

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF SOCIAL CARE & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

BEIT ATFAL ASSUMOUD



ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT 2019

INTRODUCTION

A chain of unprecedented events and chaos marked 2019 as a year of turmoil and struggle. Several life-changing events took place around the world sparked a series of unforeseen circumstances that we continue to deal with. Several countries witnessed an explosion of protests and demonstrations demanding radical change.

In Lebanon, people took off to the streets in October 2019 demanding a change in what they considered a corrupt political and economic system, which deprived the middle and poorer classes from major benefits. This has led to the drastic inflation of the Lebanese currency affecting mainly the vulnerable population. Though events affected the Lebanese society, yet the Palestinian refugees suffered the most. The government issued a crackdown on businesses hiring foreign workers without permits, as well as set forth the law that required issuing special work permits. Consequently, Lebanese business owners became discouraged from hiring Palestinian employees, and even drove them to lay off those who were already employed. Hundreds and thousands of Palestinian breadwinners in single-income families were and continue to be affected, as they are dependent on these jobs to provide basic needs for their families' survival.

Palestinians in Lebanon are already barred from working in more than 20 professions, and the enforced labor laws limited their options even more. Two-thirds of Palestinian refugees are considered poor or extremely poor, with a high rate of unemployment, which will only keep rising if no action is taken. Although Beit Atfal Assumoud took numerous measures to help these families, yet more support is required to sustain their living.



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MESSAGES



DR. MUNA KHALIDI
Vice President

2019 was a year of challenges and opportunities for us at BAS, and for our Mental Health Program in particular. The additional restrictions on the employment of Palestinian refugees on one hand, and the Lebanese uprising on the other, have worsened the Palestinians' living conditions, strongly affecting the mental health of adults and children.

As an organization, our five mental health teams have been ready with intervention programs. We continued to provide high quality medical, educational, and community services, reaching out to more families.

2019 was also the year we took our Program up to the next level. A Program Coordinator has been appointed to keep track of progress on both the technical and administrative facets, and ensure that a well-planned strategy is implemented.

It has been a year of ups and downs! Yet we've risen to the challenge. As our commitment towards the community remains unwavering, we will continue to provide services and respond to emerging needs. Thanks to our dedicated staff and partners.



KASSEM AINA
General Director

It is the time we take a moment to look back at past year's accomplishments. We celebrate successful achievements, and identify areas of which we can meet the needs of our people in a better way. This letter comes at a period of key transitions in the country. You'll see, as you review this annual report, that last year we have accomplished a number of initiatives proposed because of input from our community.

Concurrently, we have spent a great deal of time working on the future, to ensure that we will be there to serve our people well.

The upcoming year remains an uninterrupted continuation of our work, yet it is always a new beginning. Amidst these political, social, and financial difficulties, we hold on to our mission of not only lessening the sufferings of our people and other refugees, but also reinforcing their resilience and empowering them to face the challenges of the period.

As you read this annual report, we hope it will remind you of our recent successes and motivate you for the future. For those of you who have tirelessly committed time and energy to the success of this organization, I dearly thank you.



JAMILEH SHEHADEH
Senior Social Worker

Beit Atfal Assumoud has been an actual home that embraced orphans, disadvantaged families, and socially hardship cases since 1976. BAS became my own safe home and my family in 1984, when my volunteer friends and I needed a guiding hand to organize the support we extended to our people. There came BAS to lighten up our path and lead us to provide meaningful aid through organized structures. We felt protected and became stronger. BAS motivated us towards empowering the Palestinian refugee children & community to build a better future, with dignity, respect, and the love of Palestine. It continues this mission in upbringing leaders until we achieve the Return to Palestine.

Dear supporting friends,
We possess a firm will and strong deep hope in a confident and educated generation, our agent of change, who will build a better community that aspires to return to Palestine. We owe this to all our friends who never siezed to support us.

2019 IN NUMBERS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	TOT	PRL	PRS	SR	LB
Children enrolled in the kindergarten	519	77%	7%	13%	3%
Children enrolled in the remedial classes	531	48%	25%	26%	1%
Youth benefited from the vocational training program	262	81%	11%	4%	4%
Scholarship (university and vocational)	81	99%	1%	-	-
Drop-out children benefited from specific classes	35	-	-	100%	-
Special Needs Classes - Children	34	56%	23%	21%	-
HEALTH PROGRAM					
Dental Education, Screening, and Treatment (6 clinics) - 3-6 yrs	13767	68%	14%	16%	2%
Dental Screening, and Treatment - 7-18 yrs, Mothers & Adults	6519	74%	12%	10%	4%
New patients received at the 5 mental health clinics	723	55%	5%	23%	17%
Number of beneficiaries at the 5 mental health clinics	1327	54%	5%	23%	18%
Cases benefited from 5 reproductive health clinics	3949	74%	5%	19%	2%
Children benefited from pediatric clinic in Nahr El-Bared	4182	89%	7%	1%	3%
Children participated in psychosocial support - 3 centers	2981	94%	3%	2%	1%
Parents participated in psychosocial support - 3 centers	1385	92%	5%	2%	1%
Beneficiaries participated in peer education program - 6 Centers	1945	79%	16%	4%	1%
FAMILY HAPPINESS PROJECT					
Sponsored children	1036	90%	9%	1%	-
Sponsored elderlies	37	97%	3%	-	-
Sponsored children participated in psychosocial activities	481	91%	7%	1%	1%
Sponsored caregivers participated in psychosocial activities	206	90%	10%	-	-
Mothers benefited from non-formal education activities	103	81%	19%	-	-
Sponsored children referred to special educational schools & institutions (MSN project)	164	79%	3%	17%	1%
Sponsored children received medical assistance from their sponsors	83	60%	2%	29%	9%
Sponsored KG children	485	85%	3%	10%	2%
CULTURAL PROGRAM					
Embroidery Production Project - Women	94	97%	-	3%	-
Scout Groups - Children	371	82%	16%	1%	1%
Sports Teams - Children	220	82%	12%	5%	1%
Dabke Groups - Children	152	90%	9%	1%	-
Musical Bands and Choral Groups	470	86%	9%	2%	3%
Summer Activities and Camps	3790	79%	16%	4%	1%
IN-KIND DISTRIBUTIONS					
Diesel Fuel Distributions for Families in Baalbeck, Bar Elias, West and Middle Beqaa	1508	5%	95%	-	-
Food Portion and Hygiene Kits	6145	15%	83%	1%	1%
Winter Clothing and Shoes Distribution - KG and Learning Support Children	599	84%	5%	8%	3%
Educational Gifts - KG Children	690	85%	5%	7%	3%
Japanese Dream Bags - KG Children	4000	75%	10%	11%	4%

FAMILY SUPPORT

"Never miss an opportunity to put a smile on someone's face."

