

**2019**

# Annual Report



**inara**

International Network for  
Aid, Relief and Assistance

INARA is a 501(c)(3) organization.  
EIN: 46-5355232



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## Foreword from our President, Arwa Damon

INARA has once again had a challenging year. We have faced the ongoing struggle to get the world to notice the plight of the youngest survivors of the horrific war in Syria. We've faced the difficulties of opening a new office in a new country. And we faced the complications of the protests in Lebanon, that saw sporadic road closures from October until the end of the year, which made us struggle to get our children to and from their medical appointments.

Despite all of this, we have many things to be proud of in 2019. First of all, we have focused on further improving the quality of care that we provide to our children. This is reflected in the fact that this year we spent more money on each of our children – with the average case cost increasing to \$4,741. Not only that, but we also have hired one extra full-time caseworker in Lebanon, so that we can allocate more time to each case and increase the number of cases we can treat.

In Turkey, we launched our program and took on our first case in November.

It's great to see that by the end of 2019 we have managed to help 361 children. That's a 13% increase on 2018.

We had hoped that 2020 would be a very different year, but as the world faces one of its toughest challenges in human history in the COVID-19 pandemic, our ability to reach and treat more children is going to be hindered. We are currently in the process of developing our response to COVID-19, so that we can do our bit in the global fight against the coronavirus, and protect the most vulnerable, including our INARA children and their families, at the same time.

Our vision is that children impacted by war are able to get the medical treatment they not only need, but deserve. That is no small task; but we are persevering towards this goal, one step at a time, even in light of what the world is currently facing. 2020 is a crucial year for us; and that is precisely why we need your support more than ever before. The children we work with, and the children we need to reach, need your help now more than ever before. We know that times are tough for all, but for the first time in history the whole world is uniting under a common cause. This is a time to build bridges, to show people that we care, and to protect those most in need.

2019



13% increase



2018



"It's great to see that by the end of 2019 we have managed to help 361 children."

- Arwa Damon



## Highlights from 2019

### January

In January we successfully completed our Christmas Appeal. We managed to raise \$75,000 in total. This was our second most successful Christmas campaign of all time

### March

On March 1 we held our joint comedy fundraiser with War Child USA – Good for A Laugh. The all-star line-up included Sarah Silverman, Tig Notaro, Naomi Ekperigin, Chelsea Peretti and Dan Bakkedahl. The event was attended by lots of celebrities and INARA raised an amazing \$25,000.

### April

We welcomed our brand new board member Kim Kelaita. She is an award-winning producer and reporter, who currently works freelance for CNN and is based in Dubai.

### June

We were awarded \$50,000 by the Ghazi and Badrieh Charitable Trust. This grant was allocated to help set up INARA's operations in Turkey, and the day-to-day costs involved in providing life-altering medical treatment for war wounded refugee children.

INARA's Ramadan Appeal campaign ended in June. We raised more money this year than any previous Ramadan campaign – an impressive \$41,005.

### August

Board member, actor and humanitarian Thomas Sadoski came to visit the INARA office in Lebanon. He met a number of our cases, including two home visits to see Rafik and Lia. Speaking on his last day in Lebanon, Thomas said: "Very rarely in this world are you given an opportunity to take your hard earned dollar, put it on a table, slide it across to an organization and see it do real, actual, tangible good almost immediately. That happens with us; that happens with INARA."

### September

American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) doctor and INARA board member Dr. Ghassan Abu Sittah co-authored the first ever study into pediatric burns among refugee communities. The research found that the risk of pediatric burns increases among refugee children due to multiple factors, including: living in overcrowded camps and family tents; lack of separated cooking facilities; open-flame cooking and heating; and the cultural practices of preparing and consuming hot tea.

This is the first study of its kind to shed light on the problem of child and youth refugee burns in Lebanon – and shows exactly why INARA's work in this field is so critically important.

We also announced our first two celebrity ambassadors – Days of Our Lives star Linsey Godfrey and Arrested Development's Alia Shawkat.

In September we hired a new Regional Director. He will be providing a vision for INARA's growth as an organization over the coming years.

