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**Action Plan/ Smart Goals**

**Target Problem:** Children with special needs and illnesses who need a place to recover  
  
**Target Group:** Children with cancer  
  
**Project Title:** Wadi El Natroun. Made by the organization called Friends of Children with Cancer  
  
**GOAL:** To help create a child friendly and sustainable environment for patients to stay in during the recovery period after their frequent chemotherapy treatments.

Specific: To create a happy and healthy facility for children to come and relax after their treatment. We want them to feel special and loved and since they come from low income families, we want them to feel happy since part of recovery is psychological and to them, this would be like a vacation or camp in which they come to just be carefree and have fun.

Measurable: I will know when our goal has been achieved when I see radiant smiles on each child’s face. I want them to be happy no matter, this is a place where everyone is equal and everyone is loved no matter where they come from. The project has been developing for the past ten years but it will only take a couple of weeks or maybe even less for the kids to get used to the new environment and get to know each other. It won’t be long until they start making friends and begin to lighten up and have fun.

Achievable: Every child deserves to be happy no matter what, if they’re healthy or sick, if they’re disabled or not. My biggest goal is to put a smile on each one of those children’s face and assure them that everything will get better and they aren’t different than any other child in this world. It might be challenging at first because they will be arriving from governmental hospitals which are very poor, and it might be hard to get them out of their depression or sadness. We would love them to just forget all their worries and problems and just have pure fun. Also, another challenging thing is their care. These children require very specialized care because of their medicine, conditions, dietary needs, and psychological needs. Therefore, the projects needs employees who are good with children are responsible, and kind towards them. Nothing is impossible and anything and everything can be achieved in a matter of time.

Realistic: The goal is within our capability, and in fact has already been achieved because we worked with motivated and dedicated individuals who want to help sick children because nobody deserves what they are going through. There were many obstacles such as the distance of the facility, our busy schedules, and Egypt’s current security situation made it hard to go the facility as much we would’ve liked to. But we found ways to overcome these obstacles because we really cared about helping the innocent children; after all, they’re young children who deserve a special and memorable childhood like any other.

Timely: We didn’t have any specific times as deadlines because you can’t put happiness and comfort in terms of times and dates. We knew that it was going to be hard to take the children and make sure each one is happy and comfortable, but I was willing to spend as

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long as it takes for them to feel ‘at home’ as much as possible. On the other hand, we didn’t want it to take a long period of time because the faster the children arrive and breathe fresh air and eat freshly made food, the better they will recover psychologically and that is very important on the road to recovery from cancer.

**Smart Goal 1:** Prepare facility with basic needs for patients to live in such as assembling beds, providing each room with trash cans and furniture that was donated, and putting numbers on each little apartment to distinguish one from the other.  
  
**Smart Goal 2:** Register all employees by scanning their files and reading resumes for them to be able to work at the facility since they need trustworthy and experienced nurses and workers to take good care of the children.  
  
**Smart Goal 3:** Planting flowers and painting murals to make the facility look presentable and child friendly in order for children to think of it as a happy and fun environment rather than a treatment and recovery center.  
  
**Obstacles:**

* The facility is very far away (about an hour and a half)
* The hours conflict with the distance of the center because of school, sports, and other commitments and we needed to spend large amounts of time to travel there and back.
* Due to Egypt’s current situation, it was sometimes dangerous to drive the long distance and back since the facility is located on the highway to Alexandria.

**Tasks to Overcome Obstacles:**

* We left early in the morning, and spent most of the day there in order to save time, not drive back in the dark and spend many hours there to prepare the facility as much as we could so the children could start relocating out of the hospital as fast as they could.
* We found days of the week when we were free, and made plans ahead of time.
* The circumstances in Egypt didn’t stop us from working on the project, and we didn’t want to start a whole new project from scratch so we found ways to help the organization in various locations in Maadi and around Cairo.