Arabic Proverb

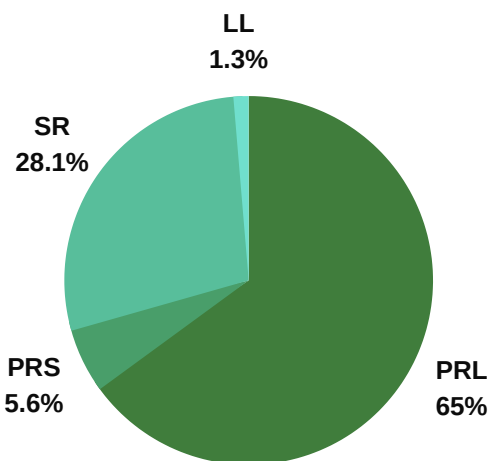


MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

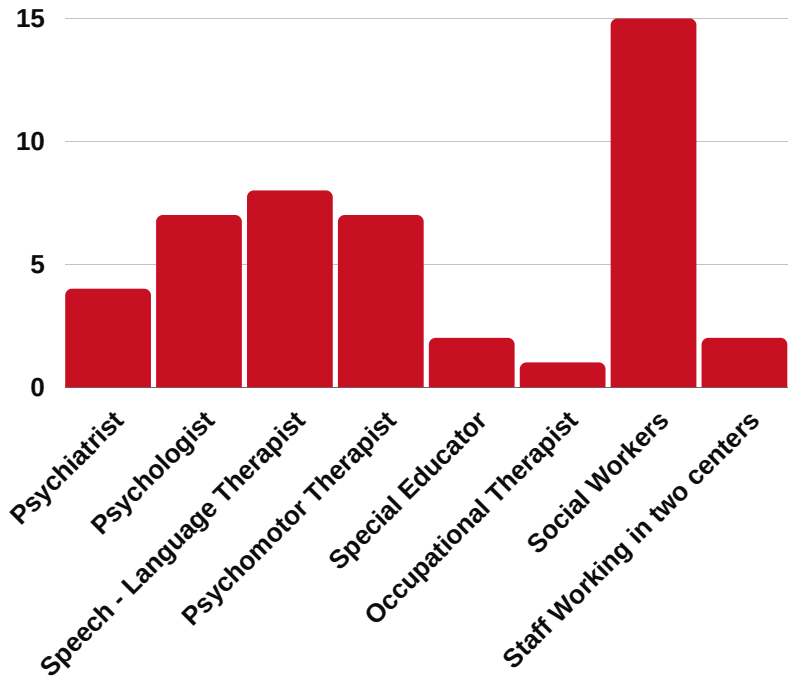
The Mental Health Program of NISCVT started with the establishment of the first specialized Family Guidance Center (FGC) in Beirut. It aims at providing evidence-based high quality mental health prevention and intervention services for Palestinian refugee children and their caregivers. Since then, the program expanded to 5 specialized centers, a large multi-disciplinary team of highly skilled professionals including psychiatrists, psychotherapists, speech-language therapists, psychomotor therapists, occupational therapists and community workers.



CAMP	VISITORS	MALE	FEMALE
Beddawi	200	133	67
Beirut	458	287	171
Al Buss	284	203	81
Nahr el Bared	207	143	64
Saida	178	120	58

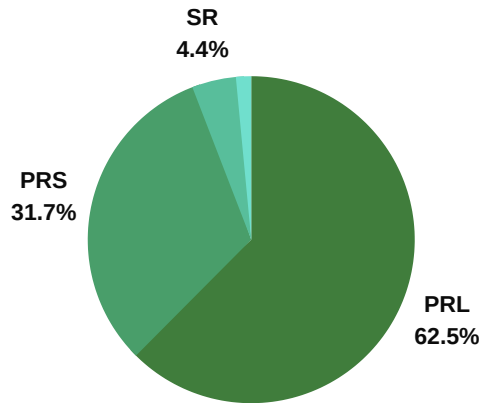


Our Services and Staff



SOCIAL SERVICES & SUPPORT

For social work department this program is considered as a key to pass by in order to access all family members, to intervene professionally, and to provide needed services such as psychological, social, medical, economic and educational levels by using facilities that they have through their local networks and connections.



- Rehabilitation of Palestinian minors in conflict with the law: Role of social worker
- Concepts in social work
- Specialized intervention with drug addicts inside Palestinian camps in Lebanon: forms, causes and needs
- Specialized intervention with drug addicts inside Palestinian camps in Lebanon: skills
- Crime and delinquency among Palestinian youth
- Masculinities and gender issues

**29
SOCIAL
WORKERS
13 TRAINING
SESSIONS**

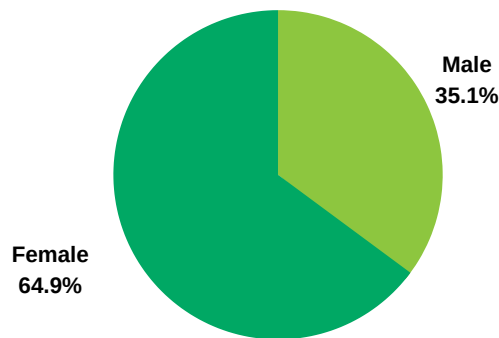


FAMILY HAPPINESS PROGRAM

Family Happiness Program - Sponsored Elderly

The Elderly Sponsorship Program supports the older generation of our community. Living conditions in the camps present many challenges to the elderly where they face issues such as social isolation, depression, along with other threats to their health and well-being. In order to meet their needs, NISCVT started the project in January 2014 with generous assistance from sponsors in the **Finnish Arab Friendship Society** (FAFS). Our priority is to extend our love, provide them with support, and integrate them within the community through cultural and recreational activities.

