

## **1for3 News**

\* Water \* Health \* Education \* ۱۹۱۰ - المبحة \* التعليم \* July 2019





Shukran (big shout out!) to those who sponsored our walk!

Grassroots International, Abudi Consulting Group, Jeff Boshar of Bay Financial Associates LLC, Back Bay Dental Design, Cambridge Bethlehem People to People Project, Aceituna Grill, Boston University Students for Justice in Palestine, Jewish Voice for Peace-Boston, Alliance for Water Justice in Palestine, Andala Coffee House, Habibi World Wide, Tremont Construction Management, Rethink Restaurants. Please spread the love right back and support these great local organizations and businesses! *And thanks to our fabulous volunteers!* 

## The Fourth Annual Walk For Water

At 1for3 we know we're lucky. We work with a tremendous team in Palestine. We partner with excellent health professionals. We have talented interns from Tufts University. And we have dozens of volunteers and hundreds of walkers who support us each year in the Walk for Water. Our fourth Walk for Water on May 5 was our biggest success yet. This year, the walk, the largest single source of funding for our work, raised \$109,000 after expenses – more than \$30,000 more than last year! We were grateful again that the walk was held in Cambridge in partnership with a number of local organizations.

This year, a new route took us along the Charles River for spectacular views and a special occasion to

contemplate the relationship between water and politics here and in Palestine. Even passing runners and walkers could read our signs, which were created by the Alliance for Water Justice!

Volunteers join the walk for many different reasons. Barbara Wilhelm, a volunteer who is vital to the organization of the Walk, explained that she dedicates her time each year because "The funds that are raised from the Walk are used directly by the Palestinian people to improve conditions in the areas served." 1for3 volunteer Harriet



Lindeman explains that she helps out at the Walk because of her personal experiences at Lajee Center in Aida Refugee Camp two years ago. "I was shaken by both the violence of the occupation, and the tangible reminders of my own complicity in it as a US citizen...And, I was moved and energized by the resilient, creative resistance of the Palestinian communities we got to know. Helping out with the Walk for Water here in Boston allows me to directly support those in Aida and beyond as they work towards building vibrant, healthy lives amidst ongoing violence, and towards visions of justice. There was a powerful balance of joyful celebration and testimony to the need for and impact of 1for3's work!"

Longtime 1for3 supporter Jeff Boshar again won the award for the biggest individual fundraiser. How does he do it? He explained, "Providing for a need like clean water is something everyone should be able to support. So I assume everyone is a potential donor and that they'd like to give, and I send individual email requests to almost everyone I know. I also think of it as a chance to send information about the occupation that's educational so that, even if less informed individuals choose to never give, if they just read the information or listen to the clip, they might learn a bit more about the brutality of the occupation and be a little better informed afterwards."

Each year, we have many teams participating in the walk. This year, a new team on the scene was the Faculty & Staff for Justice in Palestine (FSJP) from UMass Boston—and they won the award for biggest team fundraiser. Professor (and team captain) Heike Schotten explained, "Entering FSJP as team in the Walk for Water seemed like a great way to support 1for3 and also build some connection to Palestine solidarity work outside the campus. It also seemed like a great opportunity for folks who usually interact together only as colleagues to get together as friends and comrades in a non-academic setting, which it was! We...had wide, free-ranging conversations about everything from politics to Palestine to everything in between."

1for3 co-founder Gina Kurban always plays a key role in the walk. She reported, "It's a LOT of work, I won't lie, but bringing so many people together from all different walks of life makes it all worthwhile. And it keeps growing each year! People look forward to it, and it's just a wonderful family-friendly way to show Palestinian solidarity."



Anthropologist Rosalind Shaw did the walk early, because of impending major surgery related to a longstanding illness. "This is the first time I was able to do 1for3's Walk for Water. Then I found that I had to be on a pre-surgery diet that would not have let me walk 5K. That was so disappointing. So I decided to do the walk in advance, inform my sponsors, and post photos on Facebook...It was a beautiful spring day along the river, with blossoms on the trees. Having heard about 1for3's projects in and beyond Aida camp for so long, it was a wonderful experience to be able to support these through walking!"

Remarked Barbara Wilhelm, "It is wonderful - every year - to see the community celebrate together at the end of the walk! We who support the Palestinian cause do a like this!" We are already looking forward to the payt walk

not often have opportunities like this!" We are already looking forward to the next walk.

Can't stop...won't stop! Stay tuned for more news coming soon about...

- 1for3 Community Health Coordinator Nash'at Jawabreh taking summer courses at the Harvard School for Public Health.

- Progress on plans for a preschool in Aida Camp that would support health and environmental programs.

- Plans for expansion of 1 for 3 programs to new locations!