



FACE

for Children in Need  
من أجل مستقبل أفضل للأطفال



Annual Report 2023



- 1 National Kafala Center for abandoned babies
- 3 outreach groups (street - detention centers - communities)
- 2 homes for abandoned children and orphans
- 1 Transitional Home for children victims of abuse or neglect
- 2 teams of social workers specialized in Case Management
- 1 team of trainers (Child Protection, Case Management...)

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# Key Figures

## FACE Teams 2023 Achievements

FACE teams reached  
**4 500 children and  
1 500 families**

FACE teams were  
composed of  
**155 Egyptian staff**  
(60% women)



Since 2003, FACE has placed a total of 977 children into families (reintegration or Kafala), 48 of which were integrated this year.





FACE Outreach team reached and supported 1 000 children on the streets (10 000 contacts)



FACE Outreach team reached and supported 2 500 children and 1 100 families in slums and poor communities (17 600 contacts)



3 830 street children, orphans and abandoned children accessed non-formal education



287 former street children, orphans and abandoned children stayed in residence in the FACE Street Children Transitional Home and in the 3 FACE homes



215 children and families were supported by FACE teams to prevent the placement of their children in institution in 2023



350 street children, orphans and abandoned children were supported to remain into school or to reintegrate school



35 families received economic support (16 parents were supported to start an income generation project and 19 parents were supported to find employment).



FACE Outreach team reached and supported 600 children in Ministry of Social Solidarity institutions (5 600 contacts)



1 750 children received medical care on the streets, in detention centers, in communities and in the FACE centers



325 children in detention received legal support



1 030 children and youth accessed counseling sessions and emotional/psychological support from FACE teams



48 children reintegrated their family, extended family or Kafala family



5 youth accessed vocational training and 43 youth received support to access employment



Over 300 future kafala parents received support from FACE trainers to access information about childcare techniques, positive parenting

# A Word

## From FACE Founder and Executive Director

Dear Friends of FACE,

This year has been a very special one, with the celebration of FACE's 20th anniversary. We are all very proud to see how the tiny association started in 2003 has become an important actor of the Child Protection scene in Egypt.

I would like to deeply thank all the people over the years who have contributed to the success of FACE.

A very exciting one too, as we are particularly proud of our new project built over years: the "National Kafala Center". This innovative concept in Egypt represents a major step and achievement in our efforts to promote alternative family care in Egypt. It will be the sole center in Egypt receiving all the abandoned babies across the country, contributing in systematizing and securing the priority of placing babies into family care (Kafala), and to reduce drastically the number of children placed in institutional care, therefore closing orphanages in Egypt (change already taking place). A monumental change in childcare for generations to come in Egypt.

We are also very pleased to have started a new Aftercare project supporting young people who have been raised within FACE homes and who receive tailored support to prepare their independent life. The first group of 3 young people entered the first transition apartment, which was not only a success for them but also a great encouragement and motivation for their younger peers.

To respond to the growing economic crisis in Egypt, we have managed to develop new prevention activities in some of the poorest slum areas and communities in Cairo, where our teams provided support and protection services to more than 3 000 children and hundreds of families in collaboration with local and national authorities.

This progress of course cannot hide the increasingly difficult economic context in Egypt. The inflation has remained at a very high level (30% in 2023 and over 70% for food in Cairo). The continuous increase of prices over several years has seriously affected the poorest categories of the population. It of course also affects our finances, due to the huge increase of prices and the strong pressure on our staff salaries. The minimum salary in Egypt increased by 40% in 2023 and will be increased again by over 60% in 2024. These successive increases, although they are important for our team members, are also difficult to cope with financially.

We have succeeded to adapt to this difficult financial situation in 2023, and this has been in large part thanks to the nomination of a new board of trustees for FACE in Egypt. We have been extremely lucky to add an incredible group of talented, motivated, and generous people who have always been close supporters of FACE. We are happy and honored to welcome Dina Ghabbour, Maged Samy, Walid El Saadany and Dr. Yousef El Bealy as Chairman, to our team and I would like to share our most grateful thanks for their constant support.