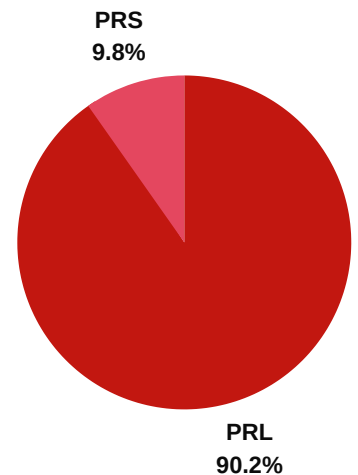
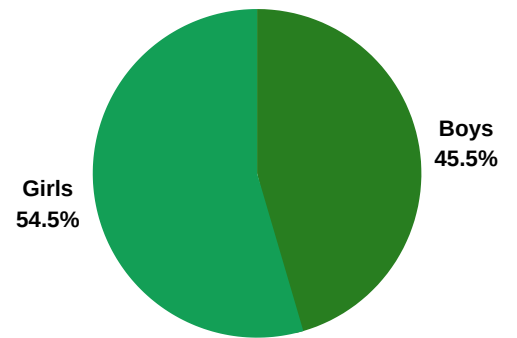
CAMP	NUMBER OF ELDERLY	MALE	FEMALE
Burj al Barajneh	7	2	5
Shatila	9	2	7
Ain el Hilweh	5	1	4
Baalback	8	4	4
Burj al Shemali	8	4	4



Family Happiness Program - Sponsored Children and Families

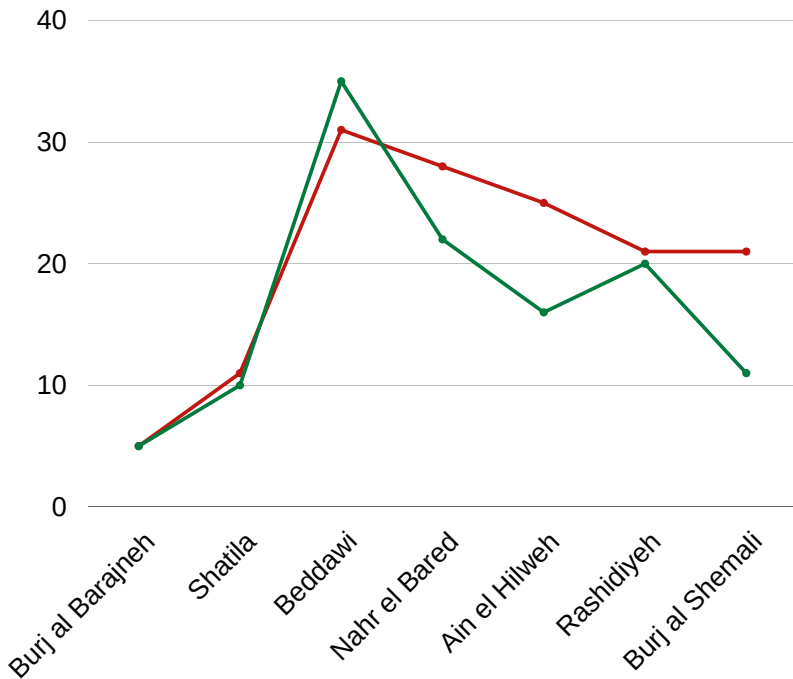
The Family Happiness Project was launched in 1983 to support children (orphans and hardship cases) when parental care was missed, and essential needs not met. The project provides monthly financial aid for each sponsored child and offers a margin of protection and guidance for its beneficiaries. Moreover, it provides social, health, and educational services to beneficiaries, and implements frequent visits to sponsored children and families by our dedicated staff of social workers to help them address the unique challenges they face.

RANGE OF AGE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
0 - 6 years	110	55	191
7 - 12 years	415	187	223
13 - 15 years	234	115	119
16 - 18 years	171	74	85
18 years and above	106	49	58



Family Happiness Program - KG Sponsored Children

Under the slogan "Contribute to send a Palestinian Child to a KG", we received a kind support in 2019 from various sponsors in different countries (Switzerland, Germany, Finland and USA). The Kindergarten Sponsorship program still provides children, ages 3-6, with a strong, nurturing foundation for their education in our camp centers. With the support of our sponsors, we gave our young refugee children the tools to succeed in their future, and empower them to develop and mature at a critical stage of their childhood. Our kindergartens are an integral facet of camp communities, and need ongoing support to fulfill their mission.



236
Children

119 BOYS

117 GIRLS

KG SPONSORSHIP BY COUNTRY

Finland	31
Germany	162
Switzerland	125
USA	14

NUMBER OF SPONSORED KG CHILDREN



HEALTH PROGRAMS

"It is health that is real wealth, and not pieces of gold and silver."

