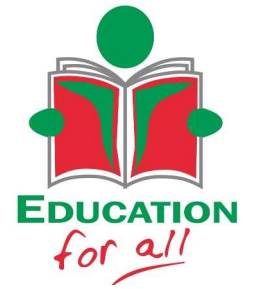


WE WANT TO GIVE GIRLS
THE CHANCE OF A COLLEGE
EDUCATION IN MOROCCO
BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT
IF YOU EDUCATE A GIRL,
YOU EDUCATE THE NEXT
GENERATION AS WELL.

EDUCATION FOR ALL NEWSLETTER

January 2013



EFA IS GROWING

**NEW GIRLS ADMITTED IN
THE BOARDING HOUSES**

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

OPEN DAY

ANNUAL MEETING

EFA SUPPORT

Visit our website www.efamorocco.org and follow us on [Facebook](#).



Dar Asni

The house welcomes 37 girls.
15 girls are studying in the college : 7 in the second year and 8 in the third year.
22 girls are studying in the lycée : 8 in the first year, 7 in the second year and 7 in the last year of lycée. The oldest ones (18 years old) will take their exams to get the baccalaureate.

2 girls are coming from Dar Tinmel to study in the first year of lycée, as Talat N'Yacoub doesn't have a lycée.

This is a new adventure for them and they are happy to join their friends in Dar Asni.

Dar Tinmel

Dar Tinmel welcomes 36 girls, its maximum capacity.

All the girls are studying in the college : 16 girls are in the first year, 12 in the second year and 8 in the third year of college.



Dar Ouirgane

Dar Ouirgane welcomes 30 girls, its maximum capacity.

All the girls are studying in the college : 7 girls are in the first year, 11 in the second year and 12 in the third year of college.

Help us complete our fourth boarding house by September 2013!

We are trying to raise 50,000€ so that we can start to build our fourth boarding house, ready to open in September 2013...

Dar Asni, Dar Ouirgane and Dar Tinmel are all now fully occupied with 103 wonderful girls who are working hard towards their Collège Brevet qualification (in the UK the Brevet de Collège is the equivalent of GCSEs, and in the US, to the sophomore year of High School) as well as for their baccalaureate. What we have long-hoped for, that our girls will continue their education beyond the Collège Brevet and want to continue their education at the Lycée, is happening. 22 of our girls have already commenced their Lycée education and we now need a Lycée-specific boarding house for the girls from the three existing houses to feed-into.

The commune of Asni has gifted EFAM land on which to begin building a fourth boarding house and we have raised significant funds already but we are 50k short. We are trying to raise the outstanding 50,000 € before commencing this ambitious project, which will give around forty girls from all three of our existing boarding houses the opportunity to continue their education at Lycée and complete their baccalaureate in three years' time.



Open Day—April 2012

Many, many things have happened since the last newsletter came out. The highlight for everybody at EFA was without doubt the opening day at the end of April! Khadija took our first year girls from Talat to Dar Ouirgane, where we spent the night with Mina and her girls. After a short and windy ride, we arrived at Dar Asni. Everything in the house was so pretty! Latifa the cook made these awesome Moroccan pancakes (m'sinmen) and there was a delicious buffet in the salon. After the reception of the guests and a sweet brunch, all of us continued to Imlil and the Kasbah du Toubkal.

The girls' eyes were wide open as they tried to take in all the beautiful details at the Kasbah. After a typical Moroccan lunch they borrowed my camera and strolled around the area, taking pictures with their friends from Dar Asni and Dar Ouirgane. Seeing all of them having fun together was so nice.

Luise Dahmen—Dar Tinmel volunteer.

Dar Asni was “on show” to visitors who were coming to the Kasbah du Toubkal for the Opening Day luncheon. The house-mothers from all three houses, along with the cooks, girls and volunteers, prepared foods and exhibits for the house. Volunteers gave tours of the house and the girls answered questions about their schooling/housing and their life. The first year girls were all very, very excited about the Open Day and followed the lunch at the Kasbah with a walk to the waterfalls in Imlil. They were also very happy to see all the “old” volunteers from past years who returned to see them again.

Ann Lopata – Dar Asni volunteer.



EFA support and visits

American School of Marrakech (ASM)



The American school teachers visited on 10th of November around 10:30 am and they left at 15:00pm .The 15 teachers stopped first in Dar Asni to be divided into two groups one in Asni and the other came to Dar Ouirgane with their well-organized program.

