



HANDS

ALONG THE NILE

— ▲ —
2007
ANNUAL
REPORT

Dear Friends of HANDS,

As countries around the world grapple with rising food costs and other economic pressures, HANDS' support of programs that bring socioeconomic stability to communities in Egypt is more crucial than ever. With inflation soaring, families are having difficulty feeding their children. Millions of people who were previously on the margins of poverty are slipping below that line, unable to keep up with the rising costs of bread, dairy products, and other daily needs. Combined with an uncertain political future, a population heading toward 100 million, and limited natural resources, this economic situation necessitates, now more than ever, our active involvement in supporting programs that give people hope for the future.

Providing opportunities to the people of Egypt is key to bringing stability to the broader region. As the largest and one of the most influential countries in the region, Egypt sets the pace for other countries in the Middle East.

Together with our friends around the US, HANDS has the privilege of helping our Egyptian partners respond to the many needs facing the people of Egypt. In addition to providing financial support, HANDS also provides training for local organizations in nonprofit management and brings volunteers with special skills, including doctors, nurses, and artists, to serve at our partner projects.

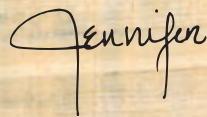
Facilitating partnerships between Americans and Egyptians is at the core of HANDS' mission. We are constantly seeking new ways of linking our two great cultures. Our Egyptian American Dialogue continues to flourish, and our frequent Insight Trips provide an opportunity for adults and youth alike to experience Middle Eastern culture, history, and hospitality first hand.

This year has been a time of transition for HANDS as Robert Ludwig, Board President for the past seven years, turned over the reins to new leadership. HANDS would not be the vibrant organization it is today were it not for Bob's dedication and vision. Bob continues to be actively involved as a HANDS board member, for which we are grateful.

We hope that you'll continue to partner with HANDS this coming year in our efforts to bring a brighter future to the people of Egypt.



Harrison M. Goodall, Jr.
Board President



Jennifer A. Cate
Executive Director



Above: Harry M. Goodall meets working children in Salam City, where HANDS sponsors educational programs. **Below:** Jennifer Cate visits a healthcare center in Upper Egypt.

Front cover: Members of a HANDS Insight Trip marvel at the wonders of Ancient Egypt. Photo by trip member, Edward A. Toran.

PEOPLE OFTEN ASK WHY HANDS chooses to focus on Egypt. Our organization believes that Egypt is a uniquely important place to concentrate development efforts. It is one of the largest and most influential countries in the Middle East. Egypt also produces a majority of the media and cultural content that is shown across the region, plays a leadership role in regional diplomatic relations, and generates many of the ideas discussed on the streets of major Arab cities from Damascus to Riyadh.

Despite its great cultural and political influence, there are estimates that 40% of Egypt's population of over 80 million faces the challenges of poverty, including lack of access to healthcare, dilapidated housing, widespread illiteracy, and unemployment. In the governorate of Minia, a rural area south of Cairo, for example, about 43% of the population is illiterate, according to the UNDP. This number is even higher for women.

HANDS believes that helping to raise the level of development in this populous country will ensure a more stable climate in the Middle East. As Egypt is able to tackle its own economic and social challenges, it can be a stabilizing force in the region. Successful programs in Egypt can even be replicated in other Middle Eastern countries. We are thankful to our donors for helping to bolster Egypt's role as a regional leader in social development and peace.

A young woman at a HANDS-supported job-skills training program learns to weave.



HANDS' PHILOSOPHY OF DEVELOPMENT

In order to improve the quality of life for Egyptians in need, HANDS sponsors programs that seek progress in a number of areas including healthcare, education, job creation, and business development. We believe in empowering local communities as a means to achieve long-term stability in underserved areas of Egypt. For this reason, HANDS partners with local organizations in Egypt to support them in their efforts to bolster socioeconomic stability in their communities.

Along with supplying the funds necessary for these projects, HANDS also provides project oversight and helps to train local workers in areas of project management, fundraising, volunteer mobilization, and a variety of technical skills.