It is also an immense honor to welcome Moushira Khattab the President of the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) and the Dr. Ghada Waly Director-General/ Executive Director of the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV)/ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as honorary members of FACE. Their support has been pivotal in the success of FACE over the years.

We also want to share our most grateful thanks and all our recognition to all our supporters who continue to make these achievements possible. I would like to express to you all, on behalf of our team, our deepest thanks and all our gratitude for your past and future support to FACE.

Warmest regards,

*Flavia*

Flavia Shaw-Jackson  
Founder & Executive Director





# Highlights

## National Kafala Center opening preparation

The preparation of the new National Kafala Center represented one of the main highlight in 2023. A first meeting was held on 8th February with the Minister of Social Solidarity (MoSS), Her Excellency Dr Nevine El Qabbaj.

The building provided by the MoSS and located in 15th May city, was received formally on 27th February 2023. Several visits were organized by Ministry's engineers and architects to prepare renovations works. Another meeting was held between Minister El Qabbaj and FACE Executive Director on 5th May 2023 to discuss the preparations of the National Kafala Center in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH).

The protocol of cooperation is based on FACE's founder request who agreed with both MoSS and MoH to partnership to open and run the first and only National Kafala Center in Egypt. This national project will solve the problem of the multiplicity of placements channels which put babies at risk. The new center will represent the unique channel of placement for Kafala families and will offer babies protection, medical, psychosocial, and legal support as well as the best physical and psychological care possible with FACE's 20 years of experience in the field of newborn care. The main goal is to promote strongly Kafala as a home for children at the earliest age possible.



القباچ تلتي المدير التنفيذي لمؤسسة فيس فلافيا جاكسون، لاستعراض الجهود المبذولة  
للانتهاء من إعداد المركز الشامل للكفالة بالشراكة مع وزارة الصحة والسكان، استعداداً لافتتاحه  
في النصف الثاني من العام

# Salam Street Children Program Outreach Team

In 2023, 3 Outreach groups (15 staff in total) supported children on the streets of Cairo, in 5 detention centers and in some of the poorest communities and slums in Cairo. The team provided protection and support to children and families to remain safe and find alternatives to their lives on the streets, or to prevent situations of abuse or risks in these communities. FACE Outreach team reached over 4 500 children and 1 500 family members along 2023, it conducted close to 1500 medical interventions, 230 children received legal support, 2000 children received psychosocial support, 3 000 children received life skills education.

In 2023, besides its work with children in street situation and in detention, the Outreach team continued to develop prevention services in 6 of the poorest communities and slums in Cairo ("El Zarayeb", "Kuwait land", "Masr El Mahrousa" and "Ahlina"). Each area is visited at least once a week and FACE team provides a variety of services adapted to the context and needs in each community. The objective of the community team is to support children and their families to improve children protection and reduce risks of school dropout, domestic violence, children exploitation through street work, illegal migration for adolescents and young adults...





The new community outreach group provides recreational and arts activities, educational activities and life skills education, legal support, support for schooling, counselling, hygiene and medical support, emergency support, support for job placement and for income generation activities to families, support to access legal support and public services... This new project initiated in 2020-21 is crucial for FACE to support children and families in the current context of economic crisis in Egypt that affects in first place the poorest categories of population.

FACE Outreach team also developed several collaborations with local authorities and other local NGOs to organise a prevention and detection campaign for HIV or breast cancer in 1 community. 2 special parties were organised to promote the work of FACE and invite families and children to join FACE services, gathering more than 1 000 children and family members.

The new Community Outreach project is very important in the current context of economic crisis in Egypt and FACE hopes to be able to develop this project further in future. First encouraging contacts have been made in the end of the year with the Ministry of Social Solidarity who is interested to collaborate with FACE and support the development of prevention activities in other communities.





# Salam Transitional Home Team

The FACE Transitional Home (TH) offers children full accommodation, protection and psychosocial support while preparing their social reintegration.

58 children have stayed in the TH over 2023, 20 of them were joining the home for the first time.

