



**L'ARCHE  
EGYPT**



# L'ARCHE EGYPT



  
**Communities**

AL MINIA  
ALEXANDRIA

  
**Core Members**

30

1 house.

8 welcomed in a L'Arche home.

## COUNTRY STATISTICS

Total population (in millions)	91.5
Per capita income	\$10,064
HDI (Human Development Index)	0.691
HDI rank	111/190

## WORK ACTIVITIES

- > Manufacturing candles and soaps.
- > Making women's accessories.
- > Caring for goats and chickens.
- > Planting and harvesting crops.

## CREATING CHANGE

- > L'Arche Al Fulk (in Al Minia) began a network of local NGOs several years ago. This network has grown considerably over the last few years, and provides effective advocacy and services for persons with disabilities in the area.
- > The sale of candles has proven extremely successful, which has contributed to a sense of self-esteem and independence for the Core Members.
- > Al Fulk hosts a weekly medical center, which provides services to people in need and improves integration into society.
- > L'Arche is developing in Egypt - the community in Alexandria is a "Project" community. They run a daily workshop.

## CONTEXT and CHALLENGES

- > Deep tensions, political, social and religious issues in the country after the 2011 revolution.
- > In Minia especially: high rates of unemployment, illiteracy and poverty. Children with intellectual disabilities are often hidden away from society, at times in cruel ways.

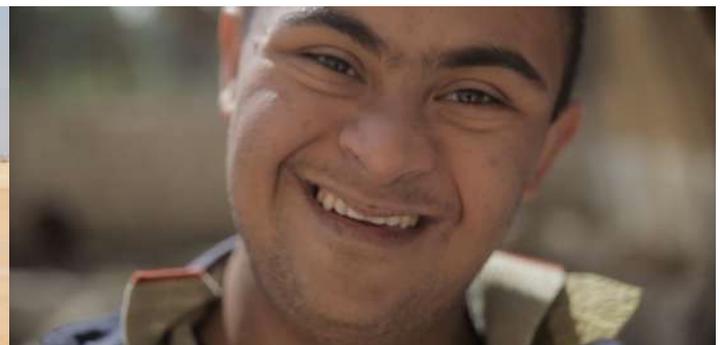
## VISION for THE FUTURE

- > To be a unifying presence in a society plagued by conflict.
- > To be an example to our society of how to treat persons with disabilities.
- > To provide more meaningful, challenging activities for our Core Members, that encourage a sense of personal responsibility and genuine participation in the building of civil society.



## INTRODUCTION to A CORE MEMBER: Hany

Hany and his sister Nagat now live in L'Arche in Egypt. They were born in a region along the Nile river in Middle-Egypt. Both experience an intellectual disability. When their mother died their uncle took Hany and Nagat and locked them in a tiny room in the basement. They had one very small window that allowed oxygen and some sunlight in. They received food and water through this tiny window, but that was it. This room was their entire world, and they experienced complete abandonment. One day the door to Hany and Nagat's tiny room was opened, and Hany and Nagat were welcomed back into the world and, what is more, into a home and a place of belonging.



IT MEANS MY FAMILY WHO I LIVE WITH, IT MEANS THE GARDEN AND IT'S BIG AND WIDE, AND NOT SUFFOCATING LIKE AN ORDINARY HOUSE, IT MEANS TO PLANT AND CROP WITH MY FRIENDS, AND LEARN EVERYTHING LIKE READING AND BIKING.

Hany  
L'Arche Al Fulk



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