### November

We had our second event of the year. This time, it was an incredible musical event in New York – Songs for Syria. Amazing musicians Stephen Kellogg, Morgan James and Jasmine Cephas Jones belted their hearts out to help raise vital funding for the children we work with. We raised an incredible \$23,000 in total.

We started to take on our first cases in Gaziantep, Turkey.

### December

We partnered with the MMT American Hospital in Gaziantep, Turkey.

We had our most successful Giving Tuesday ever – raising over \$15,000 in just one day! That's a 176% increase on the amount we raised in 2018.



## Goal One Expand INARA's programming and operational platform into Turkey and Iraq

INARA successfully established an office in Gaziantep, in southern Turkey, in 2019. Gaziantep was selected as it is considered a hub for NGOs and potential partners (local and international) in Turkey. It is also strategically located very close to the Syrian border and is surrounded by cities with large refugee populations.

Following a needs assessment conducted in August 2019, INARA established its criteria and remit of work in Turkey – which is to provide life-altering medical care and reconstructive surgery to refugee children in Turkey who have catastrophic injuries or illnesses and are unable to access or afford medical treatment.

INARA's first case was accepted in November – a child called Hakim who was badly burnt when an electricity surge set fire to his tent. He will be receiving his treatment in 2020 and beyond. By the end of 2019, five children had started their INARA journeys in Turkey.

By the end of the year, three full-time staff members had been hired in the Gaziantep office: the Country Manager, Case Management Coordinator, and Operations Officer. INARA has also updated its organizational policies and procedures to reflect local laws and regulations in Turkey.

In terms of Iraq, this goal has been put on hold temporarily due to current resources.





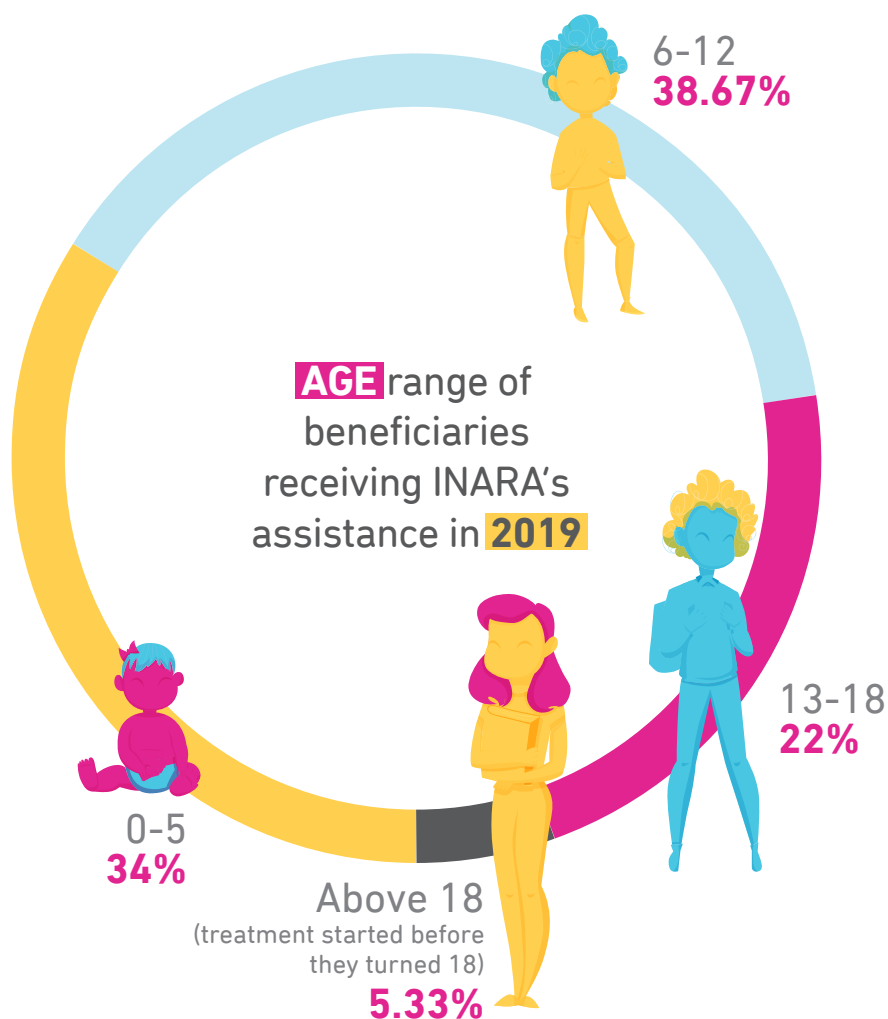
## Goal Two Increase the number of beneficiaries receiving INARA's assistance

