



"A child without education, is like a bird without wings."
Tibetan proverb

**Picture of G08 – Arab Dabbour School
Giza**

Dear Donors and Supporters,

With each passing year, students grow, school needs change and new challenges flow. This is why it is important in Springboard to keep up with these changes and needs. The 2016 year is almost half-way over and we can't be more thrilled to share with you in this issue what Springboard and our supporters have done during the past six months. We were successfully able to maintain 38 schools. We were also able to deliver 27 laptops and educational CDs to our school which we couldn't have done without the participation of Apaches in the Fun Run/Walk/Cycle event last year.

With the support of many donors, we were able to provide extra needs for some schools such as: more laptops, art supplies, school uniform and medical support.

We continue to track Springboard Schools graduates' progress and this year we decided to honor some of them who are achieving great results in their high schools. It is hope that they continue their education and pursue their dreams.

Acknowledging the teachers' efforts and contributions in shaping the future of many Egyptian girls. The Springboard Team launched a new campaign on Springboard Facebook page named "Meet the teachers". This is an opportunity for Springboard supporters and us to get to know more about those inspiring teachers.

We are dedicating this issue to one of Springboard students "Mariam" who had to undergo plastic surgery because of an accident that left her face very badly burned. The surgery was fully funded by one of our supporters, Mr. John Polasek. Mariam's face is gradually improving after the surgery and this surgery definitely will change her life.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue as much we enjoyed writing down every step we have taken so far. We and the school girls wish you a happy summer!

When Every Step Really Counts

Last year's Fun Run/Walk/Cycle Day, organized by the Springboard Team and the Wellness Program, was a great success because of the distance covered by 138 participants. At the end of the event, 745 kilometers had been covered by Apache employees and their families. This allowed us to deliver 27 laptops to our schools. The 27 laptops were divided as follows: 14 laptops for Minya Schools, 2 laptops for Giza Schools & 11 laptops for Fayoum Schools. We also delivered English lesson CDs along with the laptops to improve the students' English language skills and to help the teachers engage the students in the learning process. We are happy that we were able to integrate technology in some of our schools and this couldn't have been done without those who walked, ran and cycled on the Fun Run/Walk/Cycle Day. This was the fourth time this event has been held and every time we organize this event we are amazed by the participants' enthusiasm to give more support to the schools. We can't put into words the students' excitement when we delivered the laptops to their schools. The Springboard Team spent the day with the students and their teachers training them some basic computer skills and we let the students type their names and we show them how to use the CDs. We hope that the teachers make the most out of these laptops to improve the students' academic performance.



**The girls after receiving the new laptop.
Picture of M02 El Qamadir School, Minya**

University Students In The Making!

On Thursday June 2nd, the Springboard Team honored six graduates from Minya's Springboard Schools who finished grade 11 and were the top students in their high schools. They were invited to the Apache office to receive certificates signed by Apache Egypt's Vice President & General Manager, Mr. David Chi. Officials from the Ministry of Education, Minya's Educational Administration and the National Council for Childhood & Motherhood Team were also present on this day.

The graduates attended with their parents and siblings. Two Springboard teachers also joined us. The day started by Apache employees introducing themselves to all the attendees. Mr. David Chi Apache Egypt Vice President & General Manger and Mr. Mark konecki Khalda Petroleum companies General Manager, talked about their background and about Apache. Mr. Chi also offered that Apache might hire them once they graduate from their universities. Mr. Youssef Youssef, past Schools Project Supervisor, briefly explained his 10 years of experience in Springboard. He supervised the construction of the schools and each school has a special place in his heart. Ms. Fatma El Far, one of the first supporters to Springboard Schools contributed by giving scientific calculators to each student and encouraged them to continue their education. All the attendees viewed a two minutes video about Springboard and what the a Springboard Team does for their schools. After the video, we gave the graduates the opportunity to talk about their future plans and their dreams. We were amazed by the variety of their goals. The two sisters Amira and Mervat Seidhom Habib, M16 El Mehris School graduates, want to be a pharmacist and a doctor respectively. They also mentioned that they are from a very distant rural village where girls are not permitted to get out of their homes and go to school. However as their primary School, Mehris, was very close their home. Their parents approved sending them school. Now they are thankful to their first school, teachers and parents because without them they wouldn't have achieved



Mr. David Chi handing a certificate and a gift to Roqaya Salah.

M09 Fathi Hammad School graduate



Amira & Mervat having a picture with their father after receiving their certificates and gifts.

M16 Mehris School graduates



The graduates, their teachers and their parents at Cairo tower

what they have today. Roqaya Salah, a M09 Fathi Hammad graduate, wants to study economics and political science to become an ambassador one day. Azza Shehata, a M16 El Mehris School graduate, wants to be a teacher to educate the coming generations. Nafissa Khallaf, a M14 El Kheiry School graduate, wants to study English literature to become an English teacher. Sallah Abd El Nasser wants to be an artist so he wants to study applied arts. After listening to their future goals, Mr. Chi handed out certificates and gifts to the graduates and their teachers. He also distributed awards to our government partners from the Ministry of Education, Minya's Educational Administration and The National Council for Childhood & Motherhood.

For some of the graduates, it was their first time visiting Cairo. To celebrate, The Springboard Team decided to take them all on a touristic tour of the Cairo Tower. They enjoyed the view from above and took a lot of pictures. The times passed by so quickly, however the day has to come to an end and they all returned to their villages in Minya. Springboard Team wishes the graduates all the best and we will continue following up on all the other Springboard Schools graduates to make sure that they pursue their dreams.