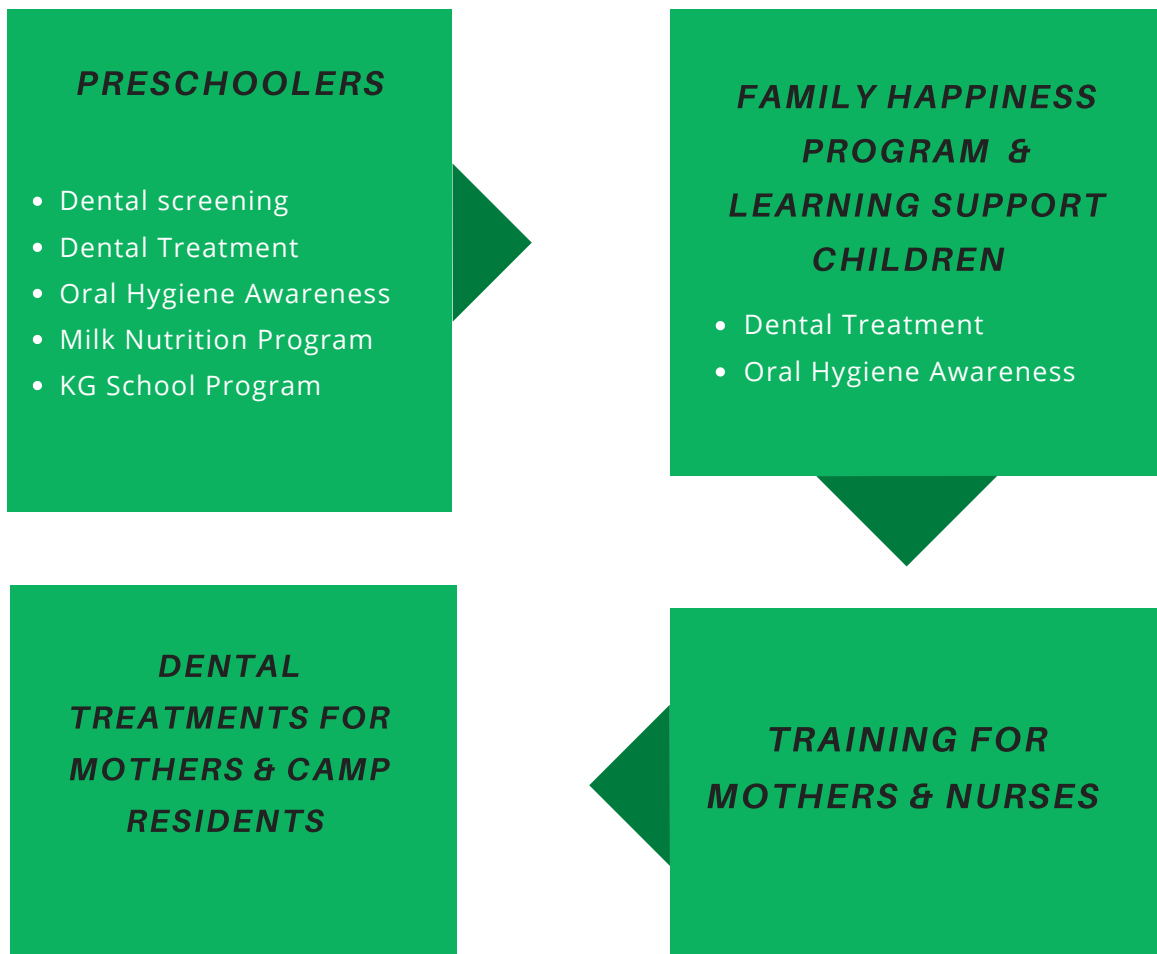
Mahatma Gandhi



DENTAL CLINICS

NISCVT is committed to provide dental care to all in need, particularly children. During early childhood and teen years, children experience the majority of their oral development and acquire the habits that will shape their adult lives. We strive to provide them with the dental care and education needed to achieve lifelong dental health. Strengthening the body's natural defenses and oral health care, such as daily brushing and flossing, help keep bacteria under control. Without proper oral care, bacteria cause oral infections, such as gum disease and tooth decay.

EIGHT DENTAL CLINICS provide the following services:

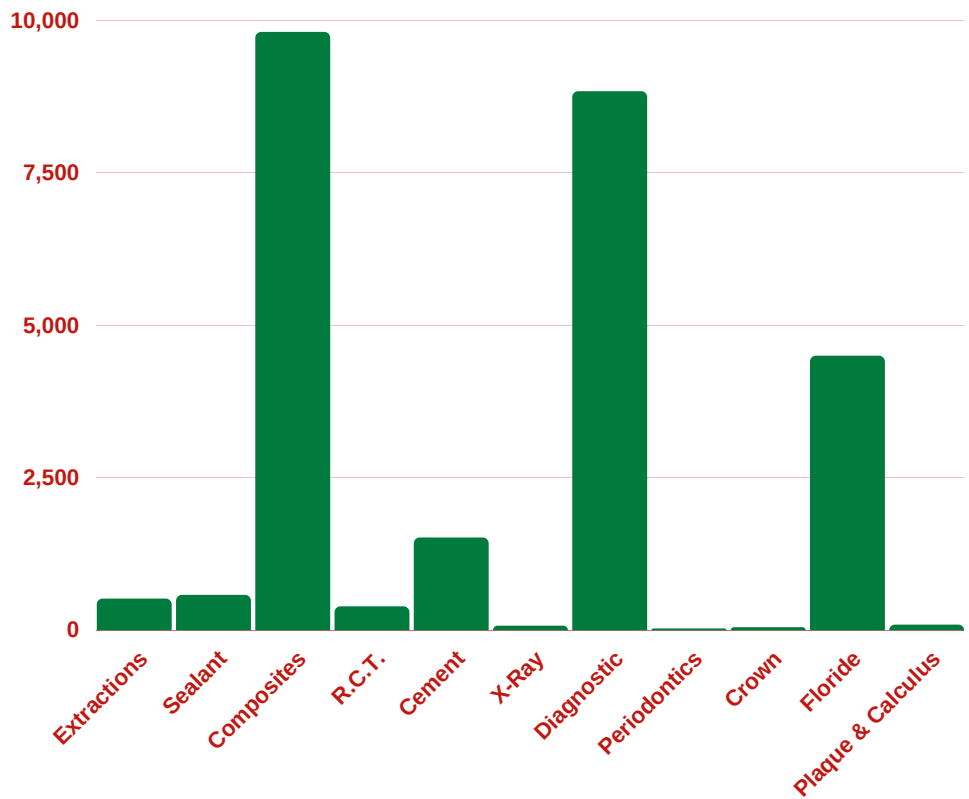


Kindergarten School Program - Dental Screening

	BEIRUT (3 CAMPS)	SOUTH (3 CAMPS)	NORTH (2 CAMPS)	TOTAL
Number of Children	1908	2701	3216	7867
Female	952	1362	11610	3949
Male	956	1339	11606	3921
Treated Teeth	1767	2239	3530	7531
Untreated Teeth	3506	2381	6528	12415
No extractions Needed	274	853	6013	7140



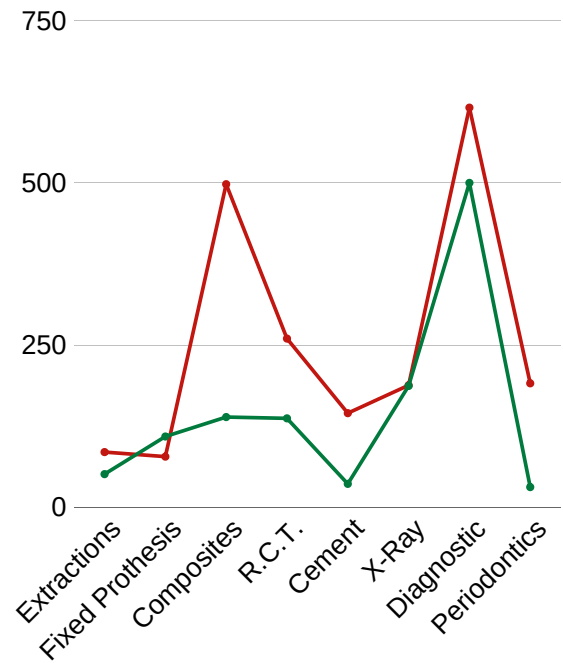
Kindergarten School Program - Treatment



Dental Health Care - Mothers, Staff and Camp Residents

**2,061
TREATMENTS
FOR MOTHERS
AND STAFF**

**1,190
TREATMENTS
FOR CAMPS'
RESIDENTS**



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Our Services



5 CLINICS

6,052
BENEFICIARIES

SERVICES	PARTICIPANTS	FEMALE	MALE
Urologic	1609	709	900
OBS/GYN	1885	1885	--
Counseling	3494	2594	900
A. Session	188	--	--
Participants	2558	2135	423
Pap Smear	110	110	--
Echo	2740	--	--

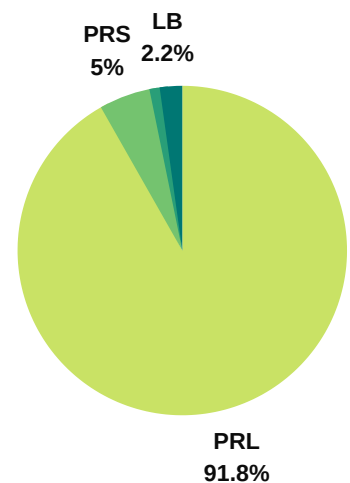


PEDIATRIC CLINIC

The Pediatric clinic was founded in the Nahr Al Bared center in January 2012, with the support of the Palestinian expatriate Dr. Mahmoud Lubani, residing in Canada. The clinic provides medical care for children as well as counseling and health awareness sessions for caregivers.