By the end of 2019 we have helped 361 war-affected refugee children in total. That is a 13% increase on last year.

By opening our office in Turkey we will increase the number of children receiving assistance from us. In November and December we took on our first five cases in Turkey; and in 2020 we expect this number to increase.

In order to increase the number of beneficiaries receiving assistance from us, we needed to grow the casework team. As such we hired one new full-time caseworker in Lebanon who started in September.

Our goal is not only to increase the number of children we work with, but also to improve the quality of service we provide. As such, given the current casework team workload, this means maintaining approximately 150 ongoing cases according to industry best practices. This allows us to improve the quality of care that we provide to each and every child. In 2020 we will look at expanding this caseload by hiring new caseworkers.



## BREAKDOWN of injuries by cause of injury

Direct war injury  
**38.00%**

Children injured as refugees  
**56.67%**

Congenital (club foot, developmental dislocation of the hip-DDH)  
**5.33%**

## Goal Three Develop our approach to the provision of mental health programming

We joined the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) task force at the United Nations interagency coordination unit which is part of the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health national mental health program. Those who participate in this task force coordinate national and more localized MHPSS programs. INARA's participation in this task force will help to build strong working bonds with other organizations and help us to develop our own MHPSS approach. As part of membership of this task force, INARA staff are able to attend training sessions.

We continued to refer cases on for mental health support at the advice of our medical team at AUBMC. This was at the same rate as in 2018.

INARA will be expanding its approach to mental health programming in 2020 by growing its mental health referral network and focusing on partnerships.

We also partnered with medical organizations in Turkey to refer our cases who need MHPSS support.





## Goal Four Diversify our funding streams

New income was brought in from new trusts and foundations – most notably the Ghazi and Badrieh Charitable Trust who awarded us with \$50,000 to develop our work in Turkey.

Alongside this, in December we were awarded \$25,000 by JP's Peace, Love & Happiness Foundation. This foundation is run by John Paul DeJoria, best known as a co-founder of the Paul Mitchell line of hair products and the Patrón Spirits Company.

In October, we hired a new Fundraising & Development Coordinator, who immediately started working on the development of a customer relationship management tool (CRM). This will help us to better manage the relationships that we form not only with trusts and foundations, but also high net worth individuals, and regular donors.

Although in 2019 the amount of funding brought in from trusts and foundations did fall, it is expected that work started in the final quarter of 2019 will help to increase this income stream in 2020.

Unrestricted funds that we received from individual giving increased by almost 17% to \$461,864. We hope to see this further increase in 2020, thanks to the hard work of our fundraising and communications teams, and to all of our donors.

We also saw our first two fundraising events taking place in the United States. The first was a joint event with War Child on March 1, 2019 – an all-star comedy fundraiser headlined by Sarah Silverman. \$25,000 was raised for INARA. The following event was Songs for Syria, organized by board members Thomas Sadoski and Amanda Seyfried, on November 4. This brought in \$23,000.



We hope to see this further increase in 2020

Unrestricted funds that we received from individual giving increased by almost **17% to \$461,864**



## Goal Five Inclusion of additional organizations to partner with

As a result of our expansion into Turkey, a big part of our work was establishing partnerships in and around Gaziantep to help us to provide life-altering medical treatment to the child survivors of war.

Our biggest partnership was with the MMT American Hospital in Gaziantep. They will be providing us with a 25% to 30% discount for all treatment procedures.

In addition to this we developed memorandums of understanding with the following organizations to help refer cases to us:

- Molham Volunteering Team.
- Physicians Across Continents.

