



Abo Korkas El Balad Report 2018

Abo Korkas El Balad Facts

Sponsored Children	24
Un-sponsored Children	6
Total Children	30
Village Staff	Amal

Jesus

- AWANA
- Kids Conferences
- Discipleship Groups
- Home Visits

Healing Grace is working in the Evangelical church in Abo Korkas El Balad. The Evangelical Church works with Healing Grace to host an AWANA club for the sponsored children. All of our sponsored children attend the AWANA club.

The children in Abo Korkas El Balad, along with their siblings, had the opportunity to attend a children's conference in 2018. The conferences and their topics differ by age group: elementary-age children and teenagers. Several villages are invited to attend each conference, so children can meet new people and make friends from other villages in their age bracket. The themes for this year's conferences were:

Elementary: "Speak to Me" – the story of Samuel, God's calling, discerning the voice of the Lord, true belief, making Jesus the priority, the importance of the Bible, having a relationship with Jesus, and awareness for abuse

Teenagers: "Spend Time with God, not on Social Media", correcting false concepts about God, establishing a relationship with Jesus through prayer, value, and humility

The sponsored children meet once a week 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 are generally taught by going through stories of the Bible. This year, they have focused on stories about children in the Bible. The middle and high school groups focus on learning Christian doctrine. Their main topics of the year have been about discipleship, psychological and spiritual issues, using social media wisely, problem solving by finding the root of the sin, sin and salvation, God the Father, and a better life in Jesus.

The village staff visit each child a minimum of three times a month in their homes. These meetings give the staff one-on-one time with each child and their family. They are able to meet the needs specific to the child, pray with them, encourage them, and build trust and a stronger relationship with their family. The most frequently asked prayer requests from the children are for their family problems, for their education, and for health problems in the family.

Every child deserves a chance.



Education

- School
- Tutoring

One of the requirements to be a part of Healing Grace is that all of the sponsored children must attend school. In the villages, it is common for parents to keep their children from attending school, in favor of starting to work at a younger age, or doing chores to help the family instead. Many parents do not understand the long-term benefits of education, but our staff works with these parents to help them see the importance of education.

All 30 sponsored children in Abo Korkas El Balad receive additional tutoring. Literacy is the key focus of tutoring. While good tutors and strong literacy curriculum are difficult to find in the village, Healing Grace is continually seeking opportunities to help our students become literate and successful in their education. Right now, the children are tutored by six teachers in the village. With their parents, they choose their tutor out of these six teachers, based on staff recommendations.

Health

- Water Filters
- Medical Care

There is one water filtration system installed in the Evangelical Church in Abo Korkas El Balad. Most families use the filtered water daily without problems. They understand the importance of clean water, and are a good example of healthy living to the others in their village.

The most prevalent health issues in Abo Korkas El Balad are hepatitis C and epilepsy. Many of the parents in the village have hepatitis C and need or receive treatment. There are health clinics in the village, but our families still rely on the Healing Grace doctor, who is the first point of contact for all medical needs.

Building Healthy Family Clubs

Building Healthy Family clubs were introduced to the villages with the intention of teaching parents how to be effective, godly leaders in their home. These family leadership concepts are currently taught by focusing on the 5 C's: Christ, Calling, Community, Character, and Competency.

The Building Healthy Family clubs are held twice a month in the Evangelical Church. 32 individuals and 8 couples regularly attend the meetings, for a total of 48 regular attendees. Women make up 80%, and men make up 20% of the attendees. There are three couples from the local church in Abo Korkas El Balad that are trained by Healing Grace BHF Staff to lead the meetings. The couples are volunteers and are supervised by our BHF staff.

The topics for each meeting are chosen by the BHF staff, so the most relevant needs are addressed in each village. One of the topics that has made the greatest impact on the parents' daily lives this year was the difference between men and women. There have been a few topics that have been a challenge to teach because, culturally, parents are not as receptive to them. The challenging discussions have been about intimacy in a marriage.