The Pediatric clinic is unique in terms of its free services and is the only one available in the camp and the surrounding area.

RANGE OF AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
0 - 1 month	1251	1133	2384
2 months - 3 years	924	767	1691
3 - 5 years	37	34	41
6 - 10 years	4	4	8
11 - 14 years	17	11	28



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

"Start seeking knowledge from the cradle up to the grave."

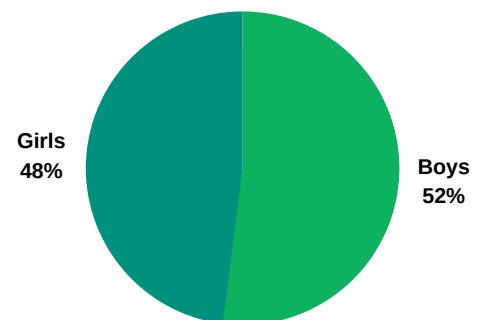
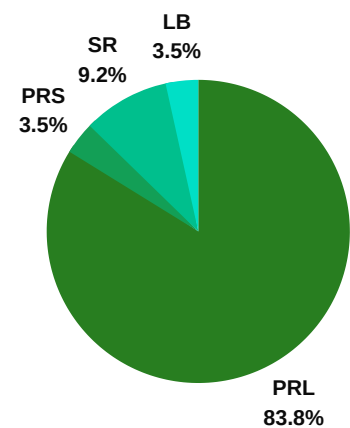
Arabic Proverb



KINDERGARTEN

Our Preschoolers in Numbers

CAMP	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	NATIONALITIES
Burj al Barajneh	75	120 SR
Shatila	78	32 PRL - 11 PRS
Ain el Hilweh	74	37 PRL - 2 PRS
Beddawi	68	35 PRL - 11 PRS - 20 SR
Nahr el Bared	75	50 PRL - 2 PRS - 2 SR
Rashidiyeh	75	46 PRL - 14 PRS
Burj al Shemali	74	35 PRL - 26 PRS



Support ECED Project by UNICEF – Taawon

UNICEF continues supporting Early Childhood Education Development program in collaboration with Taawon. Each kindergarten is responsible to organize networking activities and awareness sessions while collaborating with local NGOs.



On November 24th 2018, BAS KG in Burj al Shemali Camp conducted an information session on the use of electronic devices effects on children's development and well-being. 80 care providers of parents, caregivers and educators learned about the hazards that can reach the children by the extensive use of electronic devices.

Through network collaboration, 310 of BAS KG children enjoyed watching the “Kello Min Al-Zaybak” stage play in mid April 2019. The children expressed their joy and learning from this educational play as well as the trip outside the camps, as their parents reported.



On April 11th 2019, Ms. Loyal Khalifeh, the psychologist in our Family Guidance Center in Saida, held an educational session in *effective ways to shape children's undesired behavior*. Caregivers and mothers of the kindergarten and learning support program benefited from the opportunity to discuss their concerns.

Rehabilitation Project

A number of BAS kindergarten venues in different camps underwent major renovations during the past scholastic year 2018-2019. The works completed were part of the agreed plan of the “Support to ECED –UNICEF – Taawon” project.

BEFORE

AFTER

Enlarging the classroom - Beddawi KG



Rehabilitation of toilet cabinets - Burj Al-Shemali KG

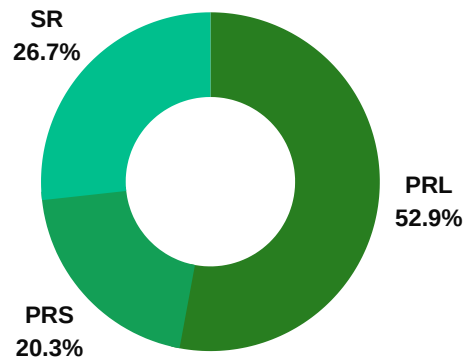
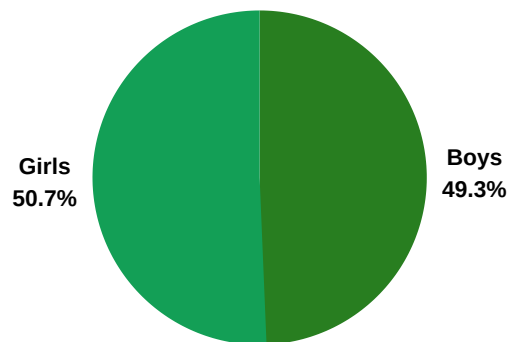


LEARNING SUPPORT CLASSES

A Brighter Future

NISCVT has been offering learning support classes to the Palestinian refugees in eight camps for more than ten years. As a result of the Syrian crisis, the Syrian and Palestinian-Syrian children were integrated within the project. Opening drop-out classes for the recent vulnerable refugee children has been an additional action to embrace those who didn't have the opportunity to attend schools, and yet they are in need for protection and formal education.

Our learning support teachers focus on the provision of supplementary teaching to children who require additional help. They work with them in groups inside the single classroom, where children gather from different UNRWA schools having different homework assignments.



Learning Support Classes Students

A total of 531 male and female children enrolled in the Learning Support classes in 2019. The chart below shows the distribution of children, by nationalities, in the centers.

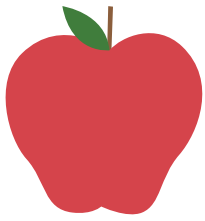
CAMP	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	NATIONALITIES
Burj al Barajneh	120	120 SR
Shatila	43	32 PRL – 11 PRS
Ain el Hilweh	39	37 PRL – 2 PRS
Wavel	88	46 PRL – 42 PRS
Beddawi	66	35 PRL – 11 PRS – 20 SR
Nahr el Bared	54	50 PRL – 2 PRS – 2 SR
Rashidiyeh	60	46 PRL – 14 PRS
Burj al Shemali	61	35 PRL – 26 PRS

The educators work towards achieving specific goals:

- Supporting UNRWA students in accomplishing successful results;
- Helping children to overcome learning challenges; and
- Decreasing the number of drop-out students in the refugee communities.

