

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY 2025

On the occasion of **World Children's Day**, on November 20, 2025, Caritas Morocco wished to remind, through a social media campaign, that **every child has the right to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment.**

"Protecting the youngest members of the human family is building a better world. Poverty and emergencies compromise education. Climate chaos compromises the future. And new dangers lurk online. Too many children already bear burdens far too heavy for their age, whether earning a living or caring for their siblings."

— Message from the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres (2025).

Across Morocco, some Caritas teams are actively implementing initiatives to welcome and support children from vulnerable families by providing spaces that help them grow.

ARTICLE 27 – RIGHT TO WELL-BEING AND DEVELOPMENT

At Caritas Oujda, the team works to ensure that **all children can grow up in an environment that protects their dignity and nourishes their future.**

At the Oujda parish, the creative space **"KUMI KUM"** has been welcoming young children for four years, particularly those whose mothers survive through street begging. The team—two nuns and a volunteer student—meet these women, listen to them, and offer a safe place where their children can spend three mornings a week playing, learning, and resting.



Volunteer in the KUMI KUM space

In this warm space, up to twelve children aged 1 to 4 experience an age-appropriate environment: a play area with books and building toys, and a music corner with songs in English, as some children are anglophone. They are then offered a shared breakfast, outdoor games in the garden, and a time for reading and listening to stories to conclude the morning.

This first learning experience then facilitates their entry into school and supports their overall development. The smiles, the *“I love you,”* and the *“See you tomorrow, inshallah!”* reflect the joy and sense of security these little ones feel.



Drawing made by a girl in Nador



ARTICLE 28 – RIGHT TO EDUCATION

In various regions of Morocco, **Caritas, in collaboration with local authorities and state institutions, humbly contributes every day to ensuring that children receive their right to quality education, regardless of their country of origin, socioeconomic status, or religion.**

In **Tangier**, Caritas supports vulnerable families so that their children can continue their schooling under good conditions, including **those with special educational needs requiring tailored and dignified attention.**

At Caritas **Taza**, the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus **organizes tutoring classes** at Dar-Salam, the “House of Peace,” **for young middle school students struggling in class and from families with limited resources.** For Adam and Anouar, two adolescents, this support was transformative:

Adam, 14 years old: *“I started in fourth grade, and I still remember the difficulties I had reading and writing in French and Arabic, not to mention other subjects like math, English, physics, or computer science. Thanks to these classes, I made great progress; I even became first in my school. During religious and national holidays, I learned their significance. I also discovered how to prepare desserts, set a dining table, and most importantly, how to build friendships with classmates and teachers.”*

Anouar, 13 years old: *“My mother enrolled me in these classes starting in third grade, and they helped me a lot in my educational journey. Last year, I won my school’s art competition. They were proud of me, and I am deeply grateful. I warmly thank Olga, our coordinator, and all the teachers for their kind welcome and patience. Thanks to their commitment, we progress every day in our learning. I also thank all the sisters and Caritas for the precious support they give us. Hamdoulilah.”*

ARTICLE 31 – RIGHT TO PLAY, REST, AND CULTURAL LIFE

Play, celebration, and cultural life are not privileges but fundamental children’s rights. **In a migratory context, where many families live in uncertainty, these spaces of joy and community are even more essential.**

In **Tangier**, Caritas **creates open family spaces:** creative workshops, games, prayer moments, celebrations, and shared snacks. Safe spaces where children and parents—often from different countries and cultures—can meet, rest, laugh, and **feel fully welcomed within a supportive community.**



Children celebrate their birthdays in Laâyoune

At Caritas Laâyoune, **children's birthdays are celebrated** monthly with a cake, songs, dances, and games. **A simple but profoundly meaningful moment** for these children and their mothers in mobility. A calm celebration, free of worries, allowing everyone to create beautiful memories together. By supporting the right to play and cultural participation, **Caritas contributes to the well-being, balance, and happiness of childhood, even far from one's country of origin.**

Because every child has the right to learn, grow, and dream, Caritas Morocco, in collaboration with local authorities and state institutions, stands humbly alongside the most vulnerable families to help ensure that their children can access their rights.

