GIVE A CHILD A CHANCE AT A BETTER FUTURE

Bank to School is a fundraising initiative to help support children across Lebanon to get back to school; in partnership with arcenciel we have an on-the-ground team that identifies the children who need the most help and support. At the heart of the Bank to School mission is inclusion and equal opportunities for all. To help ensure full transparency and accountability, the raised funds are directly paid to the schools.

We aim to double our donations for the 2021-2022 academic school year, i.e. more than 50,000\$ to financially support more than 1,000 students. We are counting on your generous donations to secure the schooling of our Lebanese youths.

A chance at an education is a chance at a better nation

BANKTOSCHOOL.COM

Near or far, invest in a child's education in Lebanon



For more information on our initiative, visit our website www.banktoschool.com or reach out on banktoschool@gmail.com **Dear Parishioners and Friends,**

I'm writing this email as a follow up on Bank to School's talk during last Sunday's Liturgy.

Bank to School is a fundraising initiative to help support children across Lebanon to get back to school; we have an on-the-ground team that identifies the children who need the most help and support. At the heart of the Bank to School mission is inclusion and equal opportunities for all: no child shall be left out. To help ensure full transparency and accountability, the raised funds are directly paid to the schools. For more information on our initiative, kindly read the last section of this email, check our website: <u>www.banktoschool.com</u>, *and don't hesitate to reach out with questions!*

How you can help:

Today, we aim to double our donations for the 2021-2022 academic school year, i.e. more than \$50,000 to financially support more than 1,000 students. We are contacting you seeking your help to secure the schooling of our Lebanese youths. Note that even a small donation would have a great impact.

How to donate?

Step 1: <u>CLICK HERE TO DONATE</u> Note that we verify that receiving charities have tax-exempt status with the IRS and we are not on recognized economic sanctions lists.

Step 2: <u>Fill in & submit the form on our website</u> Note that filling this form is highly important for us to reconcile our accounts and update our donors list. ON another notes, if you would like to connect/mentor a student and engage in sending them letters, select "Yes". Disregard the "Donate Now" button, it's for those residing in Lebanon, to receive tax exemptions, refer to Step 1.

A little bit about the "Bank to School" initiative:

In the grip of an unprecedented economic, social, political, and health crisis four friends (Michele Daoud, Paola Mounla, Marya Saidi, and Youmna Helou) residing between Beirut and Southeast Asia, with diverse experience in finance, communication, consulting, and non-governmental organizations; congregated their efforts to launch this initiative in an attempt to support the education sector in Lebanon. Although Lebanon has always succeeded in maintaining a high level of education and standards, this sector is currently at risk with more than 1.2 million children being out of school since the start of the pandemic, according to a report by Save The Children. Bank to School was hence created to help alleviate the burden of the multiple crises in Lebanon by helping invest in a child's education.

With the currency devaluation and the deteriorating economic environment, families are sadly struggling to keep their children in school. Soaring school dropout rates would not only negatively impact the future prospects of those children but would also put at risk an entire generation of

Lebanese people for many years to come, with disastrous effects on the country. So, we looked for organizations working on the ground which would help ensure that money raised would go towards education and specifically tuition and benefit those who need it the most. After speaking to a few organizations, we decided on a small team at arcenciel; they have a long history of investing in children's education and have developed the knowledge and experience to effectively and efficiently do so. They also met our core standards of equal opportunities for all, accountability, and transparency.

In 2019, arcenciel supported 269 students across 99 schools. Bank to School's first campaign was launched on the 1st of August 2020 in collaboration with arcenciel in an attempt to support Lebanese families that are struggling to cover their children's educational expenses and/or tuition fees. Last year we collected and granted arcenciel 518,000,000 LBP enabling them to support 516 students across 160 schools all over Lebanon.

Again, don't hesitate to reach out with questions on banktoschool@gmail.com

Warm Regards,

Karim Chebli Project Manager - Bank To School <u>www.banktoschool.com</u>