

# SOOO COLD in Gaza!

By Dianne Monroe

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The following is an update on a family in Gaza that we have been following since April, 2024 (To Save a Life: Help*



Medhat's daughter Alma in her new winter coat

*Rolla Rescue Her Family from Gaza) when Dianne Monroe first wrote us about their situation.*

As this new year begins, it SOOO COLD in Gaza! The rain leaks

through the tents at night, as people are trying to sleep. There is bombing everywhere and no such thing as a "safe zone".

This is true for all of Gaza, including Rolla's 21-member family.

You have likely read about aid workers and journalists being shot and killed, infants dying of cold, hospitals destroyed with hospital directors and doctors taken away by the Israeli army.

Rolla's family tells her that food is extremely scarce and the prices are beyond imagination. There are very long lines, long waits, to get very basic food like flour or potatoes. People may wait from morning to evening. A can of beans, which used to cost \$5 or \$10, now costs \$30. Five pieces of firewood, for cooking or warmth, costs \$100 and lasts about a day.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all of you who have donated (some of you multiple times), to all who have shared this GoFundMe widely, and to all who have followed this story and held this family in your hearts.

TOGETHER, ALONG WITH OTHERS, we have and continue to give this family the GIFT OF LIFE! Even more, YOUR donations warm their hearts in this cold season of starvation and annihilation.

Please continue to donate, as you are able – or maybe donate for the first time – and share this GoFundMe everywhere: [bit.ly/gofundme-rolla](https://www.gofundme.com/rolla) And please, if possible, GIVE MONTHLY, whatever amount you are able to give. Regular contributions make a huge difference.

Above is a photo of Medhat's daughter Alma in her new winter coat. Below is a photo of Loay, Mamdouh's son, warming himself by a fire. These things, and more, are made possible by YOUR DONATIONS, ALONG WITH MANY OTHERS.

Many of you may recall that last April, Rolla went to Egypt to file the paperwork required to allow her family to leave Gaza. Then, on May 6, Israel invaded Rafah and closed the only way out – for everyone, including Rolla's family. Rolla has been told that her family should be among the first to enter Egypt, whenever Israel allows the border to open again.

10 You, along with the 3.3k others who have donated to this GoFundMe, are truly helping to KEEP THIS FAMILY ALIVE until that moment this is possible.

In spite of the overwhelming suffering and danger faced by



Rolla's nephew Loay enjoys a bit of warmth

this family (and all Gazans), they continue to find ways to help others.

Salem, who just turned 18, continues with his video work with Pal-Humanity, an internationally supported camp for families with special needs children, and with his own Instagram page documenting (in his words) "the beauty of the people of Gaza".

See links below:

[bit.ly/salem-instagram](https://bit.ly/salem-instagram) and [bit.ly/pal-instagram](https://bit.ly/pal-instagram)

Nour (daughter of Rolla's brother Musbah) and Narmeen (daughter of Rolla's brother Mamdouh) have been helping out with face-painting for children, offering them a moment of joy in the midst of devastation. (See photo of Narmeen below.)

I thank each and all of you for standing with the Alaydi family through this terrible time and into the future.

With gratitude and determined hope,

—Dianne Monroe and the whole Alaydi Family Support Team

BIO: *Dianne Monroe is a writer, photographer and experiential educator who live in San Antonio and was a member of Jump-Start Performance Co. from 1997 to 2011. She now lives in Sonoma County, California.*



Rolla's niece Narmeen face-painting children

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