

Izbat Qararah Report 2017

Izbat Qararah Facts

Sponsored Children 38
Unsponsored Children 1
Total Children 39
Village Staff Rania

Jesus

- AWANA
- Kids Conferences
- Discipleship Groups
- Home Visits

Healing Grace is working with the Presbyterian Church in Izbat Qararah. The AWANA club, which all of our sponsored children attend, is held in that church, as well.

In 2017 there have been multiple conferences that included Izbat Qararah children and their siblings. The conferences are broken up into different age groups and several villages are invited to attend a conference. The themes for this year's conferences were:

Elementary: Repentance, turning to the Lord, changing behaviors, growing in faith during struggles, obstacles in their spiritual lives, and how to be witnesses to their families

Teenagers: Evil and pain, the character of God, God's authority and human's responsibility, answering questions about doubting the Bible, awareness of and self-defense for sexual abuse, evangelism, communication and relationships, and deception

The sponsored children meet weekly for discipleship group. This is a meeting, in addition to AWANA, when the sponsored children learn more about Jesus and how to live fully for Him. The elementary age groups focus on learning the stories of the Bible. The middle and high school groups focus on learning Christian doctrine. All of the groups follow a curriculum.

The village staff visit each child a minimum of three times a month in their homes. These are more focused one-on-one meetings to help each child with their individual needs, pray with them, and encourage them. The most frequently asked prayer requests from the children are to improve their school performance, to get good grades, and become top students in their class. They also pray for their families, especially when there are health concerns involving their family members.

Education

- School
- Tutoring
- Preschool

All of the sponsored children are attending school. It is a requirement to be a part of Healing Grace. Our staff often has to work with parents to help them understand the benefit of education. Many parents want their children to stop attending school because they don't understand the long-term benefit.

37 children receive additional tutoring. Literacy is a specific problem. It is difficult to find good tutors and a strong curriculum for tutoring. Healing Grace is continuing to look for opportunities to strengthen the tutoring provided and to help students become literate and successful in school. The children are tutored by a variety of teachers in the village.

At this time, there are no preschools in Izbat Qararah. There is a definite need to open a preschool, as it prepares the children for success at an even younger age. Preschools take the youngest children off the streets, ensure they are fed a nutritious meal, and give them a head start in their education.

Health

- Water Filters
- Medical Care

There is one water filtration system installed in the Presbyterian Church, however, there is a unique challenge because the village is located near the top of a mountain. They are unable to get the water pumped up to the village so that it can go through the filtration system. Over the last few years, Healing Grace has been researching options on how to solve this problem. A pump and motor were purchased in the hopes that water would reach the village, but the pump and motor were not strong or powerful enough. There is another potential option, but it is very expensive. The village leaders are working with multiple entities in hopes of being able to pay for it together. As a result of this issue, the children and their families do not use filtered water.

The most prevalent health issues in Izbat Qararah are hepatitis C and worms/stomach infections. One of the main reasons for the latter is the use of unclean water for drinking and daily living. Many of the parents in the village have hepatitis C and need or receive treatment. There are no medical clinics in the village so they rely on the Healing Grace doctor. He is the first point of contact for all medical needs. There is a need to open a medical clinic in the village, especially for emergency cases.

Building Healthy Family Clubs

Building Healthy Family (BHF) clubs are held twice a month and are intended to teach parents how to fulfill their roles as leaders of their home. This is taught by focusing on the 5 C's: Christ, Calling, Community, Character, and Competency.

The BHF club is held in the Presbyterian Church. 30 families and 90 individuals attend regularly. There are three couples from Izbat Qararah that are trained by Healing Grace's BHF Staff to lead the meetings. The couples are volunteers and are supervised by our BHF staff. The majority of the attendees are women.

The topics for each meeting are chosen by the BHF staff and voted on, so the most relevant needs are addressed in each village. Some of the topics that have made the greatest impact on the parents' daily life were how to raise and deal with teenagers, and how to relate to and work together with their spouse.