



*"If your plan is for one year plant rice.
If your plan is for ten years plant trees.
If your plan is for one hundred years
educate children"*

Confucius

**Picture of F122 El Hosnia School,
Fayoum**

Dear Donors & Supporters,

Every year we always aim to make the best for Springboard schools. We are always stretching our boundaries to achieve more. 2015 was a unique year because you as donors and supporters were a big part of many of our happy events. This year's Fun Run/Walk/Cycle day was a great success because of your participation. Donations this year have reached \$17,740 which allowed us to provide many needs for Springboard schools. In this issue we have decided to dedicate a section for springboard teachers; they are the ones who work hard to provide the best learning experience for the girls. We have interviewed few of them to get to know them more and understand their visions for the schools. Springboard schools were lucky this year to be able to organize four field trips for the students that were funded by our supporters and donors. We are also happy to have been able to maintain 63 schools this year; some of them went through major transformations. 2015 was a fruitful year and it sets the bar higher for the coming year. What Springboard has accomplished this year, would have not been possible without you. Thank you for being part of our mission and hope you have enjoyed 2015 as much as we have enjoyed it with you. Springboard Team wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A New Record Was Made!

Because our role is to always look for sustainable solutions for our schools, this year we have decided that the fun run/walk/cycle day's main purpose is to raise funds to purchase laptops for Springboard schools. Springboard Team along with the Apache Wellness program were very impressed from the number of participants; 138 participants have registered and covered a cumulative distance of 745 kilometers! This is a new record compared to the previous years. This year we opened the event for cyclists to take part. Cyclists contributed 150 KM out of the 745 KM. We were very amazed by the number of families who were very eager to run/walk the 5 & 10 KMs. The 745 Kms covered will allow us to purchase 27 laptops for the schools. Springboard Team and the wellness program are very thankful to all those who were part of this day. Thank you for contributing in improving the girls' learning experience. Laptops will definitely add a lot to the girls as they will learn many computer skills that will benefit them in their future.



Schools' Makeover

Before



After



F15 El Setteen



F41 El Ghaba



M37 El Nahal

We are very happy to inform you that 63 Springboard schools have successfully undergone maintenance. This year we have realized that many schools need furniture repairs. Desks and chairs were in very bad condition, therefore we decided to add furniture repairs to our schools' maintenance needs list. Furniture was maintained in 11 schools this year. Major transformations were done in two schools in Fayoum as they were

facing challenging problems; flooring material was replaced, steel door was installed and major plumbing and electricity repairs were carried out. This year we installed steel doors in some of the schools. The 63 schools now look great and provide an amazing atmosphere for the girls to learn. Springboard Team will always keep delivering sustainable services to the schools to guarantee a healthy environment for the teachers and students.

Honorable Mentions



Picnic table donated by Lawrence Family



Foam Stickers donated by Kiester Family

We are very grateful for all donations we have received this year. We would like to say a special thank you to Mr. John Polasek whose generous donation is allowing us to heal a girl's face that had suffered from a severe burn and she is currently undergoing high-tech laser treatments. Our continuous supporter; Mr. Chip Lawrence, your donation doesn't only provide your schools with their needs, but it also helps in making the wishes of many girls come true. The donation allowed us to purchase shoes and organize a field trip for M08 Awlad Ahmed school's girls. It also helped us to purchase a new picnic table for G02 el Moasker School's garden. F08 Hanna Habib School is very thankful to receive a donation from the Patton's family. It allowed us to purchase a new laptop, printer, art supplies and it will allow us to organize a trip for the school's girls. We would also like to thank TransGlobe Company for their support to Springboard and for taking the time out of their busy schedule to spend it with one of the schools' girls. TransGlobe Company's donation allowed us to provide two schools in Giza with 2 new laptops. Thanks to the Vergara's Family for their donation. It allowed us to provide art copybooks & colors for one of the schools. When we as a team think of all those who support springboard, we don't only remember those who contribute by money. We can never forget those who donate their time and those who give gifts to our girls. Thank you Ms. Randi Kiester for donating colorful foam stickers to our girls. Thank you Ms. Rania El Wahsh for donating toys to four schools in Fayoum. Thank you Ms. Sally Johnson for keeping your art supplies, beads and strings for the girls to use in any of our entertaining visits. Thanks Ms. Janice Spencer, Ms. Jayne Kimmet, Ms. Shelley Orr and Ms. Elizabeth Baron for sharing your time with the girls and adding smiles on their faces. We are always keen that the donation is directed to those in need and your contributions continue to help us reach many girls as possible. Thank you for being a big part of our mission. Springboard Winter 2015 | Page 2