Through our efforts we hope to build a bridge between the West and the Middle East by partnering Americans with hard-working people in Egypt, uniting them through the common purpose of improving the lives of those who are in need.

VILLAGE PARTNERSHIPS THROUGH CEOSS

- **WORKING CHILDREN** in Salam City (Cairo)

HEALTH CARE

- **COMMUNITY EYE CARE CENTER**, Minia
- **CENTER FOR GERIATRIC SERVICES**, Cairo
- **CENTER FOR HOPE AND A CURE**, Alexandria
- **CAIRO PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL CENTER**
- **THE AMERICAN HOSPITAL OF TANTA**
- **GREEN PASTURES MEDICAL CENTER**, outside Cairo

SOCIAL SERVICES

- **ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT (APE)**, women's literacy and job skills training center, Cairo
- **THINK AND DO**, microcredit loan program
- **LILLIAN TRASHER ORPHANAGE**, Assiut
- **FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL FOR THE DISABLED**, Alexandria
- **SHARABEYYA CLINIC AND DAYCARE CENTER**, Cairo
- **FAGGALA COMMUNITY OUTREACH**
- **VILLAGE OF HOPE**, center for the mentally challenged, Alexandria



RETREAT CENTERS

- **BEIT EL SALAM**
- **NEW MINIA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**
- **BEIT EL WADI**
- **EL KHASHA'A CAMP**

DONOR-DESIGNATED CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS

- **HELIOPOLIS**, Cairo
- **MINIA SECOND PRESBYTERIAN**
- **ABUTIG**
- **FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN OF EL EKSAS**
- **ROD EL FARAG PRESBYTERIAN**
- **MINIA THIRD PRESBYTERIAN**
- **HERZ**
- **NAZLET EL ABEED**, Minia
- **ATTARINE PRESBYTERIAN**
- **ROD EL FARAG PRESBYTERIAN**

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- **EVANGELICAL (PRESBYTERIAN) THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN CAIRO**
- **SYNOD OF THE NILE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

PROJECT PROFILES

Community Eye Care Center, Minia

In Egypt, nearly three million people suffer from diseases that cause blindness, yet only three out of 200 serious patients have the opportunity to undergo an operation that could save their sight, and only one ophthalmologist is available for every 51,000 people. HANDS' not-for-profit Community Eye Care Center in the Upper Egyptian city of Minia, in the final stage of construction, will help to provide affordable high quality eye care to the people in the city of Minia and 100 surrounding villages. The center will house a staff of doctors and trained medical staff and will also bring in American doctors and professionals to provide training and support. A mobile eye care unit is already travelling through local area villages providing examinations, basic treatments, and referrals.

Staff on a mobile van conduct an eye examination.



Center for Hope and a Cure, Alexandria

One of HANDS' partners, The Center for Hope and a Cure, provides free dental care and other health services to over 900 people per month in Alexandria, Egypt. Many of the center's patients are Sudanese refugees forced to flee from their home country as a result of war and violent conflicts within the Sudan. The clinic is located in Alexandria and serves about 80 Sudanese refugees per month, as well as many of the urban poor in the region. Trained professionals offer medical services that include surgical operations, assistance with child birth, distributing eye glasses and medicine, along with the free dental care administered in the HANDS-sponsored dental clinic.

Dental-care providers with HANDS' gift of new equipment.





Working children in Egypt are often forced into dangerous conditions. HANDS' Egyptian partners train them for safer jobs and, when possible, reenroll them in school.

PROJECT PROFILE: Working Children in Salam City, Cairo

The United Nations Children's Fund estimates that there are approximately 2.7 million children between the ages of six and 14 working in Egypt.

To support their families, these children are forced out of school and into workshops, where they are employed in a variety of labor-intensive jobs and often face dangerous work conditions and physical abuse.

