



November 2023

ELC NEC AMH Medical Camp

One of the ways the English Language Congregation (ELC) of the National Evangelical Church (NEC) proclaims the love of Christ in a predominantly Muslim country like The Kingdom of Bahrain is through partnerships with our RCA sister ministries Al Raja School and the American Mission Hospital (AMH).

On November 3 of this year, the ELC and the AMH came together to staff and run our 5th Medical Camp for foreign-born 'day laborers.' This herculean effort required over 100 volunteers from the ELC and dozens of AMH doctors, nurses, and support staff.



Our team met for prayer and instructions early Friday morning and then traveled together to Askar—a location in southern Bahrain populated almost entirely by labor camps. The men housed in these camps, typically from

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places like Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India, work incredibly long hours in difficult conditions (130-degree heat) for very little pay (\$150 per month). Most have no medical care and are separated from loved ones for years at a time.

Approximately 300 workers were given a complementary medical exam by an American Mission Hospital doctor as well as prescription medication and surgical referrals when warranted. The ELC Hospitality Team provided logistical support as well as a hot meal on-site and a second meal for all 300 workers the following day.

As we gathered for prayer prior to our departure, I encouraged our volunteers to serve others out of a 'joyful heart'—reminding them that sometimes a loving smile or gentle touch can be the very best medicine when someone is weary and far from home. When we brought the group together again for prayer at the end of the event, it was evident that all had received so much more than we were able to give.



The ELC NEC AMH Medical Camp also served as a reminder of what our world can be if we choose to serve, love, and work to understand those who have traveled a different path than we have traveled. Watching people from the Muslim, Hindu, and Christian faiths interact to heal, serve, and alleviate pain was such a hopeful and inspiring image—an alternative perhaps to messages of war, violence, and mistrust that keep us at a distance one from another more often these days.

Kathy and I are so grateful for the ELC Needs Ministry, the leadership of our RCA partner ministry The American Mission Hospital, and you, our beloved ministry partners, for your prayers and gifts, allowing us to equip others to be an extension of God's grace and concern for 'the least of these' in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

With appreciation for your partnership in the work of the gospel,

Blaine and Kathleen Newhouse
RCA Global Mission
Kingdom of Bahrain

RCA Global Mission does not receive denominational assessments or covenant shares. We depend on the faithful generosity of churches and individuals.