



# Newsletter

July 2015  
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## We Believe in Their Rights



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 38 years.

# ENJOY!

# SUMMER FUN!

## Summer activities with BAS

What a beautiful Summer time! The children were so happy to participate in the recreational summer activities performed by BAS centers during July. After Ramadan, Shatila, Burj Barajneh, Mar Elias, Nahr El-Bared, Beddawi, and Ba'albek centers organized summer activities for 11 days. These activities included cultural, health, social, national and sports themes that were considered not only recreational but also beneficial. The summer activities ended by trips to different recreational places, sea, gardens, Public Parks, etc...



## Shatila KG children with ULYP

28 KG children of Shatila center participated in the summer activity organized in coordination with the Unite Lebanon Youth Project (ULYP) for 9 days during July in Debeyye (Melek Nemr Villa). The activity included indoor and outdoor activities, educational and recreational ones.



# LEAP PROGRAM

SHINE Project in partnership with LEAP Program brought this summer 25 volunteers from USA to implement an English language program in Rashidieh and Burj Shemali centers. This year, the program started on July 13<sup>th</sup> till August 7<sup>th</sup>. 170 children from Rashidieh center and 190 from Burj Shemali participated in the program. It included recreational activities and trips to different entertaining places; Rivers, Public Parks, and Funfair.



Within the activities of LEAP Program, an Iftar was organized in Burj Shemali center for all the participants on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

In coordination with the LEAP Volunteers, Burj Shemali Assumoud Scout started working on the rehabilitation of a small Park on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

An awareness session about water pollution and water conservation was organized for 60 participants' parents in Rashidieh center on July 29<sup>th</sup>.



# IFTAR & DONATIONS

During the month of Good deeds “Ramadan”, and due to the poverty among the Palestinian people in the camps, BAS supported many people in need to reduce their financial burdens. All the centers organized iftar dinners for families and children, and participated in others organized by other organizations. In addition, Burj Shemali organized a dinner for 60 elderly within the project “Our Elderly ... Our Dignity”.



A staff from BAS with the General Director Mr. Kassem Aina and the music band of Rashidieh center participated in the annual iftar event organized by the Health Care Society (HCS) at Phoenicia Hotel on July 1<sup>st</sup>. During the event, HCS honored Mr. Fouad Bawarshi and presented him a shield in appreciation for his special efforts and support to HCS. All the funds will go to construct and operate a new kidney dialysis center in Beddawi center.



Thanks to our Malaysian brothers and sisters in Beni Ismail organization, 1,169 iftar meals were donated for the sponsored children within the Family Happiness Project and for the sponsored elderly within the third week of July.



Our children were so happy to receive at Eid El Fitr clothes donated by sponsors and donors. Other sponsored children received cash gifts from their sponsors. In return, the children designed greeting cards and thank you letters for their sponsors.



A new floor was constructed and officially opened on July 28th, 2015 in Ba'albek center supported by a sponsor from The Japanese Committee for the Children of Palestine organization Ms. Gotoh, Keiko who made the donation in memorial of her late husband Mr. Gotoh, Yuji.

# Psychosocial Support Program

## Workshops

Two workshops were organized by MAP & War Child-Holland in Golden Tulip Hotel in participation with activators from Burj Shemali and Rashidieh centers during July. The workshops were on Psychological First Aid and on Peace Deal theme guide book within the Psychosocial Support Program.

Another 3 days workshop was organized in Platinum Hotel in Tyre about Early Childhood in which 3 social workers from Burj Shemali and El Buss centers participated.

A child protection and communication skills workshop was given in Nahr El-Bared center by the social worker Ms. Labiba Abdul Rahim for 15 workers, activators and volunteers. This workshop was a training to follow the same skills and apply them with parents and children.

“Life skills-Adolescents” is another theme of the Psychosocial Support Program run in Nahr El-Bared center. Different awareness sessions were organized for children aged between 13 and 17 years old. The sessions tackled topics on mental health, stress management, communication, equality, conflict resolution, teamwork, self-pressure etc...

The centers are still running different indoor and outdoor activities for mothers and children within the themes of the Psychosocial Support Program.