The number of children referred to the TH has increased since 2021 due to an increasing number of children referred by authorities. These children were referred to FACE after being victims of severe violence, after their parents were arrested/jailed or murdered... most of these referrals implied very difficult and traumatic situations for children, requiring FACE social workers to adapt individually the support and the services offered to them. The Transitional Home team adapted to this new evolution in collaboration with the Case Management team, and has for example increased psychological support services (including referral to specialized services).



During 2023, 15 children in the TH have attended the FACE Child Friendly School on a regular basis while 28 children attended the local public school and 2 children joined kindergarten.

10 children were supported to access specific psychological support through external services and 8 children were referred to specialized hospitals to receive adequate medical care.

23 children in the TH were supported for family reintegration and received ongoing follow up from FACE case managers.

Several weekly informal outings are organized for the children, always in the presence of staff. Some children study during the day in the FACE Child Friendly School, and it is essential for them to be involved in social activities outside of FACE.

In March, all the children were invited to attend the Cirque du Soleil show in Cairo, with all other FACE projects.





# Salam Case Management Reintegration Team

The Reintegration team provides Case Management support to all children to ensure their reintegration in school, family, employment and society.

FACE Case Management teams provided counseling and support to 122 families who came to the FACE TH in Salam to ask for help or support, with the objective to support families to be able to continue to raise their children and prevent their placement in institutions (gatekeeping).

The teams also worked in support to the Outreach team and to the TH team to provide individual support to children in special need for protection or support.

**In 2023, 81 new Case Management files were opened (40% female).**

- 109 children were supported for reintegration:
  - 27 children were supported to reintegrate back into their family or extended family and 1 youth was supported to live independently.
  - 62 youth and heads of family were supported to find employment (in Carrefour, medical center, clothing factory, restaurants, security guard...).
  - 19 children were reintegrated into school.





Over 400 children and family members were supported for prevention and other supports: 150 children have received support (school uniforms and materials) in order to remain in school and prevent drop out.

253 children have received legal support; for birth certificates, identity cards, support for unlawful arrests, proof of genealogy.

14 families reached by the community outreach team received support to start up a small business (in sewing, tailoring, cleaning products sales, electricity tools, food and grocery shop, ready-made clothes, mobile library...), benefiting indirectly to 49 children at risk or former street children.

FACE social workers conducted over 200 assessment visits in children families and 760 follow up visits to visit children in their families, schools, and places of work and ensure their safety and well-being after their reintegration.



# Abandoned Children Program

## A - Protection and support to abandoned children in FACE homes:

3 FACE homes provide high quality care to orphans, abandoned children and children victims of abuse. 229 children (48 girls) stayed in the 3 FACE homes in 2023:

- 93 babies (0 to 2 years) stayed in the Maadi home (20 girls)
- 76 children stayed in the Obour 1 home (33 girls)
- 60 children stayed in the Obour 2 home (all boys)
- 38 children were referred to the Abandoned Children program centers for the first time.

During 2023, the 3 FACE homes have offered a wide range of services to all children staying in the homes: provided 1 014 medical acts (712 in-house and 302 through referrals to specialized hospitals), these consisted of regular medical check-ups, medical care, operations and vaccinations.







- All babies in the Maadi home have received regular baby massages and all children receive psychomotricity support from a specialist, to support their emotional and physical development.
- 2 babies with HIV were placed in the Maadi home in 2023 and have received adapted medical support and treatment (FACE team had received specialized HIV training in past years after receiving a first baby with HIV in 2021). Orphanages in Egypt refuse to receive babies and children with HIV due to the stigma attached to HIV.
- In the last quarter of 2023, a baby who had just been placed with FACE passed away due to cardiac problems that doctors could not cure despite all their efforts. The Maadi team organized the baby funerals.

