



Newsletter

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The Way to Peace and Development



Beit Atfal Assumoud newsletter is published monthly by the National Institution of social Care and Vocational Training. Each letter is issued to circulate information about the work and activities of the institution and its centers over the course of the month. We have been working on providing services for Palestinian refugees living in the camps of Lebanon for 39 years.

About Beit Atfal Assumoud

Beit Atfal Assumoud is a national, humanitarian and secular nonprofit organization that aims to contribute to the development of the Palestinian community in Lebanon through services addressing the needs of the families, and through various gender-balanced projects empowering the potentials and skills of the children, youth, women and parents or guardians.

“It isn't enough only to talk about peace and community development. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it”

BAS believes and works always on improving and developing the community as it always looks for peace, justice, independence and right of return!

BAS would like to share with you its listed activities performed during December to move ahead towards peace and development.

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Family Happiness Project

HELLO 2016!

Hello Christmas, Hello 2016, Hello sponsors! We are the children of BAS; we designed by ourselves greeting cards on the Christmas and New Year occasions thanking you for your generous and continuous support. Because of your care, we haven't felt lonely any more, and we haven't felt inferior. You are an important part in our life that we can't deny. Thank you so much for lightening our way and giving us part of our rights. .

Successful Evaluation

As we became closer to the New Year and as new plans are going to be prepared for the year 2016, BAS centers organized evaluation meetings with the mothers involved in the activities of the Family Happiness Project during December. The meetings were very useful to get the feedback from the mothers. Fortunately, the results were positive and the mothers expressed their trust towards the institution, and this means that the project will continue for the year 2016 with more activities, more awareness sessions and more success.



Awareness Sessions and Workshops

Family Happiness Project seeks to ensure the mothers' awareness as part of its main activities. It works on changing their destination by assigning awareness sessions and workshops on monthly basis.

Beirut centers (Shatila, Mar Elias and Burj Barajneh) organized awareness sessions for the mothers that tackled different topics including "The positive energy, ensuring the right nutrition for babies according to their ages, Diabetes, etc...) In addition, Mar Elias center organized a workshop for a group of mothers and taught them how to make jams.



Learn & Have Fun

Mothers Awareness Sessions

Burj Barajneh center organized an awareness session for the mothers of KG and remedial education children on December 10th. The session informed the mothers about the healthy nutrition for the children during the first year of their life.



They enjoyed such trips!

Burj Shemali center took the remedial education children to Tyre Public Park on December 4th & 26th.



Burj Barajneh center accompanied the KG children, remedial education children and the children with special needs to a Public Park in Beirut on December 5th & 29th.

Pantomime Show

24 KG children from Nahr El Bared center attended the pantomime show played by "Kahraba Group" in Al Quds sports club in Beddawi camp on December 8th. The show was sponsored by the Welfare association.



Music Workshops

Al Sabeel music Band from Ramallah-Palestine gave training to the music band of Beit Atfal Assumoud in Burj Shemali center on December 25th.



Within the cultural exchange program, Mr. Vegar Storsve and Mrs. Brit Agot Broske Danielsen from the Norwegian Academy of Music-NORWAC attended Rashidieh center on December 4th & 5th. They organized music workshop trainings for the music children and trainers of BAS.



Towards a Better Health



Dental Care Festival

Nahr El Bared center organized a dental care festival in cooperation with BAS dental care project and in coordination with the Welfare association on December 19th. 150 children from different kindergartens participated in the festival including Al Najdah and Ghassan Kanafani organizations. The festival included different educational and recreational activities, in addition to distribution of toothpastes and toothbrushes.

Treatments & Awareness Sessions

904 children from BAS and other KG in the camps and 52 drop-outs children received dental treatment in BAS dental clinics during December.

554 children and 60 mothers received awareness sessions on topics that tackled dental care and dental hygiene issues.



Pediatrics

281 children received treatment by the Pediatrician Dr. Sameh Jaber in Nahr El Bared center during December.

13 mothers attended the awareness session that tackled the proper use of medicines and the effect of their misuse on December 4th.



Mental Health

MARS-Paris

BAS participated in the first partner's meetings of the "Music and Resilience Support" (MARS) represented by the coordinator of the Mental Health Program Ms. Lilian Younes. The meeting was held at UNESCO-Paris on December 8th & 9th discussing the organizational aspects of the project's implementation.



The session was organized in cooperation with the Welfare association-Lebanon on protecting the children from drugs.

18 mothers from FGC Saïda participated in the session organized on December 21st tackling the breast cancer disease and the tests that should be done.



Training on ADOS

The second part of the training on the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) organized and supported by Santé Sud organization has been completed by Dr. Yves Bernaud from France. 9 professionals from the Family Guidance Centers (FGCs) attended the training at FGC Beirut which focused on the implementation of ADOS. Video recorded sessions have been visualized and evaluated by the trainer and the group.



Recreational Activities

FGC El Buss, Beddawi and Nahr El Bared organized recreational activities supported by Santé Sud organization-France in participation with children and parents benefiting from the services provided by the center. The activities were organized on December 18th & 29th.