# Reproductive Health & Peer Education

## Open Day

BAS organized an open day on July 28<sup>th</sup> in Ba'albek center under the title "Your Choices Define Your Life". The day included a play tackling the risky behaviors. Different recreational and educational activities related to the theme took place, and round 100 youth and parents participated and enjoyed them.

Awareness sessions are still running in BAS centers. Social workers and specialists gave youth, mothers and children different continuous sessions concerning gender, sexual transmitted diseases, cancers, personal hygiene etc...

## Competitions

3 competitions were organized in BAS centers (Burj Shemali, Shatila & Nahr El Bared) during July. Youths from all the other centers participated in these competitions. Iftar dinners were served, followed by educational competitions related to the reproductive health and peer education. The competitions ended with distributing shields for the winning groups.



# PARTICIPATIONS

## Music & Resilience Project

Within the Music and Resilience Project in collaboration with Prima Materia organization-Italy, two specialists from the Family Guidance centers in Beirut and Saida Ms. Lilian Younes and Mr. Mohammad Orabi participated in the first year of the professional training in the school of Music Therapy. It was run by the Center for Adult Learning "Pro Civitate Cristiana" in Assisi from July 12<sup>th</sup> till July 25<sup>th</sup> including a residential course.



## Assumoud Sports Club

Assumoud Sports Club of BAS in Nahr El Bared center participated in the football league organized by Al Quds club from Beddawi camp on July 28<sup>th</sup>. BAS team played with Al Ard team from Tripoli, and both were tied and qualified to the next round.



## Announcement of WA Awards 2015

Mr. Kassem Aina participated in the announcement of the Welfare Association Awards for 2015 held at Riviera Hotel in Beirut on July 28<sup>th</sup>. His participation was very important because BAS is one of the organizations that work for the Palestinian community and for its development. The awards were an appreciation for the projects that made changes in the lives of the people in our community.

## STC Graduation Ceremony

Zaghareed Assumoud singing group of Nahr El-Bared center participated in STC graduation ceremony in the North on July 31<sup>st</sup> at the Night Star Hall, and presented an impressive show.



## UNRWA Cut Aids

BAS centers participated in the sit-ins organized against the reduction of UNRWA services on July 28<sup>th</sup>.



# GRADUATION

*Under the Patronage of Burj Shemali Municipality, Beit Atfal Assumoud-Burj Shemali center organized a graduation ceremony for 186 vocational training students on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Fernando from Rescate, Mr. Kassem Aina, Lebanese and Palestinian parties, representatives of NGOs and syndicates as well as popular committees and parents. Burj Shemali center's director made a thankful speech and another one concerning the importance of the vocational training. Moreover, BAS presented Rescate with a Shield as an appreciation for its support. It presented another shield for Burj Shemali Municipality, thanking it for offering the institution a land to be used as a public Park in Tyre. At the end, all the students received certificates and tool kits.*

*Thank you RESCATE*





# Meetings & Visitors

## Meetings

During July Mr. Kassem Aina met The Program Coordinator from NORWAC Mrs. Kristil Haraldstad with ANERA, staff from Islamic Relief & Welfare, staff from Right to Play and the two friends from Italy Mrs. Federic Toum and Mr. Stefan Stranger.

The professor Dr. Matheo Cona and Dr. Richard Hardigan from San Francisco University-America met Shatila center's director Ms. Jamila Shehadeh and Burj Shemali center's director Mr. Mahmoud Jomaa during the last week of July. They discussed the camps' situations and the services provided by BAS.



## Visitors



Mrs. Kristil Haraldstad and Mrs. Ingunn Eihl from NORWAC visited Rashidieh center and had a look at the centers' activities and programs on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

