



Newsletter

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They are in Good Hands



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 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.

Children, youth, women, and parents or guardians of the Palestinian community are in good hands they are in the hands of Beit Atfal Assumoud.

BAS encountered a lot of success stories, and performed many other activities that we would like to share with you in this newsletter.

HAPPY SUMMER



Psychosocial Support Program

Beit Atfal Assumoud /Nahr El Bared, Rashidieh, Burj Shemali and El Buss centers have finished the three weeks summer activity performed within the Psychosocial Support Program. 250 children from Nahr El Bared, 175 from Rashidieh, 208 from Burj Shemali and 200 from El Buss participated in this fun program which included indoor and outdoor activities.



Remedial Education Summer Program

On August 1st, a new summer educational activity started with 329 remedial education children and lasted till the end of August. The program aimed at improving the children basic concepts in Math, Arabic and English subjects, and at preparing them to the new academic year by exposing them to different educational activities.



Assumoud Palestinian National Scout

The Public Park in Burj Shemali Camp is READY. It has been opened on August 6th, thanks to Assumoud Scout/ Burj Shemali center and LEAP for their great efforts, and a special thank you to the donor Mr. Mohammad Al Rashdi who donated this area to BAS.

On August 16th, the Bagpipes and Mandolins bands of Burj Shemali Scout went a trip to Al Qasimiya River for fun.

The Scout organized a summer camp from August 24th till August 31st for 149 children and 20 leaders and members. The camp took place in Al Qasimiya River.



Burj Barajneh KG & VS Students

On August 10th Burj Barajneh center accompanied BAS children who passed the official exams and the students of Al Amilieh vocational institute who received scholarship from the Norwegian People's Aid in coordination with BAS to Al Zrariyeh River.



25 KG children in Burj Barajneh center participated in the summer activity organized in coordination with the Unite Lebanon Youth Project (ULYP) for 8 days during August in Debeyye (Meled Nemr Villa). The activity included indoor and outdoor activities, educational and recreational ones.

Reproductive Health & Peer Education



Residential Workshop

BAS organized a residential workshop in cooperation with MAP organization within the reproductive health project from August 25th till August 28th in Le Crillon Hotel/ Brumana. 35 participants, teenagers, social workers, and peer educators from all the camps participated in this training workshop and benefited from gender, family relations and child protection topics addressed by the technical coordinator Ms. Dunya Fatayri

Awareness sessions

Awareness sessions are still continuing in BAS centers. Moving Forward Game is an interesting game that our peer educators still play under the Reproductive Health Project. Palestine UNRWA School welcomed a group of peer educators from Burj Shemali center to give an awareness session about conflict resolution and decision making on August 4th.



WORKSHOPS

Music Workshops

The children who are learning music in Burj Barajneh and Shatila centers participated in the music training workshop organized in coordination with Al Kamandjati organization in the Arc en Ciel in Ma'asser Ashouf from August 1st till August 6th. The workshop included lessons and preparations for the music concert "Palestine Singing the Melodies of the Stones".



Burj Shemali center organized three days training workshop in participation with musicians from Burj Shemali and Rashidieh centers. They learned how to repair musical instruments under the supervision of Mr. Nabil Shedeeda and Mr. Tarek Jebreen from Al Kamandjati organization.



Child Protection

The technical coordinator Ms. Dunya Fatayri organized two days training workshop for the workers involved in the Psychosocial Support Program on August 3rd & 4th. The workshop tackled child protection and code of conduct issues that the workers can apply with the children.



Two Social workers from BAS organized two days training workshop on August 19th & 21st in Rashidieh center. KG and remedial teachers from Rashidieh and Burj Shemali centers learned about child protection in case of violence.



Mental Health

Training on “Portage System” has been delivered to a group of social workers in the five family guidance centers (FGCs) of BAS by Dr. Suha Tabbal from Jordan from August 3rd till August 8th in Mar Elias center. The training aimed at providing the participants with materials relevant to Early Childhood to be implemented in the future in cooperation with Santé Sud organization.



The social workers of the FGCs involved in the Music Therapy Project were provided with training by the President of Prima Materia organization-Italy Ms. Deborah Parker. She visited BAS with Mr. Dario Gentili who interviewed many beneficiaries to produce a documentary.



Training for KG teachers

BAS KG teachers received a series of training that started on August 20th till September 10th. The training tackled different topics.

