

Schooled for a better future (Egypt)

In the last 20 years, thousands of Sudanese families have fled war for Cairo, Egypt, hoping to secure the official United Nations refugee status that will let them resettle in a third country.

Life is not easy for refugees in Egypt. Jobs are hard to get, hours are long, and abuse by employers is common.

Children are often excluded from public school programs or kept at home by cautious parents trying to keep them safe from dangers on the street.

The Refugee Ministry of St. Andrew's United Church offers refugees educational and vocational training programs. About 700 adults take part in English classes, and 170 children attend St. Andrew's school.

Placing students in classes is a challenge. Some students arrive in Cairo already knowing some English and have experience in a school setting, while others have never learned English or been to school. Volunteers help by tutoring students after school.

School is fun! Children who have spent long hours cooped up in an apartment are thrilled by the opportunity to play, read and write, and study math and computers.

Not every family will succeed in securing refugee status. Some will remain in Egypt; others will return to Sudan when the peace process goals are achieved. But no matter where these families go, the adults and children who have attended St. Andrew's will be schooled for a better future.

Your gifts to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal help support the Refugee Ministry of St. Andrew's United Church. Thank you.

www.elca.org/hunger



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