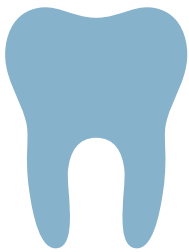


In our kindergartens, we provide:



Healthy meals on daily basis

Social workers' monitoring and follow-up



Free Dental Treatments

Gifts and in-kind distributions



Structured sports activities and teams

Various cognitive & recreational activities



Cultural heritage promotion activities

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

NISCVT vocational education aims at setting up accelerated courses that are compatible with the labor market requirements. The courses offered at NISCVT centers are covered within 4-6 months in which youth, aged 15-25 years, attain their certificates. Through partnerships, NISCVT provides scholarships for a number of youth to graduate with nursing degrees and other specializations from private vocational institutions. The project is a practical opportunity for dropout students, and those who are unable to afford educational expenses, allowing them to acquire professional skills enabling them find decent jobs in the future.

Nahr El Bared

- Architecture
- PC maintenance
- Solar energy and water heaters
- Mobile Maintenance
- Nursing
- Video Editing

Beddawi

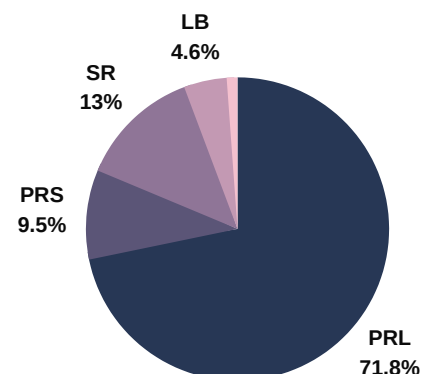
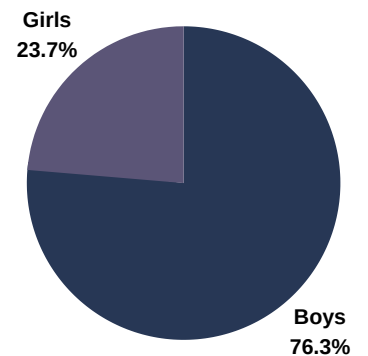
- Alluminium works
- Mobile Maintenance
- Nursing

Burj Al Shemali

- Mobile Maintenance
- Industrial Electricity

Al Rashidiyeh

- Alluminium works
- Mobile Maintenance



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS



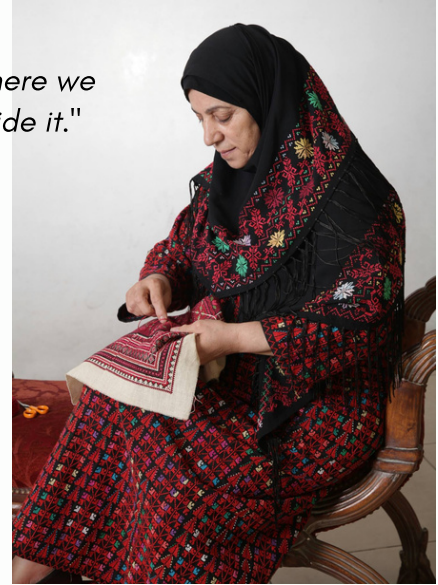
***“The spirit of service is
the soul of belonging.”***

Lailah Gifty Akita



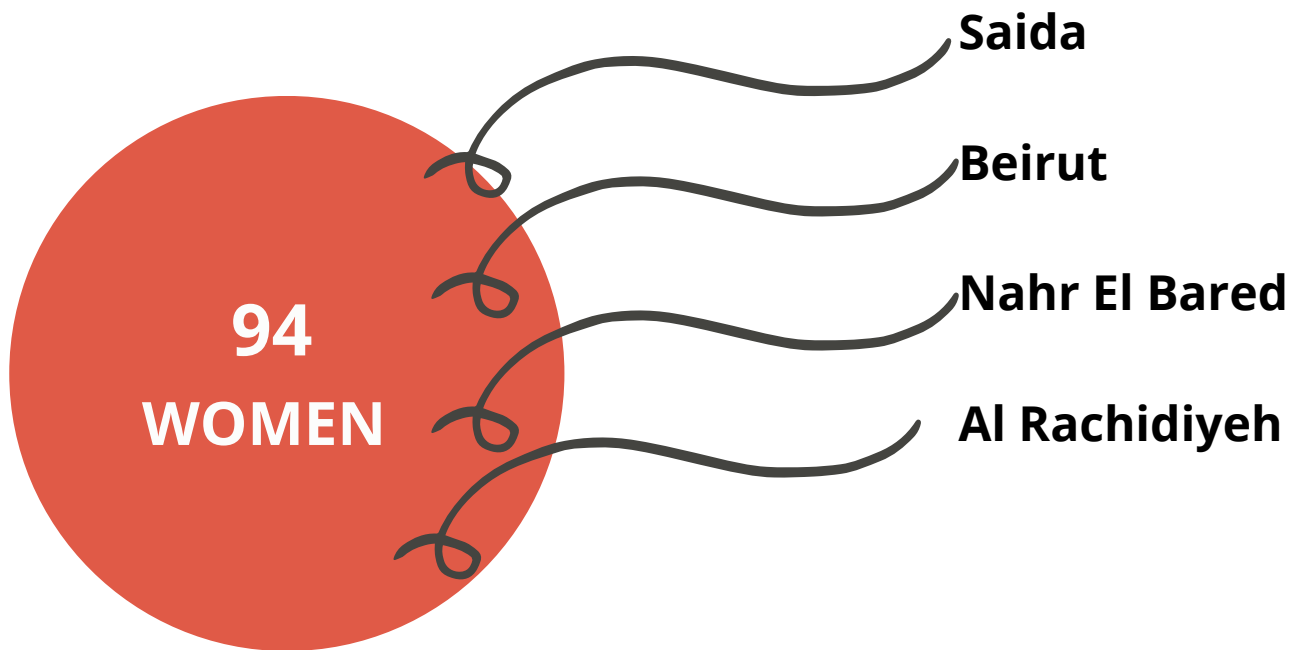
CULTURAL PROGRAMS

"We should feel empowered by where we came from and who we are, not hide it."
L. M. Richards



Women Project: Palestinian Embroidery

The embroidery project was launched in 1987. It bears two major goals: First, it contributes to preserving the Palestinian identity and culture, and passing it to the new generations. Second, it is an income generating project for women which enables them to secure a monthly earning while staying at home.



Folklore Dance: Palestinian Dabkeh

The Dabkeh folk dance is an important component in preserving the Palestinian Cultural Heritage. Atfal Assumoud of NISCVT get organized in circles to learn the steps and practice the Dabkeh.

152 male and female children and youth passionately perform the dabkeh on stage. Sometimes it does not need an occasion for the performance; only to enjoy a Palestinian aura.