- All children under 3 and a half years accessed non-formal education, 108 children from the age of 3 and a half years attended fulltime schooling in local schools.
- A psychologist was also recruited to provide ongoing support to children in the 2 Obour homes.
- All babies in the Maadi home joined very regular outings in the local garden and neighborhood; children and young people in the two Obour homes are allowed to go out for walks in evening depending on ages. The two Obour homes also organised a very large number of leisure, sports and arts activities, with a particular attention to ensure girls have similar access to boys to all types of activities. Number of sports activities are organized in the center garden (Football, Zumba, Gym...) and with external clubs (Karate, Judo, Taekwondo, Kickboxing...). As every year, summer holidays were organised for all children in a summer resort in Marsa Matrouh during August.



## B- Case Management support

All children received individual support from FACE Case Management team to start preparing their future reintegration into family or into independent living.

39 new Case Management files were opened in the 3 FACE homes in 2023.

65 children joined regular individual counselling sessions

35 children were supported to access psychological support from FACE psychologist or through external services.

94 children received legal support (including 17 children who received a birth certificate).

A new psychologist was recruited in the beginning of 2023 to improve the psychological support offered to children in both Obour homes.

Weekly case management meetings are organised with social workers and centers management, to support the teams to develop individual plans with each child, and to answer to each child particular needs and plans.

## Development of Aftercare project

- In many countries, including Egypt, most children raised in institutions fall off the radar when they reach 18. These children face more difficult challenges because of their fractured pasts but also due to a lack of planned interventions towards preparing them for independent life.
- The transition to adulthood is a very challenging phase for all young people. It is much more challenging for children raised in homes as they face the outside world without their parents' support. As in many other countries there is an important gap in Egypt and very few institutions provide adequate support for care leavers. This has pushed FACE to work on a new aftercare project since 2022 to ensure all young people in its home can receive adequate support to prepare their future life. The new project includes several areas of support (housing, life skills, education, employment, relationships, stigma, financial situation, health, mental health, resilience, and relationship with the society) to support young people towards their independence.



An Aftercare officer has been selected internally and trained and the team started preparing the first group of 20 young people to design the first steps of the project.

- FACE Aftercare officer worked with teenagers from 13 years old to help them preparing future plans, creating CVs, finding jobs or internships opportunities during summer holiday, and a number of other support activities to support each adolescent in FACE home to start preparing their life after FACE.
- 9 teenage girls from Obour 1 home participated in different workshops organized in collaboration with Wataneya association, and where the girls were trained on different life skills, and learned the first steps toward self-reliance and independence.
- A training was also organized by DHL company through a collaboration with FACE to provide exposure visits to a group of boys and girls, and to provide a long-term internship to one of the older youths in the Obour 2 home.
- A first transitional apartment was opened in 2023 to help 3 young people preparing their independent life in a more independent setting.
- A graduation ceremony was organized in September with all children to congratulate the first youth entering the project which was a very important motivation for all children or young adults attending the ceremony.





# National Family Reintegration Program

The National Family Reintegration program supports children in FACE homes to prepare their family reintegration when possible or a placement into Kafala. Besides this work, the team works on a national level to promote alternative family care and to improve the legal and implementing system of Kafala placement in Egypt.

Prevent abandonment – Gatekeeping : FACE works to prevent family break up and to prevent child abandonment or unnecessary placement into institutional care. FACE Case Management team ensure children referred to FACE centers are placed as a last resort, after all possibilities of family placement have been assessed.

89 families were supported by FACE social workers and case managers along 2023 to find alternatives to placing their children in an orphanage and to be able to raise their children.

1 mother received economic support from FACE to start a sewing business, allowing her to improve her income and to care about the child she was willing to place in an orphanage. FACE helped the mother to find a daycare center to allow her to work and keep her babies with her. It was the first economic support made by the Family Reintegration program and this type of support will be developed further in future.





## Family Reintegration and Kafala Placement

- 20 children living in the 3 FACE homes were placed or reintegrated into family or Kafala family during 2023.
- 4 children were supported to reintegrate their own or extended family.
- 16 children were placed in Kafala families.
- 16 children were placed in specialized centers to receive services more adapted to their needs (10 young children in small homes and 6 children with special needs in specialized centers).
- During 2023, the case management team also prepared the registration of 117 children into schools and kindergartens.