FACEBOOK CAMPAIGN "Meet The Teachers"

Each Springboard teacher has a story to tell, so we decided to come up with "Meet The Teacher's" campaign. The campaign's purpose is to acknowledge the teachers' efforts and their struggles in not only obtaining their own education but also changing traditions within their communities. It also provides an opportunity for our supporters and us to learn more about these inspiring teachers. At Springboard, we have around 400 working teachers who strive hard to educate thousands of students. Each teacher has her own style of teaching. They all have a vision for their schools and most of them improve their teaching skills to enhance the learning environment in the classroom. If you want to know more about their stories, Visit Springboard Facebook page. Click here www.facebook.com/springboardeg



MAINTENANCE UPDATES

Before



After



G16 - Bassiouni

F111-El Maa'taan

F65- Shakshouk

The Springboard Team is keen to share with you the latest updates regarding the schools' maintenance activities. To date 38 schools have successfully undergone maintenance; half of them in Giza and the other half in Fayoum. Maintenance activities include: internal and external painting, plumbing and electricity repairs, wood work polishing and furniture repairs. Steel doors were also installed in some of the schools. Humidity on or within walls is a common problem in our classrooms which is a result of the surrounding warm and moist air. This is why every year we introduce new ways to solve the schools' structure problems. Every time we maintain a school we add a new feature that will make the school more sustainable and decrease regular maintenance costs. For example, the F65 Shakshouk School overlooking Qarun Lake in fayoum was affected by humidity. To address this, we installed solid wooden casing on its internal walls to prevent humidity and condensation. The school now looks great and its walls will be more durable. Each school has its own needs and it is the Springboard Team's responsibility to continue following up on the schools' conditions to ensure a safe and healthy environment for the students. The more the schools we maintain, the greater the positive influence on the students' learning, growth and development.

Honorable Mentions

As stewards of your donations, we strongly believe that it is important for you to know how the donations are used. Every time we visit a school, we assess its needs and determine how to best address them. Your donations help us to carry out more work and gives us the chance to allocate funds where they are most needed. Your contributions, no matter how big or small, do make a difference in the students' lives. In the past six months, Springboard has been thankful to receive monetary and in-kind donations that allowed us to provide many services for the schools. On behalf of G11 El Ma'amel School students and teachers, we would like to thank TransGlobe Company for their donation that allowed us to purchase art supplies, a laptop and a 3 in 1 printer. The girls were very happy to use a laptop and printer for the first time in their lives and the teachers informed us that these tools will make their job easier since as all the class materials can now be printed in the school. We would also like to thank Mr. Yasser Tousson for his donation that allowed us to purchase a shirt, shoes and a school backpack for each student in his school. Mr. Tousson visited his School, G37 Oseya, to deliver all the items by himself and he spent the day with the students. On behalf of G23 Sakkara School, we would like to thank the Cameron family for their donation that allowed us to purchase a full uniform (red shirt and a denim skirt/trouser) for 23 students. The students were very happy to receive the new uniform and hurried to try them on when they were delivered. The Wedgwood family donation allowed us to purchase art supplies and educational games for four schools in Fayoum. We would also like to thank Ms. Rana Mostafa for the donated clothes that were delivered to three schools in Giza and Fayoum. Two laptops were donated by the Sackmann family and delivered to a school in Fayoum. Another laptop was also donated by Mr. Jeff Adelman and this too was delivered to a School in Fayoum. The Steer family donation will allow us to purchase a full uniform for 35 students in G10 Batn El Bahr School We would also like to thank Apache's Orphanage Committee for donating toys and educational games for some of our schools. We, as the Springboard Team, want to thank each and every one who continue to support Springboard Schools. Thank you for shaping the future of the students and adding beautiful smiles on their faces.



G37-Oseya School students after receiving the backpacks and shirts donated by Mr. Tousson



G11-El Ma'amel School students using the new printer and laptop donated by TransGlobe Company

The newest face in Springboard: Mariam

"A year ago Mariam Abd El Sallam, a grade 2 student at F59 Sayed Abd El Aal School in Fayoum, suffered an accident at her home that left her face very badly burned. Mariam's family couldn't afford the cost of surgery to heal her face. The Springboard Team handled this case and took Mariam to a very well-known dermatologist, Dr. Hoda Monib, to recommend the best solution. As per Dr. Monib's recommendation, Mariam did four laser treatments that healed her face gradually. Upon completion of her laser sessions, Dr. Monib recommended a plastic surgeon to improve Mariam's case. Dr. Ibrahim El Dessouky carried out the surgery for Mariam on May 15th and her face is improving. She is currently wearing a mask that will completely remove the scars from her face. The surgery fees and laser treatment sessions were fully funded by Mr. John Polasek. On behalf of Mariam and her family, Springboard Team would like to thank Mr. Polasek for his donation that not only cover her medical fees but will also change her life. Now Mariam can enjoy herself at school like her other friends.

Dear Donor and Supporter,

Words are not enough to express the appreciation you deserve. Throughout the years you have shown nothing but support, love and care to the girls of Egypt. Through your support, that doesn't only come from monetary donations, but also from donations of lovely words and kind time, we as Springboard Team want to thank you for being part of every step we take.

Thank you for helping us carry on this vital work that has a lasting benefit on many schools. Thank you for proving to Springboard students that they don't walk on this earth alone.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to Springboard
You can send a check to:
Springboard – Educating the Future
2000, Post Oak Blvd, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77056. USA.

The underprivileged girls of Egypt thank you for your support and for enabling their dreams to become reality.

The Springboard Schools Team

Our Contacts:

Visit our website:
<http://www.springboarded.org/>

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Special thanks to
Springboard's
Egyptian partner:
**The National Council
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