, economic, social and climatic uncertainties, the children who benefit from your sponsorship would not be able to go to school today without your help. School fees are rising in all the countries where we operate. So are the costs of living, and some families would not be able to send their children to school without the significant help that sponsorship represents for the child and his or her family.

Education in all circumstances, thanks to sponsorship, is the best protection for coping with everyday life and becoming independent.

Thank you for making it possible for 473 pupils, through individual sponsorship, and more than 1,100 children, through our project sponsorships, to continue along this path in 2023.



Mareta, a young Armenian sponsored at the Endanik centre, taking part in the tapestry Workshop.

ARMENIA

In recent months, hostilities have resumed on the border with Armenia. The territory of Nagorno-Karabakh is still under blockade, and many young people are leaving to fight in defence of their homeland. Life goes on, but at what price?

The Armenian state is struggling to find solutions with neighbouring countries. The population has lost confidence in its representatives and in the future of its country. Despite this situation, the children continue their schooling, and with the support of our two centres, Boghossian and Endanik, their motivation is unflagging.

At Boghossian, the sisters take in children whose family situations are unbearable. They offer them a loving environment that is conducive to their development. Today, 45 children and students at this centre are growing up peacefully thanks to your sponsorship.

At Endanik, the centre supports 161 sponsored children and students in their schooling and gives them access to a wide range of activities enabling them to discover the arts, music, languages and sport. Their new high school provides 300 young people with vocational training. Some of them have been selected for the social entrepreneurship project, financed by Mission Enfance, and are developing their craft skills to help them find employment.

In Armenia, school fees from primary to secondary school are free. The annual cost of supplies is around fifty euros. As well as helping children to go to school, sponsorship in Armenia also provides them with food and enables them to take part in educational activities that will shape their future.

BURKINA FASO

In the Land of the Integral Men, coups d'état, constant attacks in the north and east of the country and the vagaries of the weather are disrupting the lives of the Burkinabé people. This population, prey to many uncertainties, continues to hope for a better future. The help provided by your 45 individual sponsorships and the 50 nursery sponsorships makes a major contribution to this. The cost of living is rising in Burkina and the families, most of whom are farmers, are struggling to provide for their families. With the arrival of large numbers of internally displaced people in the south of the country, the number of abandoned children is also on the increase. The nursery, a building belonging to the nursery, is fully operational to receive them.

The schools in and around Guié are open. For the vast majority of the children, the annual fees are around a hundred euros and around fifty for supplies. For those who live far away, another hundred euros is spent on boarding and food. The others use bicycles, the maintenance and repair costs of which are also covered by the sponsorship. For students, the costs are higher: an average of 800 euros a year for university, accommodation and daily living expenses. In addition to the sponsorship, some students receive a €276 grant from the government.

For all these young people, studying today is a hope of contributing to the prosperity of their country.