The number of babies placed into Kafala is expected to increase in coming years with the opening of the National Kafala Center.



# Training Program

In 2023, FACE teams conducted 103 days of training for 397 staff participants, for FACE teams but also with government and civil society partners.

## Training to partners

During 2023, FACE trainers conducted several trainings to 104 middle school students through the Salam Child Protection Committee. 60 youth joined 2 workshops on prevention of school drop-out and child labor, and 44 youth joined a workshop on prevention of bullying in school.

FACE Kafala trainer provided support and training to 26 Kafala families who received children in FACE homes, to train them on childcare techniques and support them emotionally to receive their new child. 26 families trained (25 sessions of one day) to receive training on child care techniques.





### Internal Training

FACE programs training team conducted 71 days of training with 243 program staff participations during 2023.

Main topics of training: Basic staff training (child development and on FACE target group, basic social work, and communication skills), Case Management, Child Protection Policy, Non-formal Education and Life Skills, Basic Medical Care and Psycho-social Support, Childcare Techniques with very young children, Psychomotricity, and other skills that are essential to maintain high quality services in FACE centers working with babies and young children.

2 specific trainings were held in January on participatory ways to design rules and consequences with children in institution for 17 social workers and managers; and on the implementation of FACE child protection guidelines for 20 project managers and for all FACE Child Protection officers (in charge of implementing the FACE Child Protection guidelines in all projects).

42 staff also received training on first aid from Alzuhur clinics and 15 social workers received training from Doctors Without Borders on the support to victims of sexual abuse.



# Finance and Administration

## Income and Charges Statement (in €)

Income	2023	2022
Operating income	929,931.67	1,062,314.11
- Individual donations	201,349.89	191,994.01
- Sustainable Member donations	564,720.44	732,410.28
- Private Company and Foundation donations	163,861.34	135,966.07
- Institutional grants	0.00	1,943.75
Other interest and financial income	1,267.33	192.29
Other income	1,243.01	411.97
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>932,442.01</b>	<b>1,062,918.37</b>

Charges	2023	2022
Operating charges	945,569.68	1,099,067.05
- Program services	853,888.43	1,012,917.65
- Fundraising, Communication and Events	49,207.09	46,169.20
- Administration and General	42,474.17	39,980.20
Other interest and financial charges	6,745.24	22,371.74
Other charges	2534.71	425.86
<b>Total Charges</b>	<b>954,849.63</b>	<b>1,121,864.65</b>

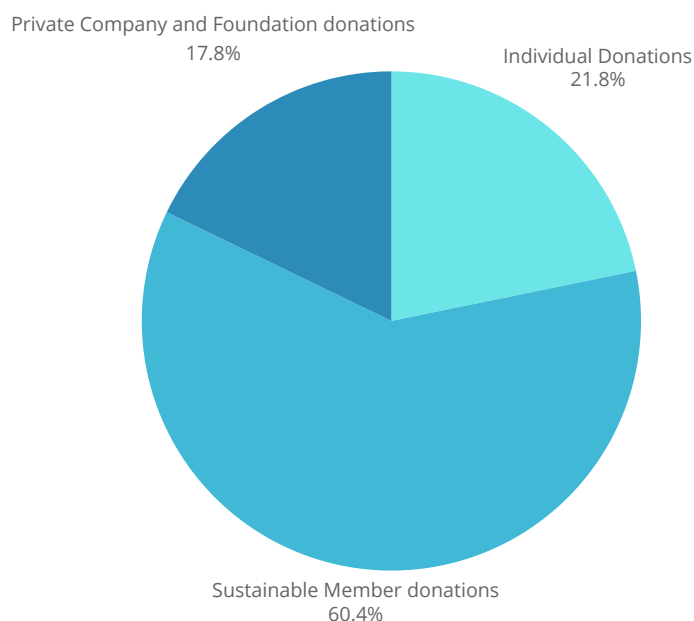
<b>Deficit for the financial year</b>	<b>22,407.62</b>	<b>58,946.28</b>
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All FACE accounts are audited annually by the independent auditors Deloitte both in Egypt and Belgium. FACE follows very strict financial procedures to ensure the best use of its funds.