Responding to this situation, HANDS supports programs aimed at helping these working children. Our most recent partnership is in Salam City, on the outskirts of Cairo. Working with partners in the area, HANDS is empowering some of the 20,000 child laborers in Salam City - providing the financial and logistical means to allow these young people to get an education and achieve their dreams.

The program has been effective in encouraging students to reenroll in school, and for families in need of assistance, small

scholarships are awarded to help cover school-related costs. Assistance to working children also includes literacy classes combined with planned social outings to attract children who are not used to academic settings.

The well-being of the children is protected through providing free health services, safety equipment, and job training in a new skill for those who work in dangerous professions. They are also educated about their legal rights and provided with legal assistance to lobby for improved working conditions.

Supporting the emotional growth of the children is another important aspect of this program. Weekly "Kids Clubs" offer the chance for local children to play sports, learn to draw and make crafts, go on field trips, and to interact with their peers in a social setting.

Over 450 children have been served by the program so far, helping kids facing challenging childhoods find hope for a brighter future.

The Story of Nabil and Karim*

My name is Nabil. I am 16 years old. I'm from Al Salam district. I am working as a wood painter as well as being a student in the first year of secondary school. My brother, named Karim, is 13 years old, in the second year of preparatory school. He is working as an assistant in a fish shop. My father is a messenger, and my mother, who isn't educated, is a housewife. She has a kidney disease that has required a lot of expensive treatments.

I insisted on continuing my education in spite of all the difficult situations we have experienced.

I go to school in the morning and then to the workshop, which is pretty far from my house. I work until 1:00 a.m. When I arrive home, I fall asleep.

I joined the project for working children because it was a place where I found someone to listen to me and care about me. I joined lots of activities, one of which was the Kids Club, where we



Nabil and Karim, along with other young people from the Kids' Club, shared their stories with members of HANDS' Medical Mission and staff member Ivana Smucker (at upper right).

had the opportunity to discuss various topics related to us as kids and teenagers. We were encouraged to express ourselves, to learn some hobbies, to play games, and to learn about our rights as working children. My brother and I also got medical exams. Recently, I was elected as a member of the Parliament for working children that we have established to advocate for kids' rights in the workshops of Al Salam City.

*Names have been changed.

OVERVIEW OF DIALOGUE & EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Recent polls conducted among citizens of the US and the Middle East have demonstrated that each group has alarmingly negative perceptions of the other.

As mistrust and tension mount between these two regions of the world, it is striking to find that despite the widespread negative opinions, there has been little direct contact between the two groups. Studies have found that the majority of Middle Easterners have only indirect or received knowledge of America, with the principal source of that knowledge being the media. Of those Middle Easterners who have had direct contact with Americans, and vice versa, the perception of the other is dramatically more favorable.

HANDS has seized upon these findings and has developed a full range of cultural exchange and dialogue programs to help promote interpersonal relationships between Americans and Egyptians. Investing in people-to-people contact with another culture is one of the best ways to reduce tensions and increase prospects for peace and meaningful cooperation.

In a time when the views of Americans and the people in the Middle East grow increasingly hostile, HANDS is making an effort to reverse the trend, one friendship at a time.

“Many of my students are from North Carolina and they’ve never really traveled anywhere. I’m always looking for new ways to expose them to other cultures. Some of the discussions and anecdotes that went on at the dialogue gave me some additional information to share with my students to make the Middle East seem like a more real place instead of something they just hear about on the news.”



—Professor April Najjaj
Greensboro College,
UNC-Greensboro



HANDS offers Americans and Egyptians opportunities to explore each others’ countries, visiting important sites and interacting with the people.

PROJECT PROFILE: EGYPTIAN-AMERICAN DIALOGUE

Suffering from distorted views and many misunderstandings, relations between the West and Middle East have been considerably strained in recent years. HANDS' Egyptian-American Dialogue program is an attempt to break down the barriers that separate the two cultures and to unite people over common goals and through interpersonal relationships.