Music & Arts



Beit Atfal Assumoud believes in the positive impact of Art on children's behavioral and emotional growth. This is why it makes the diverse art activities available for the Palestinian children in their refugee camps. Children express their feelings and speak up of the issues they suffer from through music and songs. On top of all, art gives joy and increases resilience of these children to face their difficult life.

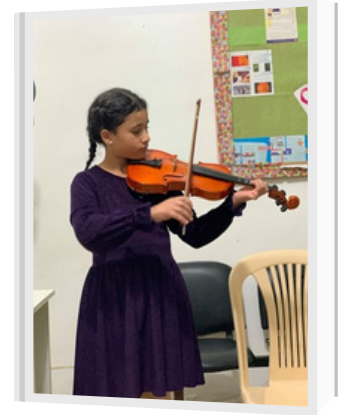
Musical bands and choir groups are formed in six of NISCVT centers in the different camps. 470 male/female children and youth play different musical instruments, and chant for the love, hope, and homeland.





BAS and the Palestinian Association for music, Al Kamandjâti, have been partners since 2008. Al Kamandjâti implements a fixed music education program in NISCVT centers in Shatila and Borj el Barajneh camps in Beirut.

75 children and youth, aged from 6 to 20, receive weekly individual lessons in their chosen instrument. The young musicians attend concerts and perform themselves inside and outside of the camps, becoming the ambassadors of Palestinian music in their own community and other communities in Lebanon.



Meet our professional "Orchestra of the Camp" of Burj el Shamali.



Playing a wide range of various musical instruments, 140 young boys and girls confidently follow the baton of the conductor and produce musical tunes in magical harmony. The well-organized orchestra, supported by our Italian friends, has been receiving high-level professional training by volunteers from Italy and local music teachers. A project funded by OPM Waldensian Church of Italy, volunteers from Italy stay in the camp, experiencing the hardships of the Palestinian refugee living conditions, in order to provide professional training to the youth. The project includes supporting three most promising music students to enroll at the conservatoire in Saida City, south Lebanon, to become professional music players.

Drawing and Comics Arts

A free space to express own emotions, thoughts, hopes and vision is that of drawing in comics. It is a way used for psychotherapy, learning, awareness raising, and talent discovery. NISCVT centers employ the technique of comics to provide psychosocial support to 134 refugee children and youth, as well as adults. 60 staff and volunteers participated in workshops held in Tyre camps. The training focused on the use of comic narratives in helping children and youth overcome mental problems and traumas.



Sports

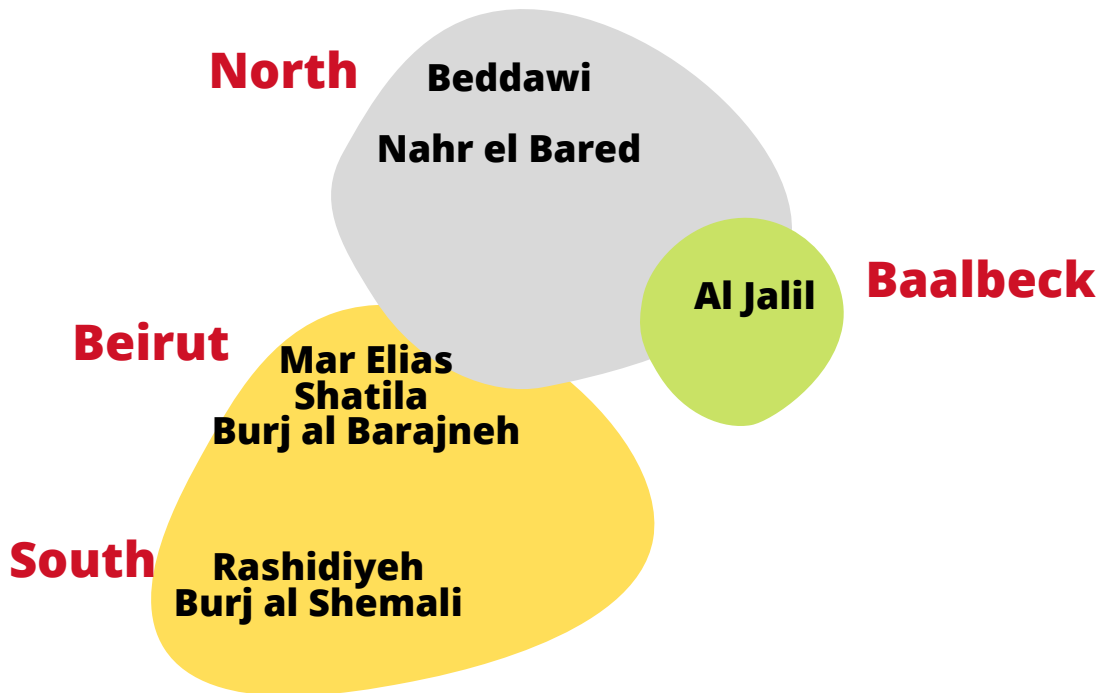
Sports is an integral and inseparable activity for NISCVT. The organization's first sports club was established in 1989 at its center in Nahr el-Bared Camp. It aimed at providing the Palestinian youth an opportunity to adopt healthy behaviors through the practice of sports, most popular of which is the football.

Mainly self-supported, NISCVT implemented several sport projects that enhanced the use of sports as a tool for development and gender equity. Boys and girls' teams were also formed in other centers in the camps reaching up to 220 boys and girls.