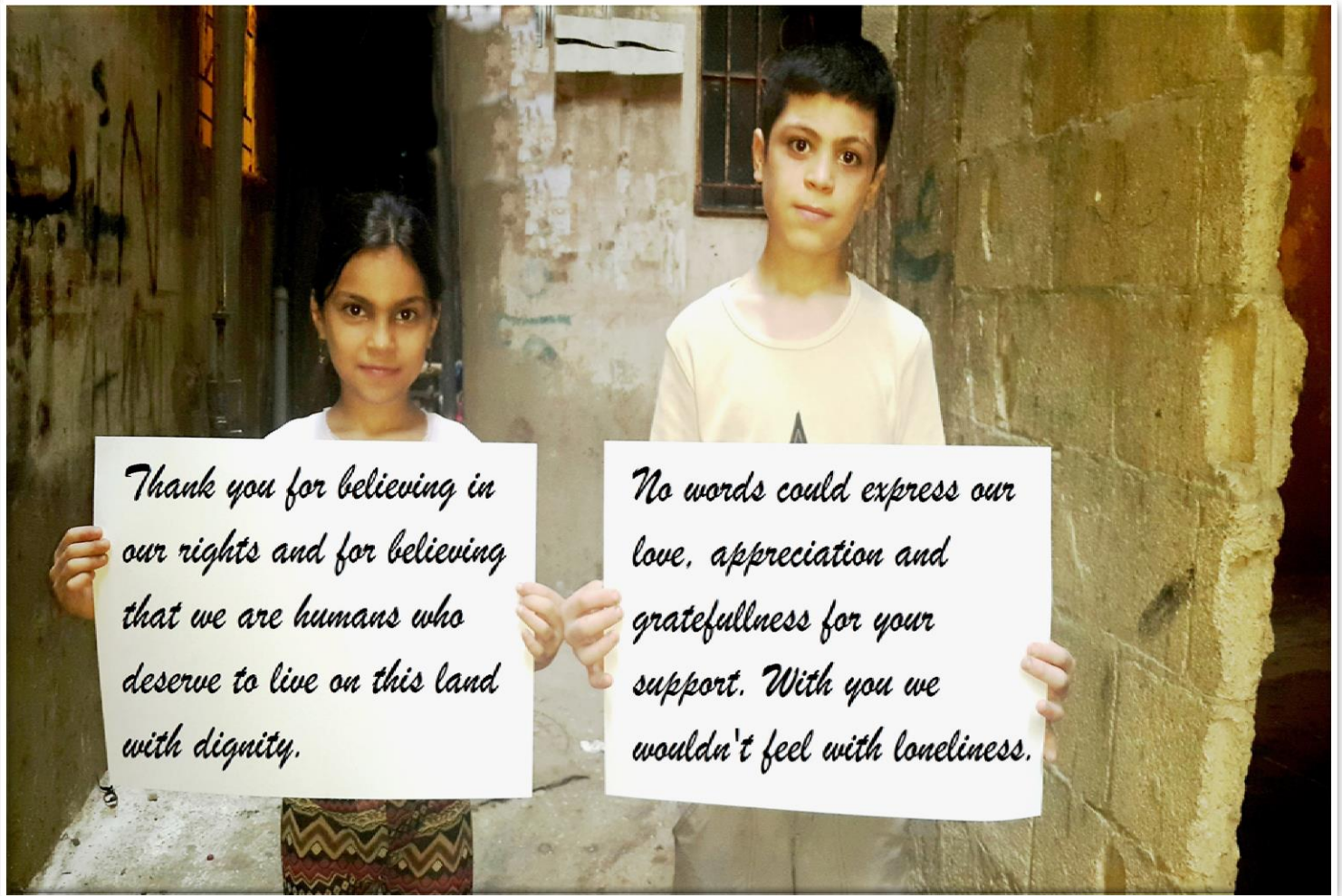
An Italian delegation was accompanied to Shatila center by Mr. Kassem Aina. Other delegations from Italy, Norway and Singapore also visited Shatila center and got an idea about the center's activities and programs aiming at future collaboration.

## Success Story

Aya is suffering from Epilepsy, Speech Problem, aggression and retardation.

She is living with her father and aunt because her parents are divorced. Aya was never enrolled in any school because of her situation. However, BAS adopted her situation and gave her the opportunity to enroll in its special needs class in Burj Barajneh center. They also referred her to the FGC and gave her the required speech therapy. Now, Aya is participating in the center's activities and speaking well, and she integrated with her friends in the class.





**Kindly, Share with us the activities performed during July.**

**Thank You!**

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