The program brings together opinion-shapers from America and Egypt, including members of the media, academia, civil society, and religious leadership, to discuss topics of common concern. The dialogue stresses the importance of intercultural communication and relationship building while allowing people to talk openly about pressing topics such as the role of civil society, diversity, and tolerance.

HANDS has held multiple dialogue exchanges to date, including a session in February 2007 in Alexandria, Egypt and in November 2007 in Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia, PA. Delegates travel to the other country for a week of targeted visits and lectures followed by a three-day dialogue conference. The program has facilitated conversation on topics ranging from the role of civil society in empowering marginalized groups to how faith communities can help bridge the intercultural gap.



A core group of delegates attends each dialogue event to deepen relationships and make progress on joint projects while new members are also assimilated into each event.

“The Egyptian-American dialogue is a chance for everyone to know new perspectives and a chance not only to listen but to understand, and not only to understand but after a while to cooperate and maybe to take action together.



“[The participants] are starting initiatives and this means that they are starting to believe in the importance of this kind of dialogue and they are taking initiative because they know that they are there to do something. This is the most important role of the dialogue.”

—Samy Saad, Fulbright Scholar
American University

PROJECT PROFILE: INSIGHT TRIPS

Each year, HANDS provides the opportunity for Americans to explore the historically rich country of Egypt and witness first hand the impact that HANDS' partners are making on a daily basis in the lives of the people in their communities.

HANDS' "Insight Trips" are offered throughout the year and provide visitors a chance to experience a full cross section of Egyptian culture. Activities include sail boat rides up the Nile, camel rides around the pyramids, as well as meeting

and sharing meals with Egyptian families and sometimes volunteering with local community organizations that HANDS sponsors.

The trips offer a unique insight into the land and lives of the people of Egypt and the development efforts of HANDS.

Above, Insight Trip members explore a traditional village house.

Opposite, top: American college students on an Insight Trip survive their first camel ride. Middle: A trip member makes friends with a camel while climbing down Mt. Sinai. Bottom right: HANDS' trips to Egypt include dinners with local Egyptians.

“I am in charge of the world mission [committee] at our church and we are trying to validate all of our overseas sites, so I went with an eye looking to see that we were making an impact with our funds that we were giving to HANDS... Meeting with young people..., hearing about the impact of the funds, hearing the impact of some of the medical things that we are doing, and of course seeing the schools, we felt very strongly that the work we are doing there is very important.

“We had a lot of good discussions about Christians and Muslims living together and how we can provide examples to the rest of the world both here in the US and in Egypt.

“I think meeting the people was the most valuable thing.”

—Jon Bayer, retired physician and
World Mission Coordinator,
Lake Forest, IL (with his wife, below)





A nurse and doctor from HANDS Medical Mission listen to the symptoms of a patient.

PROJECT PROFILE: MEDICAL MISSION

HANDS' Medical Mission enables Egyptian and American medical professionals to build personal and institutional partnerships while working side-by-side to help raise the quality of healthcare services in Egypt. The program brings volunteer doctors and nurses from America to do clinical and consulting work in underserved areas of Egypt. The American volunteers participate in health campaigns and also offer continuing education workshops for their Egyptian counterparts.

The Medical Mission continues to expand with a growing number of American volunteers and plans for several future projects, including building a computer center for doctors in Minia.

"I went hoping to make a difference in people's lives over there [but] when I got back, I was amazed at how much the experience changed me.



"It was neat that [the Medical Mission] was nondenominational. It didn't matter if they were Coptic or Muslim, male or female; if they were coming in and they needed help, then they got it.

"I heard all of this great stuff about pharaohs and the pyramids and you have this idea of what Egypt is like, and you finally get there and find out that maybe everyone is not so different. You find that everyone is working hard and they have their families and are raising their kids and it's nice to find out that we have a lot more things in common than we have differences."