In Turkey we have become a member of the Health Working Group, as well as a member of the UNHCR Case Management Working Group.

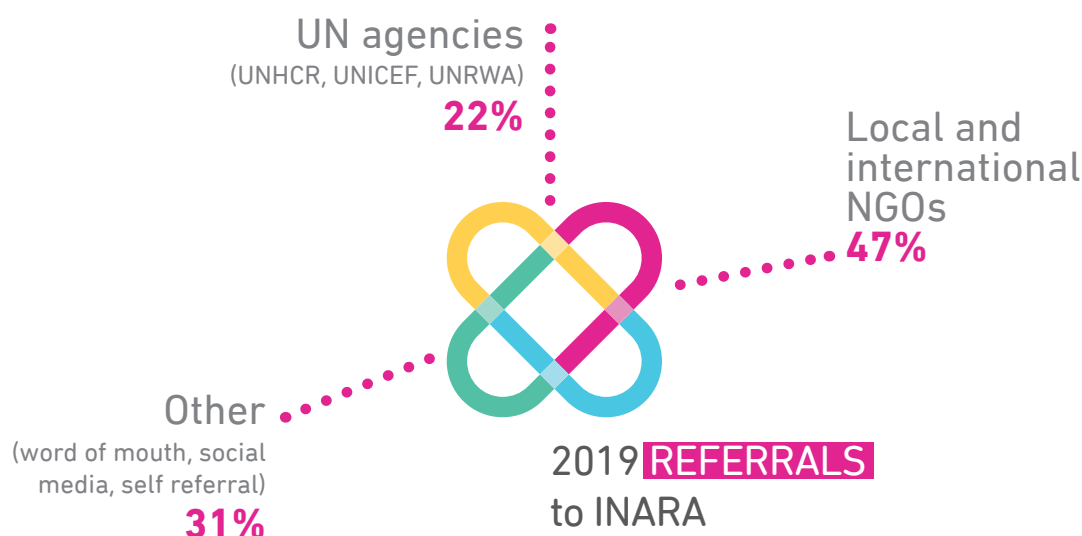
In Lebanon, INARA maintained its long-lasting partnership with AUBMC as the major medical partner providing treatment for the war-affected children. We have also collaborated with Rafik Hariri University Hospital for a complex war-wounded case which INARA took on at the end of December 2019. Following this we hope to further build our relationship with this hospital.

We have also been working with the Doctors' Center Laboratory and Radiology for years and at the end of 2019 we began to have discussions around discounted rates for diagnostic testing and analysis.

To be able to carry out all aspects of medical care provision to children, we maintained our partnerships with healthcare constituents, namely: orthopedic clinics, hearing aid centers, ophthalmologists and eye care clinics, psychologists and psychiatrists, speech therapists, dentistry and orthodontics specialists, medical equipment providers, and pharmacies.

INARA has continued to be an active member in the United Nation's Interagency Coordination Unit for the health sector, through participating in regular working group coordination meetings and activities. Through this platform, INARA contributed to the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan - a joint effort between the Lebanese government and local and international actors to provide protection and assistance to vulnerable populations in Lebanon, including Palestinian and Syrian refugees.

This has provided INARA the opportunity to build close working relationships with participating organizations – which has helped us to grow our network of referral organizations. In 2019, we have received medical case referrals mostly from the following organizations: UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, Doctors Without Borders (MSF), Caritas and International Committee of the Red Cross. For mental health support referrals, we worked mostly with the Makhzoumi Foundation and International Medical Corps.





## Case One Nawal

Nawal's family huddled together, hiding from the fighting that had erupted outside their home. Someone threw a grenade through their kitchen window. There was an explosion and their house collapsed. Nawal's mother remembers sifting through the rubble trying to find her daughter.

The family rushed Nawal to the nearest hospital. But after losing their house, Nawal's mother wanted to get her children out of Syria as fast as she possibly could. She discharged Nawal as soon as possible and crossed the border into Lebanon, hoping for a better life.

But Nawal didn't get better. The family soon realized her injuries were far worse than they initially thought. As she got older, they noticed that that dreadful day had even worse repercussions for Nawal: she couldn't hear or speak.

