

# CARE's History in Israel and the Palestinian Territories



## Origins to Present Day

CARE was founded in 1945, when 22 American organizations came together to rush lifesaving packages to survivors of World War II. These early packages were U.S. Army surplus food parcels. When these ran out, CARE began assembling food packages, greatly assisted by donations

from American companies and individuals. Later packages included carpentry tools, blankets, clothes, books, school supplies and medicine – and CARE expanded to other regions in need including Asia and Latin America. Decades ago, CARE phased out the CARE Package and expanded the breadth of the work to focus on long-term projects in addition to emergency relief.



ISRAEL FOOD RELIEF -  
KOSHER CARE PACKAGE - 1956



GAZA FOOD RELIEF - 1956

Today, CARE is a leading humanitarian organization as a global confederation of 14 National Members with a common vision and mission to defeat poverty. We place a special focus on working alongside poor women because, equipped with the proper resources, women have the power to help whole families and entire communities escape poverty. CARE also delivers emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, and helps people rebuild their lives. As of 2016 CARE operates in 94 countries reaching 80 million people through 1,033 projects.



SELF HELP - HAZON HAISH ORPHANAGE &  
SILISIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOL - 1956

## CARE's history in Israel and the West Bank & Gaza

Starting in 1946 CARE provided food packages to refugees from Europe and in 1955 began to implement a school feeding and welfare program in coordination with Israel's Ministry of Social Welfare. This included skills building occupational programs for orphans and other youth.

In 1967 Israel requested CARE to take over a UNICEF feeding programs in the West Bank and in Gaza and to initiate Food for Work programs that would develop skills and employment across Israel and the West Bank. In 1984 CARE handed over its programs to Catholic Relief Services, but returned in 1994 under agreement with the Israeli Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs to resume its work. CARE's programs evolved to include health, water & sanitation, building schools and supporting rural economic activities. CARE also implemented humanitarian programs in food and health.

## CARE's Current Work

Today CARE provides humanitarian support to families and communities that suffer recurring shocks while also rebuilding their own capacity to recover and to rebuild their own longer term livelihoods. In 2016 CARE reached over 421K beneficiaries, 60% women. The Humanitarian programs focus on health services and strengthening the resilience of rural livelihoods. The Economic Empowerment programs promote innovative and successful market approaches for women, households, and local community organizations.



GAZA HEALTH &  
HYGIENE - 2014



WEST BANK TATWEER LIVELIHOODS - 2014

CARE's main donors include USAID, Global Affairs Canada, EU, ECHO, Australia DfAT, Austria Development Agency, Germany BMZ, Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs, OCHA, OFID, Swiss Development Cooperation, and UK DfID.