



PHOTO & CAPTION

Children teach children about health living



From healthy eating to proper hand washing, Palestinian students are championing health in an innovative follow-up to USAID-funded summer camps.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health holds Healthy Lifestyle Summer Camps every year, attended by over 1,000 children across the West Bank.

In 2012, with USAID's help, the ministry expanded the impact of the summer fun by encouraging over 1,300 children to pass on to others the health tips they learned at 28 camps.

Photo: Bassam Al Mohor/Chemonics International

“We are telling our peers the importance of being clean from head to toe,” explained 11-year old Islam, “because a healthy body is a healthy mind.”

“One of the main ideas of the summer camps [was] to encourage children to pass messages they learn at the camp to other children, their relatives, and friends,” explained Ahlam Harb, a community coordinator working through a USAID health project.

In the northern West Bank village of Eskaka, 30 summer campers decided to devote their school year to helping others live healthier lives.

Under the slogan “Child-to-Child”, the children are teaching their friends and classmates about everything from hand-washing, healthy diets, road safety to hygiene.

“We are passing the messages we learned during the summer camp,” said 11-year old Islam, one of the Child-to-Child leaders. “I learned a lot during that camp. Most importantly, I quit lots of bad eating habits, such as eating fast food and drinking soda drinks.”

Telling Our Story

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