



## Newsletter July to September 2011

### Dear Friends

Hope you have all had a good summer. We hereby send you EpiscoCare's newsletter for July to September to highlight some of the activities taken place within the organisation during this period.

As an attachment to the newsletter we send you EpiscoCare's semi annual report 2011, covering activities and events taken place during the first 6 months of 2011.

We hope you will find both documents interesting reading. Enjoy!

### July 2011

#### Beach trip

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of July, Boulaq development centre arranged a beach trip for beneficiaries and their families. About 115 people attended this trip. It was a sunny day (as usual in Egypt) and everyone was excited. Parents played with their children in the sea and at the beach and people chatted friendly with each other. Everyone enjoyed the fresh air and the relaxing time together. Most of the people have no other opportunities to go to the beach therefore it was a very special day. During the day there were games, food and tombola for the kids. On the way back, many fell asleep, all of them with a smile on their faces.



#### My Dear Daughter

In Ras El Soda community centre a basic training of the young girls who participate as tutors in "My Dear daughter" project has been ongoing. 28 young girls participated and are now fully equipped to meet their new tasks, helping and supporting girls in primary school who have difficulties in keeping up in school as their parents do not possess the capacity to support them. The young tutor girls will not only receive help academically, but they will also receive skills and knowledge in how to deal with and handle personal and family issues.

#### Training for nursery teachers

EpiscoCare arranged a 3 day training courses for 15 nursery teachers. The topic was "Development of children skills" The training was conducted by professional outside trainers and all the teachers received many new and useful skills to use in their daily work at EpiscoCare's nursery schools





### Candle light workshop

Menara centre for children with special needs had a vocational training for the staff and the children in candle making. The centre was donated money to start up a sheltered candle light workshop to help create job opportunities for some of the children who graduate from the centre. Adults with special needs in Egypt have almost no possibilities of being self dependent and the only help they receive is the support from family members or charities.

With the candle light workshop the centre is trying to make a sustainable solution for some of the previous students at the centre. The plan is to sell the candles at local markets as well as in the diocese's two Wady shops which sell hand craft.



August 2011



### Political participation

As Egypt will now be a democratic country, all EpiscoCare's local centres are putting effort in to arranging public meetings and seminars about political awareness and participation. For people to be able to participate in the upcoming elections they need to have their official papers; therefore EpiscoCare is helping many poor people to get their papers.

### ID and Certificate to "Afkar Wanis"

My name is **Afkar Wanis** and I am 55 years old. I came from Sohag city (Upper Egypt) but am now living in El Salam city with my husband and my 6 children.

One day I heard about El Salam development center from my neighbor. She told me about all the activities the centre is offering. I went to some of the public meetings about political awareness and the importance of having official papers. I have never had my official papers but after the meeting I realized why I need my papers.

I asked the centre staff if they could help me. They got all my data and they helped me to get my papers, a birth certificate and an ID card. Now I can give my vote in the upcoming election and thereby have an influence on the future of Egypt.

I now participate in many activities and seminars at the centre, as I feel it gives me a lot of good and important knowledge which I can use in my daily life also it helps me to improve the living condition for my family.





## September 2011

### Art Exhibition

September the 13<sup>th</sup> an exhibition was held at the All Saints Cathedral. It was an exhibition to show beautiful handcrafts made by women, Christian and Muslims, in Boulaq and Ain Shams development centres. All the ladies were provide with certificates and not only did they produce beautiful art, they are also good role models of how Christians and Muslims can work together and develop friendships in spite of religious differences.



Also the day was arranged to celebrate the partnership with the Ministry of culture and to sign a new partnership protocol, as they will help and assist EpiscoCare in implementing new vocational workshops and preparing cultural meetings.



A lot of people showed up and it was a really joyful day. There were representatives form newspapers and television canals, who covered the event.

### New Nursery in Giza

Giza Church is located south of Cairo in an urban area. The church is today serving approximately 150 families living under the poverty line. Through his social engagement Rev. Michel, the shepherd of the church, found out that there is no good, safe and qualified nursery in the area for poor families. He shared his observations with EpiscoCare and through EpiscoCares motherhood and childhood program the church got a donation on 5,000 Egyptian pound to establish a small nursery to meet the people's needs. All renovation work is now completed and the nursery is ready for its official opening soonest. In the beginning the nursery consists of only one class, but we hope to raise more funds to be able to expand the nursery.





## Welcomes

EpiscoCare is welcoming Laerke Faerch Ussing and Laura Marie Wheeler.



Laerke, a Danish intern studying theology in Denmark, will be with EpiscoCare us until Christmas 2011. She has always had the heart for working in an organisation and therefore she would like to add some practical experience to her study and learn more about development work.

Laura is from America and is in Egypt as a service worker through MCC. Laura will the next 8 months be working for EpiscoCare two days a week. She is excited about this opportunity and is looking forward to help in anyway she can.

EpiscoCare is welcoming both young ladies and hope they will have a wonderful and fruitful time with a lot of good and interesting experiences.

## Prayer Requests

Pray for all EpiscoCares beneficiaries, that they will find support and empowering through the work carried by EpiscoCare.

Pray for the new nursery in Giza

Pray for the process of establishing a new development center in a poor area of Sues.

Pleas pray for the financial situation within EpiscoCare, may we get donations and funds to cover our budget, being able to keep the high activity level, supporting and helping the poorest of the poor.

Pray for the future election in Egypt, must it be conducted fairly and peaceful.



**Thank you**

## Contacts

For more information about EpiscoCare and our work please contact:

Mrs. Mariam Ibrahim/Executive Director, EpiscoCare  
[episcocare@gmail.com](mailto:episcocare@gmail.com)  
 tel. +20 (2) 2738 0821/3.