



Iraqi Children
Foundation

2013 Annual Report

CHANGING LIVES IN IRAQ: ONE CHILD AT A TIME



2013 Annual Report

In 2013, our original name – the Sponsor Iraqi Children Foundation - was simplified to “Iraqi Children Foundation.” Our name changed, but our mission didn’t.

OUR MISSION

To assist the families and communities of Iraq by mobilizing a life-changing Surge of Love for orphans and street children affected by violence in Iraq.

We are committed to doing this under the leadership of the Iraqi people by—

- *Serving as a catalyst to mobilize US and international partners*
- *Investing in training and capacity building of Iraq’s non-governmental and community organizations*
- *Emphasizing direct assistance for hand up, not hand out, projects*



THE URGENT NEEDS OF ORPHANS AND STREET CHILDREN IN IRAQ

According to a December 2012 UNICEF report, there are approximately 800,000 orphans in Iraq today. Thousands more desperately poor children are on the streets, many of them orphans who sell water or other items to help widowed mothers and extended family with whom they live. These orphaned and street children are dangerously vulnerable to recruitment and exploitation by criminals or terrorists, physical abuse, human trafficking, and arrest.

This serious humanitarian crisis poses a threat to the future security and stability of Iraq. Unless effective action is taken in the next five to ten years, many orphans and street children will reach adulthood without help for the trauma and suffering they have experienced.

ICF co-founders, who were living and working in Iraq in 2007, recognized this emerging crisis and launched a people-to-people response with food, clothing, blankets, medical supplies, and other necessities for these children.

Today ICF is a US-based, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charity (tax ID 26-1394773) with a strong commitment to helping Iraqi families and communities care for Iraq’s next generation. The compassionate giving of hundreds of donors makes possible this “surge of love” for the extremely vulnerable orphans and street children of Iraq. Read more of our story at www.sicfiraq.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013

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Touching the Lives of 120 Extremely Vulnerable Orphans and Street Children

Thousands of orphans and street children come from neighborhoods like that at right, with inadequate shelter, lack of sanitation, and other necessities. Many children have been displaced by war and violence and some have experienced severe trauma from witnessing death of a parent or physical and sexual abuse. Far too many work on the streets or in dangerous workplaces to support a widowed mother or other relatives.



For a second year, ICF provided loving support for these children at a safe haven where they are tutored, fed healthy meals, and given time to play like normal children. They also receive health assistance and emotional care for psychological problems. Here is a snapshot:

- 120 children (regular and part-time) attended the Center, with 55-60 attending daily on average
- 30,960 est. healthy meals were served to address malnutrition in many of the kids
- 63 children received medical care for skin disease, diarrhea, dental issues, typhoid, etc.
- 31 children stopped working because of the Center's intervention. Others cut work by up to 60%
- 17 children enrolled in regular public school because the Center worked with their families
- 2 girls (12 and 13) were saved from early marriage through intervention by Center staff
- 15 children received legal help in family court from lawyers working with the Center
- 18 cases showed a decline in family violence after Center staff intervened with mediation



Food Baskets Show Love to Families of Orphans and Street Children



ICF, in partnership with the two highly respected Iraqi NGOs, delivered 54 special food packages to the homes of orphans and street children in some of the poorest areas of Baghdad.

The food gifts were made possible by a generous donation from the Khudairi Group and delivered during the month of Ramadan. The families selected belong to children who attend a center that ICF and its many friends and donors support.

Not only are the food packages a demonstration of love and compassion for these desperately poor children, they also address malnutrition which UNICEF has identified as a serious risk for many children in Iraq today.

The Iraqi Children Foundation recognizes with special gratitude a generous donation from the Khudairi Group to underwrite this charitable undertaking.



The warmth of winter coats and clothes, delivered with a warm heart

A \$1,200 matching gift, offered to the Iraqi Children Foundation (ICF) at Christmas by an anonymous donor, mobilized an additional \$1,200 to provide brand new winter jackets, pants, and sweaters to 85 Iraqi orphans and street children.

Among the children who received the warm clothing were 60 boys and girls who attend the Center that ICF supports. One witness to the project reported “indefinable joy” in the eyes of the children as they received their brand new jackets and outfits to fend off the winter chill.

The Iraqi Children Foundation wishes to express its deepest thanks to the anonymous donor as well as the Khudairi Group and others who donated to give the gift of warmth to these vulnerable children.





Telling Americans the forgotten story of Iraq's children after years of war

The Iraqi Children Foundation loves to tell Americans about the children of Iraq. It is a story that is told in many ways and galvanizes support for orphans and street kids whenever and wherever it is told.