The Mental Health Program coordinator Ms. Lilian Younes gave them information about the development of the child brain.

The KG coordinator Mrs. Rania Khartabil gave them how to prepare lesson plans and manage their classes.

As for the session related to the psychomotor challenges, they were given by the psychomotor therapist Ms. Pauline Bresse. Moreover, the KG teacher gave them about the intellectual development of the child.



EVENTS

Palestine Singing Melody of the Stones

The music groups of BAS - Shatila and Burj Barajneh centers - participated in the fundraising concert "Palestine Singing Melody of the Stones". It was organized by Al Kamandjati organization in the American University in Beirut (AUB) Assembly Hall on August 6th. The band presented impressive Palestinian national songs and oriental modern and Arab classical music.



Tal Al Zaatar Massacre Commemoration

BAS centers commemorated Tal Al Zaatar massacre that was committed by Israel 39 years ago on August 12th, 1976. Parents and children participated in the commemoration; they marched towards the cemetery of the martyrs and put corona on the martyrs' graves. They also celebrated the 39th anniversary of BAS.



LEAP Closing Ceremony

LEAP Program was concluded with a closing ceremony for 390 students from Rashidieh and Burj Shemali centers on August 7th.



Right of Return Delegation

The General Director of BAS Mr. Aina welcomed "The Right of Return" delegation from Italy consisted of 9 members from August 15th till August 22nd. This delegation is the sub-committee of "Not to Forget Sabra & Shatila Massacre and the Right of Return Committee". During their tour, they visited Ba'albek monuments, Byblos and Maroun Al Ras Garden. In addition, they met some of Sabra and Shatila massacre martyrs' families, and some Palestinian families displaced from Syria. Moreover, they met Lebanese and Palestinian bodies and political parties. They visited BAS centers in Nahr El Bared, Burj Barajneh, Shatila, Mar Elias, Ba'albek and Burj Shemali camps where Assumoud National Scout presented a national show in the latter.



Music Summer Course Closing Ceremony

A closing Ceremony for the Music summer course supported by ULAIA association and funded by Waldensian Church of Italy has been organized on August 23rd in Burj Shemali center. The head of ULAIA association Mrs. Olga Ambrosanio gave a speech about the course's objectives, and the students performed a show in the presence of their parents.



Meetings

The Italian friend Ms. Domitilla Pattumelli from ULAIA association met the music trainers in Burj Shemali center on August 1st, and videotaped their performances for documentation.

In coordination with Tawasol organization in Rashidieh camp, 27 mothers from the Family Happiness Project met in Rashidieh center of BAS on August 22nd. They discussed the importance of activating the role of woman in the society.



In August, and during the visit of Mrs. Deborah Parker and Mr. Dario from Prima Materia organization to Lebanon, they met the music teachers in FGC Saida and Beddawi centers to follow up on the Music Community Project, and to give them training sessions.



BAS organized a coordination meeting with the centers' directors, the programs coordinators and the KG teachers in Mar Elias center on August 24th. The president of BAS Dr. Najla Bashour, and the General Director Mr. Aina and all the participants discussed the importance of the KG education program and the relation between the projects and programs of BAS.



Interviews

Palestine Today TV conducted an interview with the Project Manager and Development of Al Kamandjati organization Ms. Julie Vautard and two music students from Burj Barajneh center on August 14th. They talked about the music project and its importance and impact on the children.

Palestine Today TV conducted another interview with the Dabke band of elderly and with the music band in Burj Shemali center on August 15th under the title “The Palestinian Memory/The National Music”.

The Photographer Mr. Stanley Greenel from American conducted interviews with elderly people from Shatila camp on August 5th & 14th, and asked them to talk about their experience during the Nakba Period.



Success story

Kawthar Hisham Al Samrawi is a 15 years old child. She is Palestinian but her mother is from Iraq. She came to Lebanon after the American invasion on Iraq in 2003. She lost her identification papers and this prevented her from joining the school. BAS was the best solution for her case. She joined the special needs class in 2010 in Burj Barajneh center; she has studied for 5 years. She learned many life skills, house work, cooking, handicrafts, drawing and drama. In addition, she became able to read and write and build some friendships. Moreover, BAS played an important role in strengthening her personality and self-confidence by supporting her and believing in her capacities. Kawthar now is responsible, diligent, smart, and friendly.



THANK YOU!

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