

Sojourners United 2024 Efforts

A lot has happened this year! The purpose of this Newsletter is to let you see some of where your payers and gifts have been going.

SU has been blessed with a full travel schedule with expanding travels and ministries spread over three continents. We continue to look for and develop local based leaders that seek God's Kingdom and to grow, strengthen and develop believers.

We could not do it without others uniting with us in prayer and with generous gifts.

Please read on to find out what SU is pouring into with your help.

IRAQ



BACKGROUND

Since 2019, SU has been active in Iraq, and we are officially recognized as an International NGO (Non-Government Organization) in Northern Iraq, with a base that positions it to assist with medical aid to distressed ravaged areas. While waiting, SU focuses on helping refugees, with an emphasis on widows. SU also operates a house uniquely poised and favored to house and disciple young Christian men that have lost or are separated from their families, strengthening and encouraging a weekly fellowship of believers that currently is mostly Syrian.

UPDATE

We do a daily Bible study with the young men at the house, and a larger weekly Bible study on Wednesday nights with 20 to 50 attendees. We have had some baptisms this year, as well as new believers. We did weekly medical clinics and provided a month's worth of chronic medicines to mostly Syrian refugees. Eric also taught at a larger local fellowship which we attend on Friday

mornings while the regular Pastor was Stateside.

The cost of running our house ministry and clinics is roughly \$2,000 every month, and monthly donations assisted by one-time gifts support this operation. We also provided food, clothing and medicine to some poor Kurds in a mountain community. As well, aid was given to a group whose homes were damaged due to flooding, and we helped a tent community when seven shelters burned down displacing over fifteen families. We have used funds to help pay rent for a widow and her two daughters, and pay visa fees for other Syrians who could lose their lives if deported back to Syria.

Syria currently is a wreck, with a month's wages able to buy one to two cartons of eggs, and 30 to 60 minutes of electricity a day. Northern Iraq is making it extremely difficult for the Syrians to stay there, and regularly takes advantage of those that are there, often not paying them wages or only giving them substandard wages. We also have inroads to reaching Kurdish homeless with help and the Gospel. God is opening ways for us to get the Gospel out through booklet distributions and training in God's Word. Our next trip to Iraq starts on 3 October.



Thanks for uniting with us!



Home Visits



The house goes on a picnic



Daily Read and Feeds



Cookout in the thick of summer



Home Clinics for those in the Gathering



Community Land next to the Church



Chicken Coop takes shape



Orphan house under construction

Dear Fellow Sojourners,

Thank you so much for your financial support and prayers! They have enabled us to share God's love abroad with many people in crisis and great need, to an expanding number of countries as God opens doors.

KENYA



BACKGROUND

Karla has known Pastor Isaiah since 2017 and we have been visiting him since 2019. He leads a fellowship of poor believers, widows and orphans in a rural area in Southwest Kenya. Prayer and preaching and instruction in God's Word are hallmarks of this fellowship. Alternating times of drought and floods hit this area. Our efforts are focused on encouraging these believers and helping them develop sustainable economic practices.

UPDATE



This year, your resources have enabled us to build a small shelter to house at risk youth and orphans or whose parents are alcoholics. This Pastor has a heart to reach and disciple these youth. We also were able to provide a generator and solar panel for electricity at the church. Land and seed has been purchased to grow crops to feed his parishioners, and especially the orphans and widows he is caring for. Karla had opportunity to do some medical clinics for the widows, church members and some villagers in the neighborhood. We were able to put in a well for clean water and crop irrigation. As well we are supporting education for some children in the area including the Pastor's kids. Help with a roadside store and chicken raising has been given. A chicken coop to protect the chickens from floods is underway.

The next SU trip to Kenya is tentatively scheduled for January.

GHANA



SU has been helping Sara Gator for the last year when Karla met her in tears at the church we go to every week. She had just escaped a work trafficking with sexual exploitation "house cleaning" operation. She had been trapped in this since leaving Ghana under the false premise of being a pastry chef in Dubai, ending up in Northern Iraq instead. SU helped support Sara with lodging and food, and with the help of several other groups, got her passport and visa back and she is now back in Ghana. We now are focused on helping her open a small trailer restaurant to become self-sufficient while assisting her raise her two sons and take care of her mother.

INDIA



Karla has known Pastor Francis Joy for several years. He operates a youth ministry feeding orphans. SU is praying into when to make its first trip to this fellowship. Until then, we have been sending gifts to encourage and strengthen this group of believers that give an ability for Pastor Francis Joy to share the Good News of Christ.

Please consider becoming a monthly donor

For more information about SU or to donate, go to:
<https://www.SojournersUnited.org/donate>

Your prayers have been precious in opening doors for the Gospel, which we aim to speak clearly with boldness and courage

PAKISTAN



BACKGROUND

For over a year, SU has been helping individuals and groups in Pakistan who are distressed, impoverished, persecuted and enslaved. Our relationships with many of the leaders extends over two years. We have now made two trips, with a third trip tentatively planned for January 2025.

We have three established country partners that we co-labor with. Each is unique. Each is special.

