



Beirut, October 7, 2021

To the kind attention of Mr. Olivier De Schutter, Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights.

Dear Mr. De Shutter,

Please allow us to introduce Myschoolpulse, the only registered non-profit in Lebanon that brings school to hospital for children between the ages of 4 and 18, who are suffering from life-threatening illnesses, and cannot attend regular school, regardless of their nationality, religion or gender.

Our mission is to provide seriously ill children support for their education and their wellbeing.

- 250 children are diagnosed with cancer every year in Lebanon.
- 80% of children with cancer survive.

It is key they don't lose one or two years of school while they undergo treatment at hospital.

Our goals are the following:

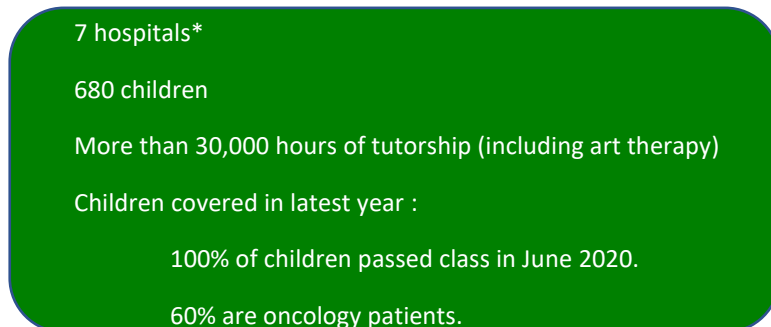
1. Help sick children pursue their education uninterrupted to keep up with their peers, attain the next school level and reintegrate mainstream school as smoothly as possible, when they recover.
2. Minimize children's feelings of exclusion from normal life while fighting their illness.
3. Improve the well-being of children during their medical stay including but not limited to providing psychological support as well art therapy lessons.
4. Provide financial assistance to underprivileged sick children as well as their siblings especially where the sickness put financial pressure on their families.
5. Ensure reasonable financial safety for Myschoolpulse employees.

The benefits of schooling sick children are:

- Educational benefits: Keep up with school and prevent class repetition.
- Psychological benefits: Reduces anxiety and depression children experience when diagnosed with a life-threatening disease, impacts positively the child's psychology as schooling increases his/her belief that treatment will succeed. It also reduces anxiety about school return and re-integration; a long stay at hospital might develop school phobia.

Myschoolpulse is currently schooling more than **100 children** across 5 major hospitals in Lebanon.

Our impact since inception:



7 hospitals*

680 children

More than 30,000 hours of tutorship (including art therapy)

Children covered in latest year :

- 100% of children passed class in June 2020.
- 60% are oncology patients.

*2 discontinued over time

Our impact is proven by the feedback and testimonials received by the children and their families. Children's feeling of exclusion from normal life while fighting their illness is minimize, they are prepared to reintegrate mainstream school more smoothly when they recover, but more importantly, their wellbeing during their medical stay is drastically improved via core education but also the psychological support and the art therapy also provided by Myschoolpulse. We also work in close collaboration with the public sector in order to ensure that we follow the official academic curriculum so that children can pass their exams and eventually join the same class group they have left for their treatment. The impact of our work is further evidenced in the 100% class passing rate.

Our short-term goal is to continue with our operations in the existing hospitals while broadening the support offered by providing more extracurricular activities to the children, particularly by expanding our art therapy efforts and psychologic support that have been well received on the ground.

In the medium term, we are looking to roll out our program to more hospitals in Lebanon. In addition, given the current major economic, political, and financial crisis that the country is undergoing, we look to support the families of the sick children more holistically. Often, one of the parents have to stop working to be present for their sick children and a broader support for the family impacted can have a significant impact on these families as well as the sick children.

Myschoolpulse partnered with The Red Pencil for Art Therapy (based in Switzerland and Monaco), to improve the well-being of the children and help them cope with their illness.

Given the current crisis in Lebanon, we recently formally expanded into financial aid, i.e. contribute towards the tuition fees of the official school of the children (based on specific criteria) and potentially their siblings, as well as purchase books and stationaries.

Due to the crisis the country is presently going through, we are unable to fundraise locally and international fundraising is therefore critical for sustainability of our mission and further roll-out. We are seeking your support to continue our mission of helping sick children at a time where education brings life back to them and their families.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

**EVERY SICK CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO DREAM, LEARN, AND HOPE,
AND PURSUE HIS/HER EDUCATION FOR A BETTER FUTURE.**

Kind regards,

Monique Saikali
Events & Fundraising Manager
Hospital Coordinator