Dear Supporter,

As the school year is coming to a close we are reflecting on what has been one of the most difficult years in the EFA Association's history. The school year had a brutal start and the students in the region who had just recovered from the COVID-19 disruptions were yet again facing a tumultuous academic year. This final exam period we wish them all the luck and fortitude to get through this closing period and we hope to be able to report back on positive graduation results for all students in their final year!

Since the earthquake, the teams of both EFA Morocco in the UK, as well as Association EFA in Morocco, have worked hard in crisis mode to try and support the girls as best as possible and help the Association recover as quickly as reasonably possible. We have initiated a multi-staged recovery approach to address the aftermath of the earthquake:

- **RENTAL:** We secured temporary housing for students near their appointed schools. Currently, we have 55 girls in our 2 rented Chwiter houses. A 3rd property lease has been finalized in the Ben Youssef area in Marrakech. And we have found an additional house in Asni that will be used from September onwards. We are looking for an additional house in the Tahanaout area too and hopefully, we find one in time for the start of school in September. Lastly, we are awaiting to hear if our Talaat-n-Yacoub girls will continue college in Tamesloht. If so, we will look for a property there too.
- **REPAIR:** We have renovated our least damaged house in Ouirgane and this will be complete next week! We expect it to be fully operational by September but over the summer will serve as a space for holiday camps.
- **REBUILD:** Confirmation from officials in Asni has been received that the College will re-open in September! This means that planning for rebuilding in Asni can commence. There are some exciting ideas and we hope to be able to share more news with you after the summer...! There is less clarity in Talaat Yacoob on when and where the government will be able to re-open the schools. Therefore we will continue to house these girls near Marrakech in rental houses until we receive more details on the recovery plans in his town.
- **RECOVER:** We have decided in response to the disrupted school year to structure

an extra-curricular program to provide additional tutoring and educational support during the summer holidays. This program aims to not only support academic performance but also provide much-needed mental and emotional support to girls who have endured trauma.

Our teams are well aware that we could not have made this progress without your continued, generous support. We are grateful for your commitment and look forward to continue making a meaningful difference together!

For now, we will look forward to ending this school year full of hope for the future and a fresh new start in September for all the girls and the housemothers in Morocco.

With gratitude 🛡

The EFA Team

## **Highlights**

#### The New Rental House!



We're excited to introduce our 3rd boarding house located in Marrakech, Ben Youssef area. It's a vital step further in our mission to ensure the continuity of girls' education and provide a nurturing environment for their growth and development. All thanks to your incredible support during our earthquake crisis appeal!

# **Dining with Diplomats**





A few weeks ago, the British Ambassador hosted a remarkable event at his residence in Rabat. The much anticipated launch of "Dining with Diplomats"! A delightful culinary book created by Vicky Enea and Lene Bækgaard. This book celebrates diverse culinary traditions from around the world while supporting EFA's mission to provide education for young women in rural communities beyond primary school.

As one of our amazing patrons, Ambassador Martin had the privilege of hearing firsthand from some of our EFA graduates about how education has transformed their lives and uplifted their communities in the High Atlas mountains.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to His Excellency Ambassador Simon Martin for his unconditional support towards our mission.

Read more

## Chiropractic scholarship for EFA girls



Updates from EFA!



Aspire Mama Africa (AMA) - an organization that has been supporting our mission since 2022 - and The McTimoney College of Chiropractic in the UK have formed a partnership to sponsor three of our students/alumni to pursue a five-year Masters of Chiropractic Program in the UK. The college will provide scholarships covering the program fees, while AMA will seek to fund the travel and accommodation expenses for these students. This collaboration marks a significant milestone for all parties involved, offering our girls the opportunity to study abroad for the first time and bring back valuable healthcare skills to their villages in the High Atlas region, essential for the challenging living conditions there.

EFA has already identified potential candidates for the program, set to commence in January 2025. We are excited to see who the selected candidates are and look forward to following their educational progress and growth.





We would like to celebrate some high school superstar supporters: The students of The British School of Brussels! The last 2 months they have been dedicated to raising awareness for EFA's cause and organised many very creative fundraising events at school. Their dedication and efforts are truly inspiring.

They have put together a compelling video about EFA and the impact of the recent earthquake that was shown to all parents attending the Parental Charity Ball that was dedicated to EFA! A Year 8 student also delivered a heartfelt speech at the start of the evening to raise awareness; and they are organizing a cinema afternoon for Year 4 students, scheduled for June 14th. They have gone above and beyond in their efforts to raise awareness for EFA and fundraise for recovery and we admire and appreciate their efforts very much!

### In the life of a student: Khadija



Before the earthquake, my life was like any other girl, normal and beautiful. But on September 8th, 2024, everything changed because of the earthquake. I remember the fear me and my family had as a large stone struck our house while we were still inside. Thankfully, no one died in our village.

After that day, we had to leave our damaged house and spent a month living in tents. Returning home after that month was difficult for me. The earthquake also severely damaged my school; all the classrooms were destroyed.

This forced us to relocate to a new school near Marrakech. The earthquake shifted my perspective. I learned to appreciate spending more time with my family. Now, I live with a friend in a new house in Chwiter, provided by EFA, an association that supported us immensely, especially after the earthquake. They provided us with everything we needed for our comfort and to pursue our dreams. I am truly grateful to them; such support is hard to find. Among my dreams are becoming a tourist guide or a businesswoman, as well as contributing to society.





July Bonus Day is one of the biggest donation-matching campaigns of the year! Make your donation go further.

Donate to our campaign launching on **JULY 10** where donations of \$100 and higher will be matched by GlobalGiving! Higher donations mean higher matches, helping more girls!

**SAVE THE DATE** and email fundraising@efamorocco.org for a reminder.

#### Support here











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