Area 1 features an expanding home church network of Afghani refugees who fled as the Taliban took over Afghanistan. Many have been beaten and oppressed by the Taliban, and face this and more if deported back. Our lead coworker and their family are incredible.

Area 2 features a growing relationship working with a Pakistani pastor who has a local fellowship of believers and is reaching out to several of the brickyard slaves. Food, clean water, medical assistance and community outreach are possible.

Area 3 is located in one of the cities that regularly discriminates against Christians and has had mob riot attacks against believers this past year. Food, encouragement to the fellowship and to those fleeing is so needed.

In Pakistan, we work with a young

UPDATE



Afghan believer who has a heart to reach his fellow refugees with the love of Christ in practical ways.

During our time in Pakistan, he brought the hardest medical cases to us for three packed days of clinics. We were able to see many people and provide needed medicine and set up surgery for one young man with spinal and shoulder deformities. We encouraged the believers in the evening at some of the twelve home fellowships that he currently has going. In our absence, he has your shared resources to buy sewing machines and start sewing classes as income generating projects for the refugees. We also provide food staple for many poor Afghan families.

There are millions of slave families in Pakistan working in brickyards. We did a medical clinic in one of the brickyards providing care to malnourished/dehydrated mothers and children. We also provided some water filters and helped dig a couple of wells in the two brickyards so the kids wouldn't have to walk 3 kilometers to get water. We provided food parcels to the many families who typically get one meal per day, as well as shoes and clothing for many children. Through a Pakistani Pastor we are doing sewing classes and he has a fellowship active in the brickyards.

The church in Pakistan has endured isolated incidents of persecution this past year a mob killing, a factory and houses burned, displacing many. We have used resources to help encourage, feed and clothe some of these displaced families.

With love, your fellow workers for the Kingdom,

Eric and Karla



Severely dehydrated baby in Brickyard Clinic



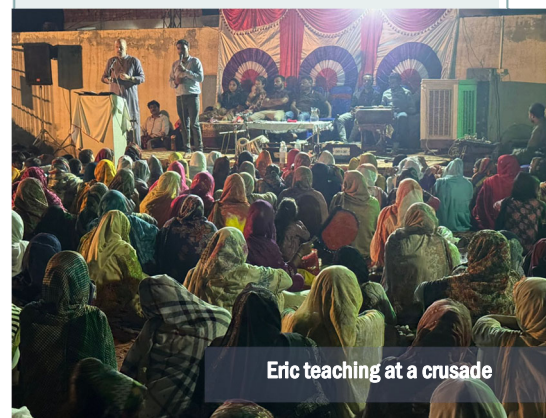
Clinic after church



Food distributed to persecuted area



Bible Studies in Brickyards



Eric teaching at a crusade



Street Clinic

We are so grateful for each and every gift that we have received, and have striven to use it to open doors for God's treasures that last forever

1. Sewing Class

2. Newspaper Practice

3. Fabric comes next

Income Generating Projects in Pakistan is critical for the Afghani's there to get daily food and living needs. Since many do not have visas, they cannot work in established businesses. Sewing classes, craft classes, and English classes have been established. Here we see Afghani's learning how to sew, first on paper, then with cloth. Eric's outfit that he is wearing was done in Pakistan by some of the Afghani's through the sewing ministry.



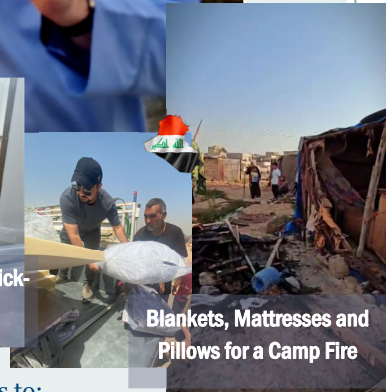
Clinic for the Widows



Home Church Gathering



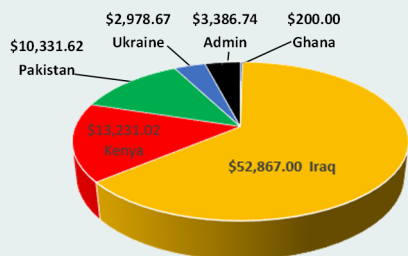
Water Filters going to Bricklands and Rural HC



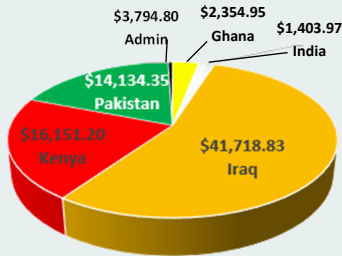
Blankets, Mattresses and Pillows for a Camp Fire

Where Your Gifts Go:

2023 Expenses \$82,995.05



2024 Expenses so far \$76,178.29



As a reminder, Eric and Karla volunteer their services to SU and pay for all their flight travels using retirement pay. They also pick up various administrative costs, such as bank, computer program and legal fees. This enables gifts from donors to go completely to people in need.

Send Checks to:

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Loving God

Serving People

Building a Better Country

Heb 11: 13-16



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*All gifts are tax deductible
and will go directly to helping those in distress
and sharing God's message of love and hope to a hurting world*