When they came to Ouirgane they presented themselves to the girls and the opposite. After having lunch, they started their activities. The girls were divided into two groups. One group worked on sport activity, they played a game called under over and another called crabs walk which needs concentration and speed, they have much fun together laughing at each other Maryk and the house mothers also participated. While the others in the other room were inventing different colored and beautiful necklaces to put on their hands. When time of the first activity for each group is over, the girls changed the rooms and the teachers so that all the girls benefit from the same activities.

The group of teachers left in Asni was also working with the girls in different activities, the same as here the girls divided themselves into groups. While one group is doing an activity the other group starts something else. They worked on art drawing mosques, flowers and shapes by hanging beans, lentils on papers. Whilst the other girls were playing Yoga with other teachers. The girls enjoyed these new games a lot, and they were very happy to meet and know foreign teachers and some of their systems on teaching.

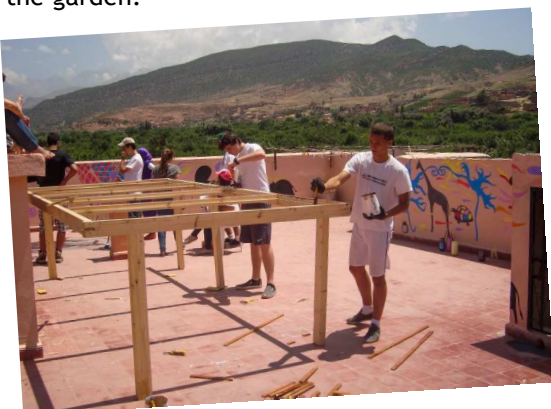
At the end, everybody sit together to say thanks and farewell to our visitors. The bus took them again to Asni to join the rest of teachers and a last goodbye to the girls in Asni and then back to Marrakech.

Mina, Dar Ouirgane house mother

International College Spain

This is the second time that the International College of Spain visited us.

This time they spent one day in Dar Asni last June. Once again they shown us their artistic talent by painting the walls on the roof and the garden.



They also bought and painted a space covered from the sun installed in the roof.

See you next year!

Marrakech Atlas Etape

Ride the Ouka Monster (Marrakech Atlas Etape) for the benefit of EFA!

www.marrakech-atlas-etape.com

Sunday April 28, 2013 sees the first annual Marrakech Atlas Etape - a 140km and 60km cyclo-sportive for riders seeking a distinctive challenge.

Please join us, but if you cannot please spread the word/website www.marrakech-atlas-etape.com on Facebook and other social media. Just doing this can raise money for EFA.



This route leaves from the southern edge of Marrakech at 495m and heads south, following a very gentle gradient (average 1.25%) for some 30km to the start of the Ourika valley at an altitude of 860m. Spectacular views of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains should be seen throughout this gentle rise to the start of the Ourika Valley. The 60km route turns around here. The 140km route then follows the Ourika valley for 11km to where the road branches out of the valley (975m) and the main climb to Oukaïmeden begins. The next 30km of the course will raise 1649m (average gradient 5.49%) to the ski station at 2,624m. The physical and human scenery on this section of the course really is awe inspiring as the road snakes its way ever higher passing the villages and terraced fields of the Berbers of the High Atlas. The route back to Marrakech is almost all downhill and the views truly spectacular.

Bristol Grammar School (BGS)



Members of 2012-13 BGS Education for all Morocco team today at our annual clear-up after the Canford Park fireworks display. <http://www.fireworksfiesta.co.uk/>

This involves an 0830 start on a Sunday (with particularly unpleasant weather today).

The Rotary Club give us a £200 donation for Education for all Morocco www.educationforallmorocco.org a charity we have been supporting for 5 years and have raised over £20,000 for in that time.

EFA booklet

Updated Efa booklet now available on our website in English and French

Derek Workman has update the story behind Education For All - please download you copy from the Education For All website.



A huge thank you to all the schools, our sponsors, and everyone else who gets involved with EFA by fundraising.

To support the girls in their continuing education and if you would like to get involved, visit the website at :

<http://www.efamorocco.org/get-involved/index.html>

International volunteers

Aleksandra Janas

Volunteer dates: Oct 2012—Jan 2013

Age: 32

Home country: Poland

Occupation: special educator

Boarding house : Dar Tinmel

I worked during two years as a specialist educator in France, that allow me to improve my French. I began my adventure in Dar Tinmel in October 1st. I always wish to be a part of this kind of project in Africa and contribute to a program with the children education as a goal. And one day I've made some research on the internet and found EFA website, I couldn't miss this opportunity.