— Dr. Daniel Toocheck,
Ophthalmologist, West Chester, PA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION^(a)

ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 105,834
Investments	1,253
Grants receivable	1,695
Promises to give	17,715
Prepaid expenses	4,534
Total current assets	131,031
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	
Furniture and fixtures	2,552
Computer equipment	3,381
Total	5,933
Less: accumulated depreciation	4,038
Property and equipment, net	1,895
OTHER ASSETS:	
Security deposits	1,455
Total other assets	1,455
Total Assets	\$ 224,606
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Grants in Transit to Egypt	\$ 43,195
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	7,209
Total current liabilities	50,404
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	(158)
Temporarily restricted	84,135
Total net assets	83,977
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 134,381

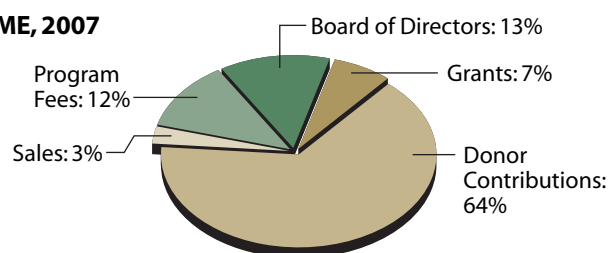
(a) For the year ended September 30, 2007. All figures are audited. The complete audited financial statements are available upon request.

(b) Restricted donations used for purposes designated.

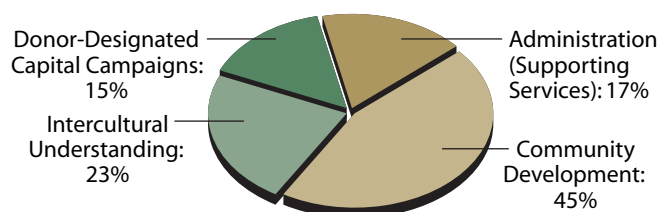
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES^(a)

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED ^(b)	TOTAL
Contributions	\$ 168,847	\$ 206,255	\$ 375,102
Interest and investment income	25	-	25
Program fees	61,491	-	61,491
Realized and Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	104	-	104
Sales income	11,342	-	11,342
Net assets released from restrictions	247,120	(247,120)	-
Total unrestricted support and reclassifications	488,929	(40,865)	448,064
EXPENSES			
Program services			
Grants released from restrictions	251,478	-	251,478
Other program services	153,631	-	153,631
Supporting services			
Management and general	39,790	-	39,790
Fundraising	41,024	-	41,024
Net expenses	485,923	-	485,923
Change in net assets	3,006	(40,865)	(37,859)
Net assets, beginning of year	(3,164)	125,000	121,836
Net assets, end of year	\$(158)	\$84,135	\$83,977

INCOME, 2007



EXPENSES, 2007



SUPPORT

HANDS wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to all the individuals and institutions, including those listed below, who touched the lives of thousands of Egyptians in 2007 through HANDS' programs.

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(\$10,000 and over)

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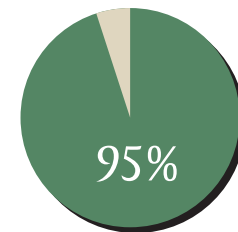
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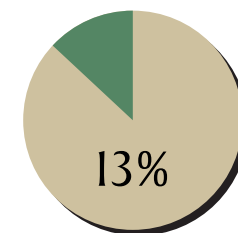
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2007

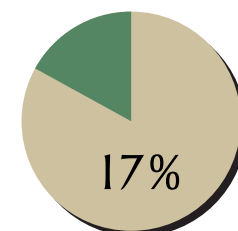
**Percentage of most
designated gifts sent
directly to projects
in Egypt**



**Percentage of income
contributed by HANDS
Board of Directors**



**Percent of expenses
used for administration
and fundraising
(United Way guidelines:
Should be under 25%)**





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granted charity status in accordance with Section 501(c)(3)
of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax-deductible
to the fullest extent allowed by U.S. law.

HANDS ALONG THE NILE

Hands Along the Nile Development Services, Inc.
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Arlington, VA 22209

800-564-2544
info@handsalongthenile.org

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