

The Oasis Project



Old, But New

What is happening with your building? This question has been asked many times over the past six months. In October the mayor said we had until the end of March to find a new place. We prayed, walked the city, and asked real estate agencies and friends to help us in our search. Still at the end of March, there wasn't any place available.

So, we prayed and came up with a temporary solution. We would rent our former location at the Greek Evangelical Church (GEC) for our cafes and use our current building for the office, staff meetings, and distribution of clothing and food. Since the building is zoned as a warehouse, this would meet the city's required zoning.

It is not a long-term solution. But until God provides a new location, we will continue this arrangement. We are very grateful that GEC has once again opened its doors to us.

Please continue to pray for a place.

Summer Rest

Oasis is closing its activities for the month of August due to the heat and lack of volunteers. This break is an ideal time for rest and reflection. During these times, it is good to reflect on where we've been and where we will be going in the future. As we have been praying, we have felt the Lord challenging us to be more **focused on the quality rather than quantity** of what we offer. We are evaluating where we have seen life, and where some things have become routine.

As we have sought the Lord, we believe that the Lord has been highlighting John 6, which speaks about the little boy who brought his loaves and fishes to Jesus. In man's perspective, it was a very small offering for such a large multitude of people, but as the boy gave it to Jesus in faith, He blessed and multiplied it. Jesus is just as interested in our life, as He is in the multitudes.

From our perspective, this story is applicable to Oasis in this season. Each volunteer is like that little boy. Each comes before Him with our gifts, talents, and passions. Through offering our gifts, talents and passion, not only does God increase our faith, but He also blesses the multitudes.

Do pray for each volunteer. Ask that God would show them His plan for their involvement this next year. Ask that they would come back refreshed for the work that God is doing with the nations that have come to Cyprus.



World Refugee Week

For the second year, Oasis sponsored and participated in events for World Refugee Week. Our theme was taken from Psalm 67:4: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. Our desire was to raise awareness about the people we serve, to raise funds for our project and to bless our refugee friends. God answered our prayers beyond our expectation.

Prayer Evening

Monday evening, Denis and Claire, Oasis volunteers, organized a self-guided prayer time. As participants rotated from station to station, they traveled the road of a refugee... a home where they had everything to the loss of everything; their dangerous journey to the new land where they would settled, and God's provision for them in this new land. It was a solemn reminder of the blessing of peace that we have, and the great heartaches that so many that we serve have experienced.

Street Festival in Nicosia

For the past two years, UNHCR, KISA, and Future Worlds have organized a street festival in Nicosia. This year, Oasis was asked to participate. When we were first invited, we were told we would have one table to display Oasis, and a second table for one refugee to sell food.

By Wednesday night, we had four food tables (Iran, Jordan, Egypt, and Cameroon), three tables for crafts, (where our ladies sold their own crafts) and two Oasis tables. Amazing. Our prayer was that we'd be a witness to the other organizations and to those who stopped by our table.

God answered. The refugees who made food and crafts saw God's faithfulness, as they earned much needed money. One woman told us that the best meal they had in a long time came after this event. Many people stopped by our table to ask us about the picture we had on display that highlighted our women's events. Many refugees stopped by our table...those we see often and those we haven't seen in a long time. They were our family, not clients we serve. At the end of the evening, a professor from the university stopped by to tell us that he had heard so many good things about us. Oasis is small, our funding very limited compared to all the organizations there, but our God is mighty. He is doing something among the nations through Oasis. Praise His Name



Watch YouTube of Street Festival:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaVwr8SjKec>



Celebration of the Nations

Friday night, Oasis sponsored a fundraiser among the churches. Our guests used a passport ticket to visit 7 different nation's booths- Iraq, Iran, Palestine, Syria, Ukraine, Sudan, and Egypt. They enjoyed a sample of food from each of those nations, as well as learning a bit about each nation from a representative of that nation.



from Yemen, a dance from Persia, and a group of singers from Rwanda. At the end of the evening, our refugee friends were invited to the stage to be prayed over. They have come to a foreign land. But God hasn't forgotten them in this land.

The church demonstrated this that night.

Sunday, Refugee Sunday, churches showed a video presentation that highlighted the refugees we served.

We also had 3 performances, featuring a song



Graduation

Several of the girls from the youth home graduated from high school. Anji attended their graduation celebration with them. We are so proud of you! **Pray that God would guide your next steps.**

Oil for Joy

In May, Oasis hosted the second “Oil for Joy” event for women. The ladies spent part of the morning rotating from station to station where they made crafts, took photos, received prayer, decorated cupcakes, and just enjoyed laughing with one another.

Georgia, from New Life Church, shared with the women about God’ love.



While she was sharing God spoke to her about a woman in the audience. This woman needed to know that God was with her and had not forgotten her. After the session, Georgia shared with her what God had spoken. The tears began to flow as this woman shared her story.

She had a four-year-old child and was divorced from her husband. Her ex-husband came to Cyprus earlier.

He phoned back to Syria and told her to come with their daughter. It would be safer here than in Syria. So she paid the smugglers and came. She didn’t know that her husband had remarried. Upon arrival, he took the daughter from her. Here she was in a foreign land, without language, without her daughter, no one to defend her. But God saw her. He would be her defender. **Do pray for her.**



Compassion Day

Under a new initiative called Compassion Day, Oasis combined the food distribution with the clothing distribution. Compassion Day is from 10:30-12:00 each Tuesday.

Nearly 90 bags of vegetables are given. People have the opportunity to get clothing. All are invited to have a cold drink with us before they leave.



Our food distribution team



A well stocked clothing closet

Strengthening Weak...

At the beginning of the year, the Steering Committee sought the Lord for direction for the year. God gave them, Isaiah 35: 3 “Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.”

God has certainly strengthened us through volunteers. This year we have had two YWAM teams, two units from Ideas, one young man from Ireland and a lady from England. They have come along side us, committed to 20+ hours of work, opened their homes to refugees, and blessed all who came to know them.

We miss them when they leave, and pray that they will return. We are thankful that they were part of our lives. Only eternity will tell their impact.



The Paisleys, with Lynne and Ali



Saying good-bye to Ann