I spent one week in Morocco before going to Talat N'Yacoub, I discovered Marrakech and the gorgeous desert. I was so excited to continue my travel and discover the High Atlas mountains. And I'll always remember my travel to Talat N'Yacoub...! It was a winding road and the taxi driver was going too fast, I was so afraid! But I arrived safe and sound in Dar Tinmel. I was immediately enchanted by this beautiful place surrounded by mountains. I had a warm welcome from the staff and all the girls. I felt welcome in the house which I found so pretty and comfortable with the big flat roof and the living room. The first days we learned to know each other, and it was a real challenge to memorise all the girls' names, it made them laughing a lot!

Then I've made my own planning to work with the girls, another challenge because it changes all the time in the beginning of the school year. I learned to get used to it and to be flexible :).

I mainly taught French and computer to the girls. French at school is really difficult for them, they have to work really hard to succeed. Fortunately they are really motivated to learn and face the difficulties. I also try to relax them and spend good times, laughing and doing some sport, going out for walks and going to the weekly souk on Wednesday.

I'm often invited at the girls' home, I love visiting them. People are so nice, welcoming, it's a real gift for me to be allowed to share their daily life with their family.

Now I'm still living in Dar Tinmel and I'll keep you posted about what's going on here!



Walk with the volunteers



Marie Ange Dilis

Volunteer Dates: Sept 2012—Dec 2012

Age: 63

Home Country: France

Occupation: Teacher

Boarding house: Dar Asni

My name is Marie Ange DILIS, I am 63 years old. Before, I was 'FLE' trainer for twenty years for refugees, in the south of France near Toulouse. Now sometimes I am a volunteer French teacher. In 2009, I worked during three months in Hébron-University in the FLE department. This year, 'La Rencontre82' Association who has humanitarian action in this area, proposed to me that I should go to Asni to work for 'Education for all', and another boarding school, 'Tigmi Nisti' - Our girls' house.

I arrived in September. I am very happy to work with the girls. They are generally very enjoyable. The language context is very hard. The maternal language is Berber; the national languages are dialectal Arabic, classic Arabic and French. To enter University it is necessary to be proficient in French, because the classes are only in French!!!!
It is colonization's inheritance

But the secondary school is in classic Arabic. For pupils it is a big handicap to enter in University.

During my vacation, I proposed to a group ('Tigmi Nisti' and 'Education for all') of girls to interview the leaders of local associations. With this activity they learn French language, and they would know better the area's life. Now I work with Anny arrived the 17 November. She is also a volunteer. And she also participates to the interviews.



Claire Brennan



I am a college student from New York City, USA. I spent this past summer as an intern for Education for All. I had the best summer of my life and am very appreciative of this opportunity.

I moved into Dar Toubkal to start my internship. I was working with EFA as a research intern. Although it was summer vacation for the girls, I spent a lot of time with them. I interviewed the girls about their experience with the organization. There was an overwhelmingly positive attitude towards the opportunities that EFA has provided them with. I ate plenty of tagines and drank numerous cups of tea, until Ramadan fell upon us. Although things in Imlil slowed down during Ramadan, I was very lucky to have been invited to break the fast with a number of EFA families. This greatly added to my learning experience. During the slower Ramadan weeks, I researched grants and fundraising opportunities for the organization. I learned so much during my time with Education for All.

Anny Gibson

Volunteer Dates: Nov2012—Dec 2012

Age: 67

Home Country: France—UK

Occupation: Retired—Teacher

Boarding house: Dar Asni

I was born and educated in France but have lived and worked in the UK for over 40 years. I went to Morocco to try to contribute to the girls education - mainly in French, to get to understand a little the life of the local people and also to get some winter sun. In the 3 weeks I have been here, I have got to know some of the girls well, and I have done some work with another volunteer to help the baccaulaureate girls to conduct interviews in order to understand better the aims and problems of the different local associations. They then have to write reports.

I think that the EFA project is very worth while as it allows these girls to be educated and also to meet girls from other villages and expand their horizons.



Volunteers from Peace Corp



We are Alex Naegele from Ohio, USA and Sara del Fierro from New York, USA, and we work with the American organization Peace Corps (Corps de la Paix). Since May 2011, we have been living in the Agoundis Valley, where we work with local associations in the villages Ijoukak and El Makhzen. Last school year we were excited to join the Dar Tinnel family in February 2012, exposing the girls to the English language through song, dance, and other creative activities. This school year we have been focusing on working with the third-year students to strengthen the English that they are learning at the college. Our knowledge of the local Berber dialect Tashlhit, which we have learned through integration in our communities, has not only been useful in the classroom, but has also allowed us to connect more closely with the girls in the language they are most familiar with. Every Tuesday, we look forward to coming to the house, having fun with the girls and seeing them progress in their study of the English language. Spending this past year and a half in our villages, we have seen first-hand the struggles that many youth face to continue their studies past the elementary level. Most of the girls in our villages never reach the college level for various economic and cultural reasons. In our experience, Dar Tinnel has played a huge role in giving girls from these remote villages the chance to study at a higher level and with the resources that will help them succeed. Education for All provides these girls with not only a comfortable home and healthy meals, but also resources that wouldn't otherwise be available to them, such as internet access for class research and supplementary activities that are both creative and scholastic. Our favourite aspects of volunteering at Dar Tinnel are the sense of family that can be seen in the way the girls care for one another and the supportive environment that Khadija has made a priority for the house by always encouraging the girls to achieve their full potentials. This region has become our home and we are so grateful for the opportunity to contribute to furthering the education of local girls here at Dar Tinnel.

Alex Naegele and Sara del Fierro—Dar Tinnel

I am a current Peace Corps Volunteer who has been living and working in the Marigha/Ouirgane area for the past year and a half. I have not yet directly worked with Education for All but I have visited Dar Ouirgane on occasion and I have known previous volunteers. The house seems to be very well stocked with resources, especially compared to the government-run Dar Taliba (residence hall) where I teach English. The houses are a great opportunity for the girls in this region--an area where it is often quite difficult for girls to continue on to higher levels of education. These families are often hindered by barriers such as cost and long distances and Dar Ouirgane is making it easier for some of these girls to complete college (middle school) and hopefully move on to high school and eventually university. I am excited about the future opportunities available for these girls and I am looking forward to working with Education for All in the future.

Devon Bacon—Dar Ouirgane

Arts and Crafts



Trip out of the boarding houses' villages

Essaouira—Dar Asni



Last summer we went to visit Essaouira with the girls studying in the first and second year of college. We were 17 girls, escorted by our house mother Latifa, and Mina the cleaning woman of Dar Asni. We went by bus, everybody was ready in front of the house at 5h in the morning ! We had any problem to wake up early for this occasion :)

We took games and prepared the food for the lunch time. The journey went well, we were all excited as most of the girls had never visited Essaouira before.

I am used to spend time during the summer in Essaouira, because I'm lucky to have family there! So I was happy to introduce this beautiful town to my friends of Dar Asni.

When we arrived we visited the port with the fishermen, the boats...And the fishes' smell!!

After taking pictures in the port we continued the visit and went to the souk. Waou I love the souk because there's always a lots of beautiful things and accessories for the women.

After a long walk we couldn't wait to go to the beach! We had our lunch there, then we played games in the beach and swam. It was so funny because for most of us it was the first time.

After this good day with our sister Latifa, we went back home and arrive at Dar Asni at 8.00 pm. We were exhausted but it was really good to spend one day in Essaouira with my friends as I usually spend time there with my family.

Chaima Ednadni—Student at Dar Asni.

Ourika—Dar Ouirgane



We heard a lot about that village, that's why we decided to make our trip there. In the 2nd of June after finishing all our exams, all the girls of Dar Ouirgane, sister Mina, the volunteer Gretchen and the cook Samira woke up very early. After spending the day before in preparing all the necessary food and stuff we would need.

After an hour of driving we were there in Ourika; It was a warm day and the air was very fresh and clean.

We settled in a green space under the trees and the music of birds, the water was easily flowing in the river in front of us. There we had some rest and we had our delicious breakfast. And we had a long walk near the river to explore the surrounding area. At 11:00, our transport came back to take us to the cascade of STI FADMA, there we had an amazing view. We climbed the mountain, it was such an adventure, we had a lot of fun there laughing at each other with wet clothes and shoes!

After that we had a delicious meal, with a group of berber musicians with whom we sang. When they left , we played funny games and at 6:00 pm we saw on the other side of the river, our bus driver waiting for us to leave and go back to Dar Ouirgane. It was a nice trip that all the girls still remember.

Hafida and Soukaina—Students at Dar Tinmel.



The girls' parents point of view about EFA

Zineb BIDARI's father from Dar Ouirgane

Zineb's father (a girl in the third year of college now) said about Education for all:

"At first, there were a lot of talks about this organization. Some people liked it and some not.

But for me, the most important thing was to find a safe place for my daughter to stay in and to continue her studies because that's what she wanted eagerly. Actually I knew that Dar Taliba exists, but to send my daughter there, I had to pay an amount of money which I do not have. When I heard about Dar Ouirgane, I decided to visit it and ask the housemother how much I should pay for my girl. She told me that it was free of charge, I was extremely happy. I was really surprised by the manner of building, I loved the furniture, the food and also the way that the housemother take care of the girls. Whenever my daughter comes home she tells us about the activities they do and the fun they have with the volunteers and the house mum and the new things they learn and also the beautiful walks and trips sometimes.

Now in each start of the year, I meet new parents who bring their girls here and they always ask me about the experience of my daughter and how she lives inside this house. I start explaining to them that the girls find here excellent and comforting conditions which they will never find somewhere else, even in their homes for some of them who came from very poor families and far villages.

Most people now know about these houses and their locations. Lots of parents wish that their daughters will have the chance to live in one of them.

We, the parents, hope only that this organisation will keep doing and will give chance and happiness to more girls, and help our girls to finish their studies and become what they want to be in their lives. And we say big thanks to all the Education For All members, and a special thanks to the housemothers that keep working with them day and night."



Hayat LHATR's mother



My name is Zahra. My daughter's name is Hayat LHATR. We live in the village Taouz, 15 km from Dar Tinnel.

I have 3 children, 3 girls. Hayat is the only one who is studying. I've never been to school.

My daughter Hayat is been living in Dar Tinnel since 2 years, I want her to continue her studies, to find a good job...I'll be proud of her.

Since she's in Dar Tinnel, she's more responsible, she takes care of her and it's obvious that she improved her knowledge. She has good marks and when she's at home she shows me her lessons and teaches me some basic things.

I'd like her to be a teacher so that she could help the other children. Her father is also encouraging her, he wants her to progress in her life and succeed.

The house is good, people who works for EFA are really kind, helpful and take care of our girls, everyone in Talat N'Yacoub and the villages around agree with this.

After the elementary school, we wanted to subscribe her at Dar Taliban, the government boarding house, but we are poor and could not afford it. People told us that it was better to ask for a place at Dar Tinnel, not only for money but also for the quality of education and life that they offer to the girls.

When I visited the house for the first time I was really satisfied, the house is beautiful, clean and there was enough space for the girls to work, eat, sleep and play.

After talking to Khadija, I knew that I could trust her. So thank you for all what you're doing for our girls.



All the All the girls and the EFA committee wish you a happy new year.

Thank you for your help, for giving them this chance to make a difference in their lives.

We hope that we will be able to continue to grow this year, keep this link with you and give the opportunity of an education to more girls.

Things to look forward to...

Want to get involved? Here are some ideas:

- Are you participating in an event and looking for a charity to donate your funds to? Visit <http://www.justgiving.com/efam/> to make a page where your funds go directly to the girls.
- Financially adopt a girl to ensure that she has the opportunity to complete three years of collège education.
- Visit our website at <http://www.educationforallmorocco.org/donate/index.html> for tips on how to donate.
- Are you a company looking to support us? Join our corporate sponsors.

- * The **Annual Charity Bike Ride** takes place for one week. Next year it will take place from **27 April to 4 May 2013**, based in and around Marrakech and the High Atlas Mountains.

- * **Sunday 28th April** is the Marrakech Atlas Etape.

Click here for further detail:

<http://www.educationforallmorocco.org/get-involved/events/bike-holiday.html>

- * Thought you'd never **climb to the top of Jebel Toubkal**, North Africa's highest peak? Well, now's your chance! Whilst not a walk in the park, the ascent of Toubkal is achievable by people who are reasonably fit and determined. Many have reached the summit of Toubkal who never thought they would!

So, do something you always wanted to do, or something you never thought you would be able to do. Go on see what you're made of and climb Toubkal in aid of EFA!

The next trip will be in June 2013 and it costs 250 euros per person.

Click here for further details:

<http://www.efamorocco.org/get-involved/events/toubkal-ascent.html>

If you would like to organise an annual fundraising event for Education for All Morocco, we'd love to hear from you!

EDUCATION FOR ALL

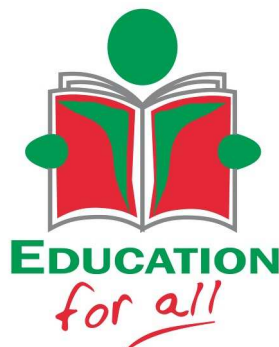
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Do you have at least 3 months to give to help girls in rural Morocco?

If you educate a girl, you educate the next generation

Volunteers Required

Education for All have three boarding houses for girls in Asni (45km from Marrakech), Ouirgane (60 km from Marrakech) and Talat n'Yacoub (100km from Marrakech).

We are seeking volunteers who would be willing to live and work in each of our houses to support the girls with their studies.

- Your main job will be to help the girls with their homework and give them extra French lessons.
- You will also help the housemothers with their daily tasks.
- Help EFA to be connected with the donors.



Recruiting now for 2013.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist the girls in Morocco, please contact

info@efamorocco.org