

SDM Art Club Unveils New Mural in Squire Hall



The SDM Student Art Club completed a mural located in the basement of Squire Hall. The idea of the mural was generated through conversations between Dr. Stephen Abel, Senior Director of Community and Professional Initiatives, and students Emily Waldman, '21 and Ashley Jarkowski, '21. Once the final sketch was approved, members of the club and other student volunteers became involved in the process.

"When we began, I don't think any of us realized the full extent of the therapeutic value this would bring," stated Dr. Abel. "I am so proud of the art club members with a very special shout out to Emily and Ashley. Brava, Brava!"

"It was a fun process and students enjoyed taking part of its creation," says Ashley Jarkowski, `21. "We have received many positive responses from staff and faculty as well."

The mission of the art club is to promote a positive atmosphere for mental health while dealing with the stresses of dental school. Mental health issues are very common amongst students and we wanted to provide an outlet where people could have fun and bond with their classmates outside of school.

Art Club officers: Ashley Jarkowski, Emily Waldman, Ani Coaderaj, Mary Njie, Courtney Karek, Fahad Khan, Leeann Le, Marshall Binns, Sehie Koh, Shirin Kashkouli

Mural main coordinators were Emily Waldman and Ashley Jarkowski, photographer and video editor, lesha Delesline. Volunteers included Lavanya Ankala, Akshaykumar Bhalala, Iesha DeLesline. Cody Gorman, Bailey Haines, Alex Hensler, Ashley Jarkowski, Lubna Joseph, Shirin Kashkouli, Alicja Kazmierowska, Fahad Khan, Danielle Lieberman, Stephanie Loo, Raveena Munnangi, Dinh Nguyen, Mary Njie, Abby Romano, Dr. Shenoy, Emily Waldman and Brianna Yusiewicz.



UB Global Miles for Smiles Humanitarian Services Supply Winter Resources to Lebanon During Pandemic



Lebanon resident receives heating oil as part of UBGMS Winter Project, almost 2400 families were helped.

With Pandemic taking its toll on the world, refugees and the internally displaced population (IDP) in Lebanon and North Syria suffered greatly and winter snow storms hit the area hard. Heating fuel supplies were at an all-time low. Local communities and governments were not able to meet the demand. The UB Global Miles for Smiles (UBGMS) stepped in to help.

"Due to the pandemic, UBGMS programs and travel plans were put on hold. We decided to re-direct our resources to providing heating fuel to area schools and refugees, local families and IDPs," stated Dr. Othman Shibly, Clinical Professor, Department of Periodontics and Endodontics.

Winter project in Syria, February, 2021

 Providing heating for refugees and IDP Schools in Northwest Syria: UBGMS partnered with the Syrian American Medical Society for the distribution of heating fuel to 87 refugee schools (1,070 classrooms) in northwest. Heating fuel was additionally distributed to classrooms in IDP camps.

"Given the current weather conditions, we have seen a spike in infectious diseases among children, causing them to miss school," said Professor Bahaa El-Din Al-Jassem, director of the Al-Kalana School in a camp. "Thanks to these heating supplies provided for classrooms, students are now able to come to school, finish the semester, and stay warm in the face of unimaginable challenges."

Winter project in Lebanon, February, 2021

- UBGMS (UB Miles for Smiles) partnered with MAPs (Multi Aid Programs in Lebanon)
- Provided heating supplies to fight the extreme cold weather for 2352 families in the camps in Lebanon
- Provided food baskets for 10,348 people.

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