

## **Aldar Partners with Dubai Cares to Empower 10,000 Children with Essential School Kits**

- Aldar commits AED 1 million to support students from low-income families in the UAE ahead of the 2024/25 school year

**Dubai, UAE – 8 July 2024:** Aldar Properties (“Aldar”) is contributing AED 1 million to a new partnership with Dubai Cares that will provide 10,000 children from low-income families across the UAE with school kits ahead of the 2024/25 academic year.

In line with Aldar’s commitment to create societal value, the partnership will bring Dubai Cares’ ‘Back to School’ edition of Volunteer Emirates to Abu Dhabi for the first time. Established in 2009, the initiative has enjoyed huge success in the UAE and is a staple community engagement initiative by Dubai Cares, part of Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives.

The collaboration will mobilise volunteers, including 100 Aldar employees, to assemble essential school kits to be distributed to students from low-income families across the UAE before the start of the new school term. The volunteering event will take place on 23 August 2024.

**Faisal Falaknaz, Aldar’s Group Chief Financial and Sustainability Officer,** commented: “Every child deserves access to quality education, along with the tools they need to learn and develop. As a community-focused developer, and owner-operator of schools, we are dedicated to breaking down barriers to education, particularly for underprivileged children, and are proud to support Dubai Cares in its “Back to School” initiative for 2024.”

**Abdulla Ahmed Alshehhi, Chief Operating Officer at Dubai Cares,** added: “Providing less privileged students with essential school kits not only enhances their learning experience but also alleviates the financial burden on their families. The power of community solidarity and volunteering is instrumental in advancing the noble cause of ensuring every child has access to quality education. We are grateful for Aldar’s generous support and unwavering commitment to positively impacting the lives of children through this initiative.”

Aldar takes a comprehensive approach to sustainability and community outreach with the aim to improve quality of life and foster wellbeing. The company supports a range of community focused initiatives, including programmes that enrich the

educational experience of students from low-income families. Most notably, Aldar's Thrive scholarship programme has sponsored almost 50 students to attend Aldar Education schools since its launch in 2022.

Dubai Cares is a UAE-based global philanthropic organisation that is working towards providing children and youth in developing countries with access to quality education. To date, the organization has reached over 24 million beneficiaries in 60 developing countries. Dubai Cares is also committed to fostering community engagement in the UAE and mobilising individuals and organisations through diverse fundraising, volunteering, and community outreach initiatives. Through its 'Back to School' edition of Volunteer Emirates, it has supported 295,850 direct beneficiaries since 2009.

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#### **About Aldar**

Aldar is the leading real estate developer, manager, and investor in Abu Dhabi, with a growing presence across the United Arab Emirates, the Middle East and North Africa, and Europe. The company has two core business segments, Aldar Development and Aldar Investment.

Aldar Development is a master developer of a 69 million sqm strategic landbank, creating integrated and thriving communities across Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Ras Al Khaimah's most desirable destinations. The delivery of Aldar's developments is managed by Aldar Projects, which is also a key partner of the Abu Dhabi government in delivering housing and infrastructure projects across the UAE's capital. Internationally, Aldar Development wholly owns UK real estate developer London Square, as well as a majority stake in leading Egyptian real estate development company, SODIC.

Aldar Investment houses a core asset management business comprising a portfolio of more than AED 37 billion worth of investment grade and income-generating real estate assets diversified across retail, residential, commercial, logistics, and hospitality segments. It manages four core platforms: Aldar Investment Properties, Aldar Hospitality, Aldar Education, and Aldar Estates.

For more information on Aldar please visit [www.aldar.com](http://www.aldar.com) or follow us on:



#### **About Dubai Cares**

Since its inception in 2007, Dubai Cares, part of Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives, has been working towards providing children and youth in developing countries with access to quality education through the design and funding of programs that aim to be impactful, sustainable and

scalable. To date, the UAE-based global philanthropic organization has successfully launched education programs reaching over 24 million beneficiaries in 60 developing countries.

Dubai Cares plays a key role in helping achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, which aims to ensure inclusive and quality education for all, and promote lifelong learning by 2030, by supporting programs in early childhood development, access to quality primary and secondary education, technical and vocational education and training for youth as well as a particular focus on education in emergencies and protracted crises. Moreover, Dubai Cares adopts a strategic approach to improve student enrollment and learning outcomes through an integrated school health and nutrition model that is made up of school-based deworming activities, school feeding, and WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) in schools.

Dubai Cares is a civil society organization formally associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications (UN DGC), as well as a registered non-government organization under IACAD, the charitable activities regulator in Dubai. The UAE-based global philanthropic organization is authorized to raise funds through direct donations and fundraising campaigns, as well as process all permit approvals with IACAD.

Volunteerism is a powerful tool to Dubai Cares in order to engage people in tackling development challenges. Dubai Cares rallies the UAE wider community through a large spectrum of volunteering and awareness initiatives that are linked to its global mandate.

To learn more, please visit [www.dubaicarees.ae](http://www.dubaicarees.ae)