



SOS Children's Villages Lebanon

One Year After the Move: The Journey from Risk to Resilience

It was hard. Moving an entire village—children, caregivers, staff—away from everything familiar, from a place filled with memories, wasn't an easy step. **But it was the right one.** On August 6, 2024, we relocated our village from Ksarnaba to Kfarhay, driven by the increasing risks from the Lebanon-Israel conflict.

And just two weeks after the relocation, two airstrikes hit the area we had left behind. Damage was done to our village facilities. **It felt like a miracle. The village was empty. The children were safe.**



The Arrival to Kfarhay Village on August 6, 2024

Today, a year later, we say with full hearts: **this move was a success.**

Kfarhay Village in the north is now home to **38 children**, cared for by 13 dedicated caregivers, a social worker, an educator, and a psycho-pedagogical leader — all supported with warmth and guidance by the Village Director. The biggest concern back then, especially for the children, was school. It wasn't just about finding the suitable schools, enough spaces and enrolling them in a very short time, it was about helping them let go of their old schools, friends, routines. They had gone through a lot already. Adapting to something new was painful.

But their resilience doesn't fail to surprise us.

Children attended new school, and ended their year with an **average success rate of 97.3%**. They were supported every step of the way, through after-school tutoring and personalized educational support, including receiving specialized help from tutors trained in special education.

"It was hard at first, but now the success and happiness are shown in their eyes—screaming: we did it! And we are very proud of them." States Wejdan, the educator in Kfarhay Village.



Children enjoying a fun and educational activity.



A nice game in the new playground.



The Heart Behind the Journey



Behind the children's strength is the quiet determination of our caregivers and dedicated staff. They, too, left their homes, families, and towns—traveling 2.5 hours away to start over. But instead of hesitation, they brought with them commitment, resilience, and love.

Their loving presence and support have been essential in creating the safety, routine, and warmth the children needed to adapt, grow, and succeed. **Their dedication is written clearly in every milestone our children have achieved this year.**

A Tiny Spark of Joy

Amid the uncertainty, a small miracle arrived to remind us that hope never leaves. **This year, Kfarhay Village welcomed baby Amir, just 2 months old** when he joined our family. His presence brought light and his cuddles united hearts around him.

"He directly stole everyone's hearts, young and old," Zeinab, The Psycho-Pedagogical Leader in Kfarhay shared. "And his four siblings now look at him like he's their whole world—they're always by his side, taking care of him and loving him deeply."

In his tiny eyes, we saw big hope. In his soft cries, we heard healing.

And through him, Kfarhay felt even more like home.



A New School Year Ahead

While the situation in Ksarnaba still holds some risks, and safety remains our highest priority, the children will stay in Kfarhay for the upcoming school year. This decision came after a detailed assessment to ensure their well-being and stability.

Today, they are preparing to go back to school, full of hope, light in their hearts, and the courage that carried them through last year. **And we know they won't walk this road alone.** With the support of our team, community, donors, and network—those who turn every challenge into a new opportunity—we are ready to walk beside them, again.

**Because at every step, in every decision, and through every challenge,
the children are our purpose, our driving force, and the heart of all we do.**



Loving, playing, and enjoying moments in the Village.