*The children of the Guié nursery
Burkina Faso*

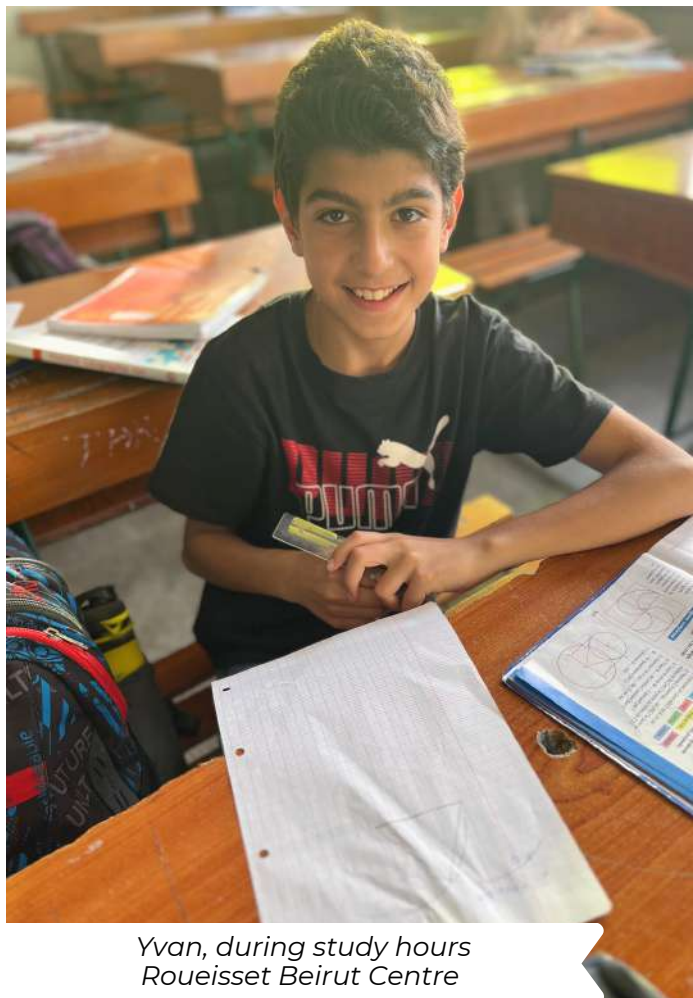
LEBANON

The country of the cedars is slowly collapsing and Lebanese families are resisting. They are resisting the daily deterioration in their living conditions, the lack of support from their political representatives and the almost non-existent educational and social system.

This year, teachers' strikes in state schools have left children at the school gates for more than four months. The Roueisset and Deir Al Ahmar centres have redoubled their efforts to devote their afternoon study hours to programmes not taught in schools. Today, they continue to support families with food aid and offer children recreational and fun activities to help them cope with their terrible daily lives. In these two centres, teachers, psychologists and speech therapists form a team dedicated to the well-being of the children and their families.

Students are the hardest hit by this unprecedented crisis. Their university fees are prohibitive and they are unable to pay for their credits and exams in full. Once again this year, Mission Enfance has provided financial support to four of them to enable them to complete their studies.

In Lebanon, in 2023, 146 godchildren are individually sponsored and more than 500 children are supported by your project sponsorships. There are still many children in Lebanon waiting for sponsorship to stay in school.



*Yvan, during study hours
Roueisset Beirut Centre*

News from the sponsorship centres

VIETNAM

After not being able to visit Vietnam for several years because of the pandemic, a sponsorship mission took place at the beginning of 2023. Vietnam has suffered from the closure of its borders and the lack of tourism, one of its main economic resources. As in many countries, prices are rising steadily. The poorest families move house several times a year as their rents continue to rise. In the most outlying districts, the families of sponsored children pay up to 50 euros a month for around twenty square metres. The minimum wage is currently 3,430,000 dong (130 euros), but some people live on much less. The parents of the children we support are lottery ticket sellers, shoeshine boys or street vendors. They earn just a few euros a day. Most of the children go to school in the morning, and not all of them have access to lunch. There are no school fees, but in reality everyone pays management fees for cleaning staff, repairs and so on, and these fees vary between 20 and 40 euros a month. For students, university fees are extremely high: between €600 and €2,000.



*Pupils at the Binh Tan centre
Ho Chi Minh - Vietnam*

It is with these families, the poorest and most vulnerable, that the sisters of the Congregation of the Daughters of Charity, with whom we work, work on a daily basis. Thanks to their social centre and your sponsorship, they support 79 children with their schooling and families with their basic needs. Their support is essential and relentless. They offer the same support to the 500 children enrolled in the schools you support through project sponsorship, without whom they would have no access to education.

As I have seen on the ground in these four countries, life has become far too hard for these children.

URGENT

Rita is a 7-year-old Lebanese girl. Sponsorship is the only way to keep her in school in September 2023. Her parents can no longer afford to support the family and Rita's education is in jeopardy.

Like Rita, many other children in Vietnam, Armenia and Burkina Faso are waiting to be sponsored. To help them grow up and build their future, sponsorship is the only solution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

THANK YOU!

Marie Vauban
Sponsorship manager



Spread the word about sponsorship and support us!

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