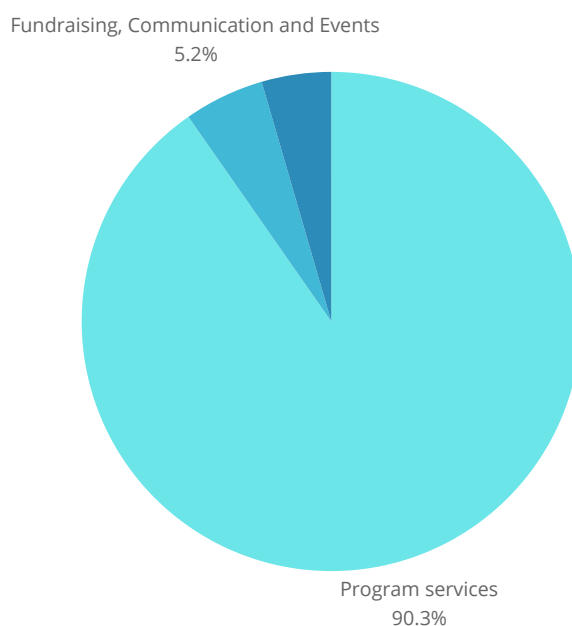
## Operating Income Repartition

(as at 31 December 2023)



## Operating Charges Repartition

(as at 31 December 2023)



**Board of Directors:**

**Management in Egypt:** Nabila El Gabalawi & Hisham Regal

**President:** Flavia Shaw-Jackson

**Trustees:** Nicolas Hollanders de Ouderaen & Patrick Staar

# The Way Forward

In 2024 FACE teams are all mobilized and working hard on opening the NATIONAL KAFALA CENTER. We are preparing this new innovative and crucial project which will centralize the channels for receiving abandoned babies in Egypt, reduce baby trafficking, and will contribute strongly to increase the system of placement into Kafala/adoption families in Egypt allowing much more children to grow up within caring families, and therefore closing orphanages progressively in Egypt. We are however also concerned with the evolution of the socio-economic situation in Egypt (new devaluation of the Egyptian currency by 60% in March 2024) and with the very high inflation that affects the population, increasing the vulnerability of millions of poor families, and children, in Greater Cairo and across Egypt. This is encouraging us to develop further our new prevention activities in the poorest slums and communities in Greater Cairo. The Ministry of Social Solidarity has made contacts with our organisation to support the development of our prevention work at a larger scale, to increase social safety nets for the poorest families in a Child Protection perspective. This situation will also of course affect our organisation because of the need to increase salaries to adapt to the surge of prices.





Since a few years we have also been looking at a new emerging issue in Egypt, caused by conflicts in Palestine, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, and Sudan. These conflicts have been the cause of migrations and of a growing number of unaccompanied minors coming to Egypt to find refuge or on their way to Europe. Several international organizations have contacted FACE to ask for support to receive unaccompanied minors into residential care and we will be looking at this possibility in future years. The war in Gaza has already led to the afflux of children and families in Egypt. FACE has already received several very young babies with their mothers, who were referred to FACE by Egyptian authorities after they had been able to escape Gaza and were in need of an emergency placement in the beginning 2024. FACE will remain mobilized to provide support to the victims of this conflict and will continue to observe these issues with attention.

Flavia and the FACE team.



# SPECIAL THANK YOU

## FACE MAIN PARTNER

Emaar Misr is FACE's main partner since 2023 and is committed to a long-term sustainable partnership.

We are extremely grateful to Mr. Mohamed Alabbar, Chairman; Mr. Mostafa El Kady, CEO; and Mr. Sameh Gayed, Consultant, for their generosity. We are honored to have Emaar Misr as our main partner.

# EMAAR

## MISR



## SUSTAINABLE MEMBERS



## MAIN DONORS





# FACE

for Children in Need  
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[www.facechildren.org](http://www.facechildren.org)