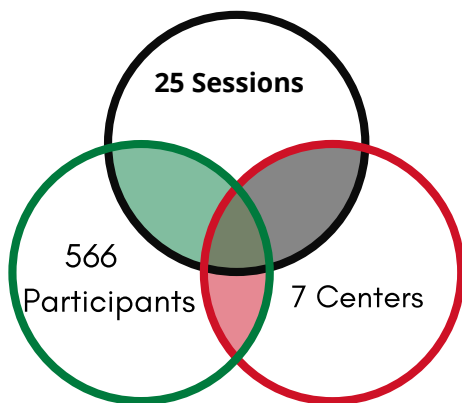


PEER EDUCATION

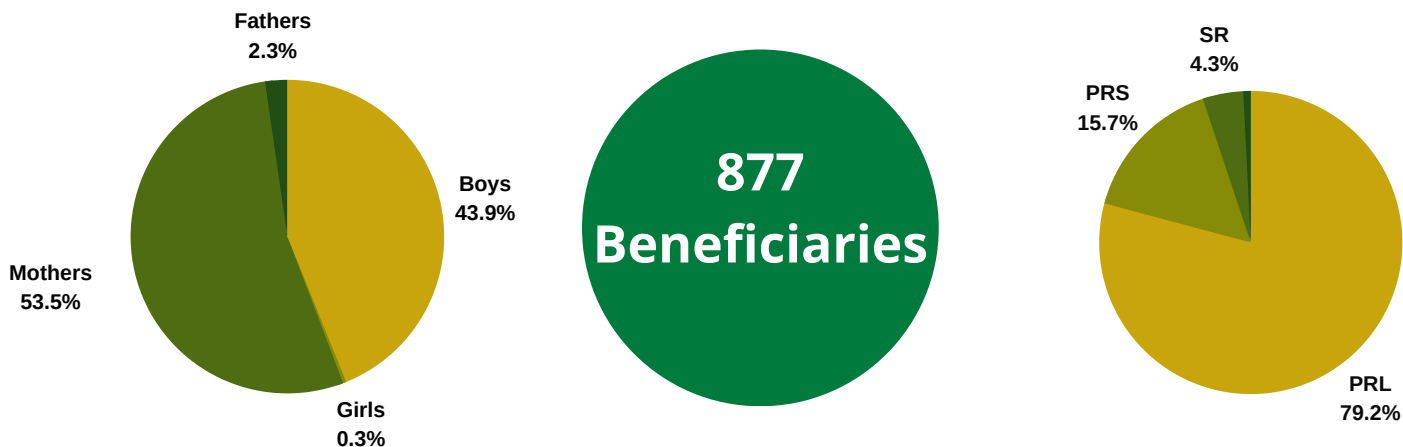
Launched in 2006 by Medical Aid for Palestinians, MAP, and UNICEF, the Peer Education Program is an essential part of the reproductive health and sexual education project. The program is designed to empower young boys and girls with leadership skills which, upon using up to their potentials, they become *peer leaders* with a specific mission: teaching their peers by transferring knowledge and information to their counterparts. This program is implemented in eight camps.



HIV/AIDS activities: National AIDS Program



AWARENESS RAISING



CAMP # OF SESSIONS

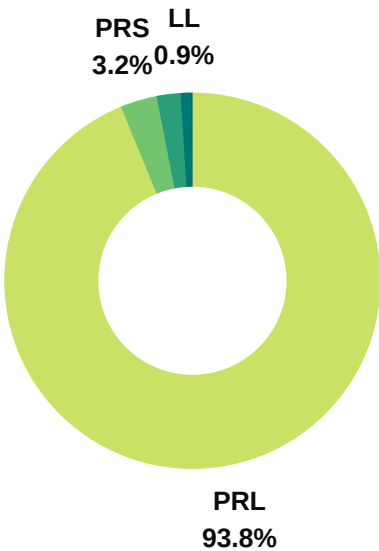
Burj al Barajneh	48
Shatila	23
Mar Elias	8
Wavel	22
Beddawi	47
Nahr el Bared	61
Rashidiyeh	42
Burj al Shemali	47
Total	298

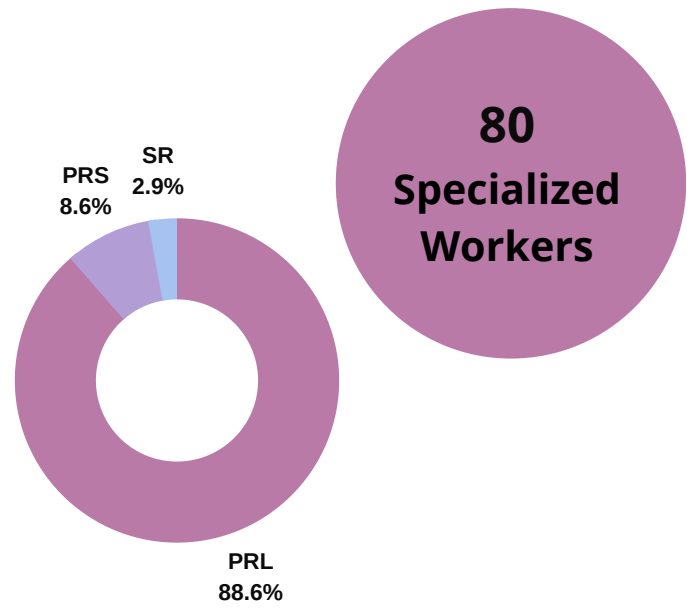
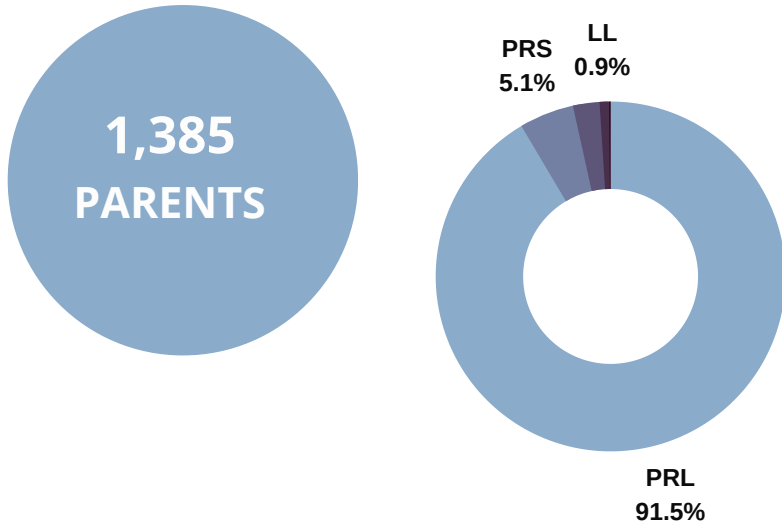


PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

The project aims at:

- Supporting vulnerable children along with their caregivers who are in need of protection and support
- Assisting refugee children living in the Palestinian camps and gatherings improve their resilience through psychosocial and recreational activities
- Setting up safe space for children who are at risk of violence and abuse to talk freely about their challenges
- Strengthening long-term ability of community actors through empowering child protection networks in the Palestinian community, and awareness raising among refugees.





CONFIDENT DONORS AND PARTNERS

Thank You to all the volunteers and donors, institutions and individuals, who helped us deliver our quality services and support to the refugees and underserved communities in all the camps and gatherings on the Lebanese territories.



Awal Women Society



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Forum for Culture and International Cooperation
Norwegian People's Aid-Lebanon (NPA)
Norwegian Aid Committee (NORWAC)
Norwegian Embassy in Beirut
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Verein Die Unterst (PalCH)



Association Franco Palestinienne Solidarité
(AFPS)
Conseil International De La Musique



United Nations Relief and Works Agency for
Palestine Refugees in the Near East --UNRWA
United Nations Development Programme --UNDP
United Nations Children's Fund --UNICEF



Fluchtlingskinder in Leban



Associazione di amicizia italo palestinese
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