We introduced Nawal to our doctors at AUBMC. They examined her and found that her ears were only functioning at about 20%. We fitted Nawal with a hearing device and she has been attending speech therapy sessions regularly so that she can speak again. Her parents have now heard her voice for the first time in six years.



## Case Two Ghinwa

Last year, during Ramadan, Ghinwa's mother decided to send the boys to the barber shop as a treat so they would look nice for Eid. Ghinwa stayed at home with her mother. While her mother left the kitchen for a few moments to check on something, Ghinwa went in and accidentally spilled boiling water over herself.

This is something we see over and over again at INARA – children badly burnt as a result of living in small, cramped apartments, often sharing with one or more families. Ghinwa's case is sadly not unusual.

The burns on Ghinwa's left elbow heavily restricted her movement. Her family tried to treat their daughter for a month, but their money ran out. Ghinwa's brother has a hole in his heart and his treatment was sadly more urgent, and they couldn't afford both. Her mother tells us that she worried about Ghinwa's future during this difficult time in their lives: "I just wanted her to live like a normal person."

"I just wanted her to live like a normal person."

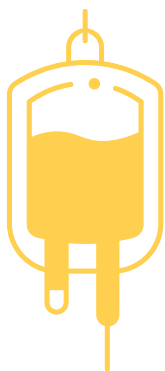
- Ghinwa's mother

We provided a scar revision surgery and regular follow-ups over the second half of 2019 to restore mobility to her arm. Her mother has been impressed with the impact this has had on Ghinwa, not only physically, but mentally. "Before she was super skinny because she had lost her appetite due to the stress," her mother told us recently. "But she's actually started to put on weight and I couldn't be happier."





**150 (42 new)**  
Children helped



**123**  
Major medical interventions  
(surgery, equipment provision)



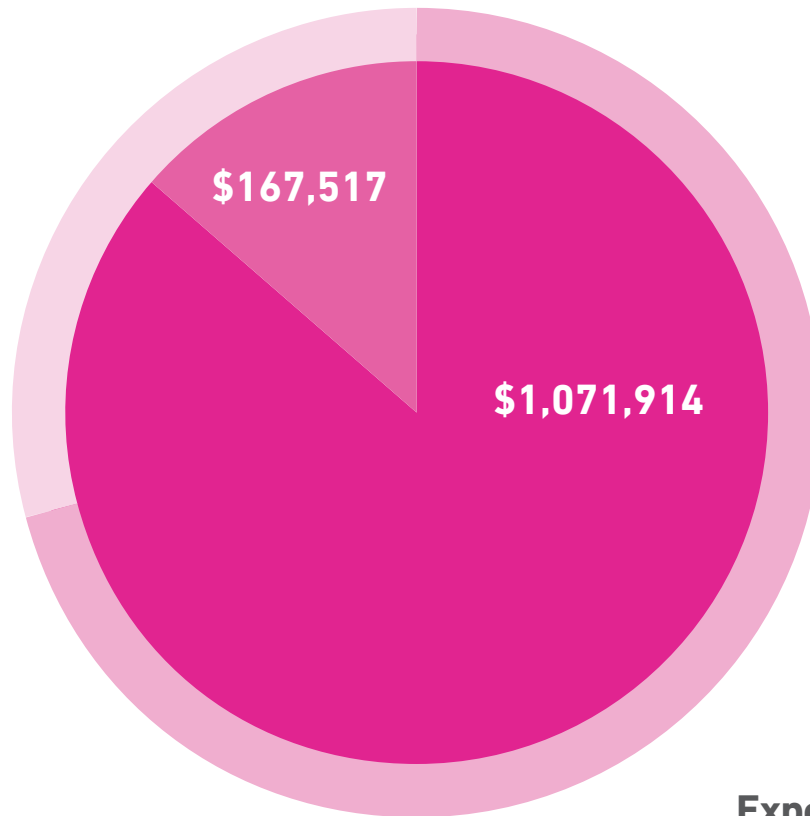
**452**  
Medical follow-ups



**272**  
Medications provided



# Financial statements



- Program Expenditure (71%)
- Operational Expenditure (29%)

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE**  
in 2019

## Expenses allocations

- Individual donors
- Trusts, institutions, foundations and private donors



**\$461,864**  
Donations from individuals

**2019 DONATIONS**

**\$97,658**  
Donations from trusts, institutions and foundations



	Budget line	Amount in USD	Expenses allocations		Percentage of each cost per individual donations
			Individual donors	Trusts, institutions, foundations and private donors	
<b>1</b>	<b>Lebanon program expenditure</b>				
1.1	Medical costs	673,320	673,320	0	
1.2	Case management officer costs	63,952	63,952	0	
1.3	Non-medical costs <sup>1</sup>	14,166	14,166	0	
	<b>Total Lebanon program expenditure</b>	<b>751,438</b>	<b>751,438</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Lebanon operational expenditure</b>				
2.1	Personnel	153,390	153,390	0	
2.2	Office operational costs <sup>2</sup>	46,694	0	46,694	
2.3	Office rent <sup>3</sup>	42,000	42,000	0	
2.4	One-off office move <sup>4</sup>	19,298	0	19,298	
2.5	Insurance and travel costs	23,184	23,184	0	
2.6	Legal and accountancy	18,733	18,733	0	
2.7	Communication costs	11,951	11,951	0	
	<b>Total Lebanon operational expenditure</b>	<b>315,250</b>	<b>249,258</b>	<b>65,992</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Turkey program expenditure</b>				
3.1	Case management officer costs	10,300	10,300	0	
	<b>Total Turkey program expenditure</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Turkey operational expenditure</b>				
4.1	Personnel	30,849	9,394	21,455	
4.2	Legal and accountancy	12,737	0	12,737	
4.3	Office operational costs <sup>5</sup>	15,808	0	15,808	
	<b>Total Turkey operational expenditure</b>	<b>59,394</b>	<b>9,394</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Total regional operational expenditure<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>103,049</b>	<b>51,525</b>	<b>51,525</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Total expenditure 2019</b>		<b>1,239,431</b>	<b>1,071,914</b>	<b>167,517</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Transportation, accommodation, and food allowance for children and their families in access to medical care.

<sup>2</sup> Internet and electricity; office maintenance and cleaning services; IT services and equipment; supplies and utilities; stationary; translation fees; staff development; bank fees.

<sup>3</sup> Old office rent; new office rent until June 2020.

<sup>4</sup> One-off office move; moving costs; furniture; central phone system; air conditioners.

<sup>5</sup> Rent and Gaziantep office one-off set up costs.

<sup>6</sup> Regional Director salary, personnel, and supervision field visits to countries of operation with associated travel and accommodation costs.



## Funders

Ghazi and Badrieh Charitable Trust  
JP's Peace, Love & Happiness Foundation  
Mary Alice Fortin Foundation  
The W Trust

## Medical partners

American University of Beirut  
Medical Center  
MMT American Hospital, Gaziantep

## Corporate sponsors

Fine Hygienic Holding

## Major givers

Zeba Ahmad	Helen Hancke
Michael Albanese	Leah and Richard Kaplan
Patricia Cohen	John Kayulich
Arwa Damon	Dave Littrell
Henry Damon	Kenneth Mack
Alison Derrick	Elisabeth Megally
Yahya Desai	Ghassan Saleh
Frank Giustra	Amanda Seyfried and Thomas Sadoski
Zach A Haitz	

How you can help



## How you can help

Every achievement in 2019 was down to our amazing supporters. We can only change the lives of war wounded refugee children with your help. As we go into 2020, and a year where the whole world is fighting COVID-19, your donations are needed more than ever before if we are to continue treatment for children following movement restrictions in the countries we are based in.

**Here are just some of the ways you can help:**



- ◆ Make a one-off donation.
- ◆ Set up a monthly donation.
- ◆ Tell your friends and family about our work.
- ◆ Post about us on your social media channels.
- ◆ Plan and launch an INARA online fundraiser during your COVID-19 lockdown.







To learn more about our work and see how you can get involved please contact us.

Email: [contact@inara.org](mailto:contact@inara.org)

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