THE GIRLS' GUARDIAN ANGELS

A school without a teacher is like a body without a soul. The teacher is the dynamic force of any school. We call them Springboard's guardian angels; they faced their village traditions that prefer women to stay in their homes and decided to be teachers. They are the reason behind 10,000 Springboard girls reading and writing. Some of them are still continuing their education to enhance their skills and knowledge. Without these angels, Springboard Schools are just buildings.

In this newsletter, we have decided to interview a few of the teachers to get to know more about their experience with the schools. We have really enjoyed our interviews with the teachers as we were gladly surprised by their words and vision for the project.

Here are some glimpses from the interviews that made us believe that Springboard project is in good hands.

"My name is Fatma Soliman. I am M08 Awlad Ahmed School's teacher. I am 32 years old. I didn't join university but I have a diploma degree in commerce. I started working in the school since 2006. I heard about this job opportunity through an announcement by the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, I got examined and accepted to be Awlad Ahmed' school teacher. At the beginning, the village families opposed my decision to work in the school and leave the house work however I got lucky because my husband supported me. Now the village families are thanking me because they have seen the positive effect of the school on their children. I love this profession because I was part of a big change in my village. Those girls, without this school, were destined to just get married at an early age. Now the girls have bigger dreams. Till this day some families don't let their girls go to schools, I want to change this concept and I am trying as much as I can in my village to convince parents about the importance of education. The day I felt proud of my job when one of my students got high honors; among all schools' girls in Minya, She got the first rank. Minya's Governor honored her and honored me. These simple acts made me feel proud of what I do. All I wish for the girls is to be better than me. I don't want them to stop their education."

"My name is Fayza Mansour. I am 34 years old. I am F122 El Hosnia School's teacher. I have a diploma in commerce and I am currently doing my bachelor degree in accounting. I started working in the school since 2007. I am currently continuing my education because I didn't have this chance when I was younger. My bachelor degree will increase my knowledge and improve my salary. I consider myself lucky because I have a job that I love. After I finished my diploma, I stayed at home for a couple of years and it really feels bad to have plenty of hours just doing nothing. Now I am employed and working for a big cause that makes me proud every day. I wish the system of active learning is applied in all schools. Education shouldn't be traditional; a blackboard and a book and that's it. The educational tools in my school are very important and I try as much as I can to add fun to my class. This is the only way my students will learn. I always advice my girls to never settle for less. I don't want their ambitions to be limited. I really want them to dream big."



Miss Fatma, M08 Awlad Ahmed School's teacher



Miss Fayza, F122 El Hosnia School's teacher

A Day Out Of School!

This year students from four schools were lucky to go on a field trip. Springboard couldn't have been able to organize these trips without the generous donations from Ms. Kathy Neal, The Maher's Family, the Lawrence Family and the Maadi British international school. We would also like to thank Ms. Amany Mostafa, Ms. Nihal El Sherif , Miss Fatma Soliman & Miss Sahar for finishing all the paper work required to be able to take the students out of their schools. G23 Sakkara , G03 Om El Awlad , and F05 El Quariya El Guidida Schools' students went to Dream Park and M08 Awlad Ahmed schools' girls went on a boat trip in Minya. Thank you for making the girls' wishes come true. Below are happy pictures from the field trips.



Dear Donor and Supporter,

Thank you for your continuous support and for believing in our mission. Every simple act of kindness has a big impact on Springboard girls. Your donations, your time are behind many smiles in our schools. Thank you for spreading kindness in a world that desperately needs it. Education is the only weapon for a peaceful world. Thank you for being part of this big cause and for shaping the future of many.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to Springboard
You can send a check to:
Springboard – Educating the Future
2000, Post Oak Blvd, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77056. USA.

The underprivileged girls of Egypt thank you for your support and for enabling their dreams to become reality.

The Springboard Schools Team

Our Contacts:

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Special thanks to
Springboard's Egyptian
partner:

The National Council for
Childhood & Motherhood