Awareness Sessions

31 mothers participated in the awareness session organized by FGC El Buss in Burj Shemali center within the project "Empower Marginalized Communities in South Lebanon" on December 9th.

Santé Sud organization invited 24 mothers and 26 children who are benefiting from the FGC Nahr El Bared to lunch on December 29th. The lunch was held in the Five Stars restaurant in Beddawi camp.

Reproductive Health

Peer Education Program



Residential Workshop

In coordination with MAP organization, BAS organized a residential workshop from December 26th till 29th in the Association for Forests, Development and Conservation (AFDC) within the Reproductive Health and Peer Education program. The workshop was organized in participation with youth peer educators from all the centers of BAS and from all the Palestinian camps. It tackled different topics related to conflict resolution, bullying and anger management.

Awareness Sessions

BAS centers organized monthly awareness sessions targeting different age groups in the Palestinian community. It is very important to follow the people in the community and increase their awareness concerning misconceptions on different real issues.

International Day of AIDS

On the occasion of the International Day of AIDS, Rashidieh center organized a special full day program with useful activities on December 13th. The program targeted adolescents and youth who are in the age of being able to deviate.



Events

Early Childhood

As part of the Early Childhood program supported by the Welfare association-Lebanon, 26 children aged 5 years old from Rashidieh center participated in the open day organized by Ghassan Kanafani Kindergarten on December 3rd. The children enjoyed the recreational activities including drawing on faces, theater show, educational movies, outdoor activities and distribution of gifts.



International Charity Bazar

BAS participated in the International Charity Bazaar 2015 by presenting its Palestinian embroidery works products in a special corner at Phoenicia Hotel-Grand Ballroom on December 6th. The participation aimed at showing the uniqueness of respective countries and culture. This way would certainly make the bazaar exclusive and attractive.



Donations

Ba'albek center distributed fuel for heating on 700 Palestinian refugees and hardship cases families from Syria and Lebanon under the support of Japan Platform/CCP-Japan.

Japan Platform/CCP-Japan also is worth to be thanked for donating winter clothing for 994 KG and remedial education children in all BAS centers.



For Christmas, and for the sixth year, the Palestinian Children's Initiative organization distributed presents on all the kindergarten children including the Palestinian Syrian children on December 2nd.



First Intifada

The civil organizations in Burj Barajneh camp commemorated the first Intifada on December 12th in the Palestinian Arab Center sponsored by the ambassador of Palestine in Lebanon Mr. Ashraf Dabbour. A photos and painting exhibition was organized, and BAS had a special corner in the exhibition where it shared its embroidery works.



Relationships

General Directors Meetings

Mr. Kassem Aina welcomed the Ambassador of Japan in Lebanon his Excellency Mr. Seiichi Otsuka in BAS main office on December 12th. They spent their time discussing the situation of Palestinian people in Lebanon.

In addition, he met Mrs. Kristil Haraldstad, the program coordinator from NORWAC and discussed the workflow of the common projects.



Annual Conference-Cairo

By the invitation of ANND, BAS General Director Mr. Kassem Aina participated in the annual conference “The Development Agenda in the Arab Countries beyond 2015” organized by the Arab Administrative Development Organization sponsored by the Arab League. The conference was held in the Intercontinental Hotel-Cairo from December 15th till 17th.

Reunion Meeting

BAS organized a reunion meeting with some orphans who lost their parents in Tal Al Zaatar massacre in 1976, and who were living in the house of BAS the massacre. The meeting was held in Mar Elias center on December 27th in the presence of BAS president Dr. Najla Bashour and the General Director Mr. Kassem Aina. The meeting was the first step to activate the relation between all the orphans who were children and became parents thanks to the efforts of the father Mr. Kassem Aina. Regular meetings are going to be held from time to time to gather all the orphans in their house “BAS”.



Interviews

Al Quds TV conducted an interview with a social worker from Beddawi center on December 5th discussing the role of the Palestinian woman in supporting Al Intifada.

Two journalists from Perdana Global Peace foundation conducted interviews with the General Director Mr. Kassem Aina and with the centers’ directors of BAS in Shatila and Burj Barajneh centers on December 24th. They got information about the services provided by BAS and they visited Palestinian refugees families displaced from Syria, and made a tour in the camps.

Visitors

A delegation from Estonia was accompanied by BAS General Director Mr. Kassem Aina to BAS centers in the Southern area (Burj Shemali, Rashidieh, and El Buss) on December 29th. They made a tour in all the centers and they were so happy to know about the services provided by the institution and the implemented activities.



Happy 2016



We all said farewell to 2015 and welcomed 2016 hoping that the new one would be full of love, happiness and good deeds.

On Behalf of BAF family, we wish you and all the countries a happy and peaceful new year. We hope that freedom and justice would spread all over the world to stop the war atrocities surrounding us.

Special greeting goes to Palestine hoping to celebrate and enjoy the next year in its holy land.

Kassem Aina