- In March, CNN.com included ICF's work with orphans and street children in an article marking the 10th anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq, **"Iraq, 10 years later: A people in need"**
- In May, ICF organized "IN THEIR SHOES," a springtime 5K fun run/walk to raise awareness and benefit Iraqi orphans and street children. The event raised more than \$30,000 and brought together Americans who served in Iraq, Gold Star Mothers and family of fallen soldiers, as well as distinguished members of the Washington, DC Iraqi-American community.



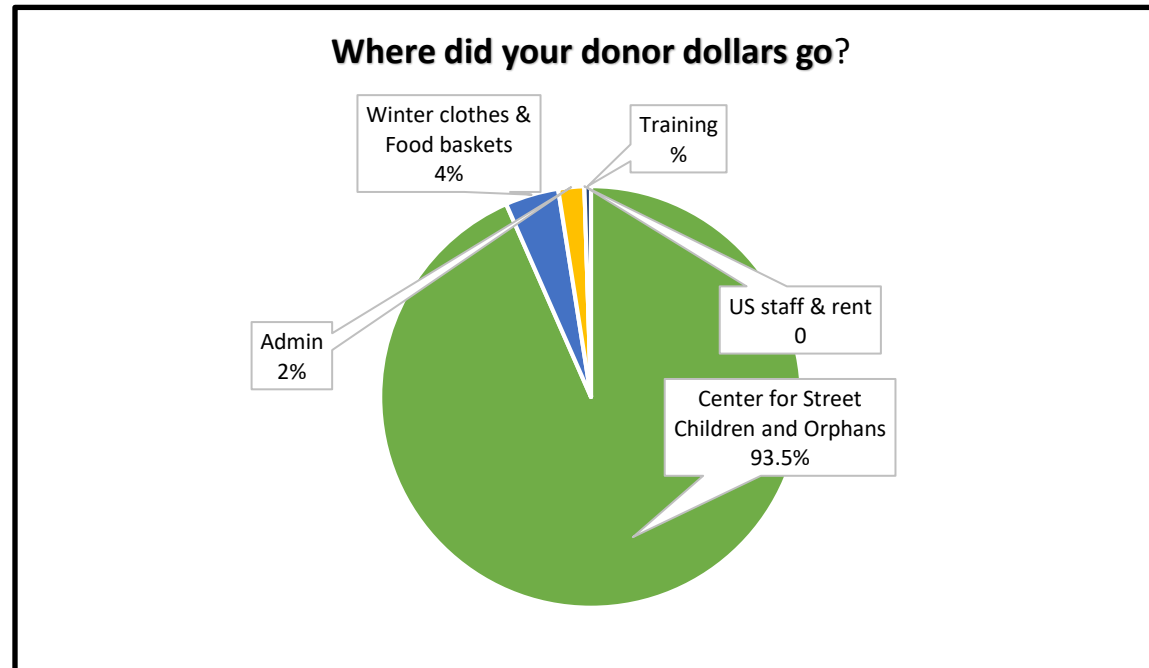
- In June, ICF Chairman Webb presented the story of Iraqi orphans and street children to the Lake Oswego Rotary in Oregon. The Rotary raised an impressive \$23,000 to support the center that serves Iraqi orphans and street children.

- The Iraqi band "UTN1" – Unknown to No One – granted ICF permission to use their well-known song, "While We Can" to raise awareness of the needs of Iraqi children after so many years of war.



2013 Financial Accountability

Total ICF revenue in 2013 was \$117,046, a record breaking increase of 51% in revenue over 2012. Total expenditures were \$107,816, allocated as outlined in the table below. ICF finished 2013 with \$19,492 in cash.



ICF also gratefully recognizes thousands of dollars of “in-kind” services including advertising in *Iraq Business News* (www.iraq-businessnews.com/), office and conference room space, website and other services.

In 2013, ICF received the Gold Guidestar Exchange Seal (at right), the top ranking for transparency and accountability under Guidestar USA, Inc. (www.guidestar.org) GuidestarUSA, Inc. is a premier source of nonprofit information. In addition to Guidestar, please visit our website www.sicfiraq.org for more information on our work with orphans and street children in Iraq. A financial statement is available upon written request from the Office of Consumer Affairs of the Commonwealth of Virginia.



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The Iraqi Children Foundation gratefully recognizes the many donors who have given generously to help the orphans and street children of Iraq. You are changing the lives of desperately poor and vulnerable children who have suffered so much. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts on behalf of these children.



To donate, scan the QR code above.

Iraqi Children Foundation
701 W Broad St., Suite 301
Falls Church, VA 22046
www.sicfiraq.org

The Iraqi Children Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (EIN 26-1394773). All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. A financial statement is available upon written request from the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs.