

MERCY HANDS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Approvals and letters:

In coordination with the local government in Ninewa and the Crisis cell, the Mercy Hands team took the necessary approvals to allow them to move and transport easier and faster to accomplish their activities as a quick response against COVID-19.



COVID-19 Screening Tent:

In coordination with the local government in Ninewa, in April 2, Mercy Hands set up a tent (dimensions: 6 m. X 12 m.) at the main southern entrance of Mosul City, on the Mosul Baghdad road. The tent will function as a screening center for suspected COVID-19 patients. The governmental health team responsible for screening all city visitors will be stationed at the tent. The aim is to better handle the flow of possible COVID-19 patients entering Mosul City. The tent will also function as a temporary shelter for people who are not allowed to enter the city and do not have anywhere else to go to.



Training Physicians on Ventilator Management:

As part of its response to COVID-19 worst case scenario in Iraq, where there will be shortage in ventilators and personnel who know how to run them, Mercy Hands alliance launched a program to train physicians and other healthcare providers in Iraq on ventilator management especially in COVID-19 patients". The first training workshop was conducted in April 2, 2020, in Hilla, Babil governorate. We are planning to implement more training workshops in other governorates. The workshops are conducted in coordination with the Directorates of Health and the trainers are licensed Iraqi physicians who are certified ventilator management specialists.



Setting Up COVID-19 Isolation Centers:

As concerns mount of a potential 'catastrophic' COVID-19 outbreak in Iraq, Mercy Hands is setting up isolation centers close to IDP camps in Ninewa, Salah Al Din, and Anbar governorates, to decrease the spread of COVID-19 virus by isolating suspected and mild to moderate cases of COVID-19 from the rest of the community. These tents can be upgraded and turned into temporary hospitals, if the situation evolves into worst case scenario. The first isolation center is currently being set up at a location that was chosen by Ninewa governor, in south Mosul nearby a newly set up COVID-19 hospital.



Repairing Damaged Ventilators:

Our technical unit, which is made of smart and highly dedicated engineers, has taken on the challenge of helping the governorates by repairing ventilators to offset the short supply in hospitals. Armed with downloaded manuals and guided by lots of YouTube videos, they figured it out, and are already working on repairing machines. Mercy Hands is raising funds to order spare parts.

