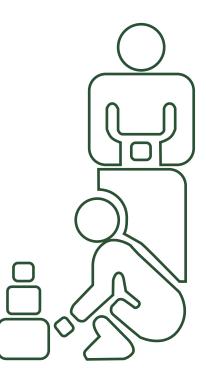
The Trust of Programs for Early Childhood, Family and Community Education

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

Prepared and edited by Flavia Kamar

Jerusalem





The Trust of Programs for Early Childhood, Family and Community Education P.O. Box 51303 – Jerusalem

P.O. Box 51303 – Jerusalem Tel. 02-6260836 Fax: 02-6260837 e.mail: trust@trust-programs.org Website: www.trust-programs.org

Annual Report Contents

- 04 Foreword by the Chairman of the Trust
- 05 Letter by the President of the Trust
- 06 About Us
- 08 Current Programs
- 10 The Mother-to-Mother Program
- 14 The Young Women Empowerment Program
- 18 The Learn-by-Play Program
- 21 The Teacher's Training Program
- 26 The Combating Family Violence Program

- 28 The Trust's CTRD
- 30 Special Thanks

Every year, I have the pleasure to review and share with you the different activities that the Trust is doing for the many marginalized groups who are in need to be taken care of. These programs have contributed in giving them the chance to grow up as normative, empowered and positive individuals who can help their communities to reach better standards of living by learning new techniques for solving problems that they might face in life.



As noticed in the variety of the programs, the main targets of the Trust's programs are mothers and children. It's true that these two groups are the most vulnerable yet they are the corner stone of the society and this is why we consider them as first priority.

I'll take the opportunity to greet our devoted teams who are doing their utmost best in every sphere of their activity and duty.

We appreciate the concern and contribution of our generous donors without which these most vital goals will have never been achieved. The main gratitude comes mainly from those who receive the valuable services of the Trust.

As the chairman of the Trust I, in the name of the whole team - administrative and professional -have the pleasure to extend my deepest thanks and gratitude to all those who are helping in making our activities possible, hoping that this vital relationship will continue in the years to come.

Dr. Awni Habash Chairman

Our Dear Friends and supporters,

I feel humbled and proud to thank you in the name of the many marginalized families, who were able to make real positive changes in their lives due to our partnership.

Over the years, our partnership has shown transparency and commitment, especially through the community based programs with the hundreds of paraprofessional women whom we consider front-liners in our social



development mission. Our strong partnership with these pioneer women and families has also helped us understand their needs and made it easier to make decisions of what works and what does not. Our challenge in putting what we have learnt into action and trying to achieve real change in the lives of the families, with the help of the community members themselves, the support of the key stakeholders in the community, and not to forget the high commitment our professional and paraprofessional team, was a very successful one.

There is an old Arabic saying that good food brings a bigger appetite. We see the success of our programs as the food that increases our motivation to continue to invest in people and improve their quality of life. I would like to emphasize again that such success would not have been possible without the generous support of our dear partners.

I am sure you all understand the difficult times people in the Middle East are going through, from uncertainties to growing divisions. This is where our responsibility arises; taking a social cohesion and human's right approach, making sure differences are respected and human dignity maintained.

As a member of the Trust's team, I constantly follow-up our work at the different sites, and whether I travel North or South, to Ramla or Rahat, to Shufat or to the villages, I am always amazed by one thing the most; it's the human will. Although the socio-economical and political situation keeps burning us out, yet we always have the will to get up and move on. Maybe it's the human nature, or just the sense of survival, or as I have seen maybe it's a smile on a child's face, or a thankful look from one of the abused mothers, either way, the resilience of these families make me think; if after all what they have been through they still have the power to smile in my face and come to the meetings, then I, as well, will continue to find a way to help them improve their status.

In the following pages, we will share with you the progress of our programs over the past year 2011-2012. Again I feel preveleged to be part of this wonderful endiavor and partnership.

Farid Abu Gosh President

5

The **Trust** is an indegenous developmental agency established in 1984 in Jerusalem and registered as a non-profit NGO to empower members of the Arab Palestinian community through education and leadership developmental programs targeting Palestinians every where.

We are a nonprofit, nonreligious and nonpolitical organization that believes in social Justice, human rights conventions, equal



access to resources, gender equality, human dignity, accepting others as they are, and not as they should be, regardless of their cultural, racial, or religious backgrounds. We believe in people's capacities which they can use to improve their lives towards social change.

The Trust has built up a range of effective programs that develops the capacities and improves the lives of children, young women, educators and mothers living in marginalized situations and aiming at transforming their sense of hopelessness and dependency into individual and collective feeling of hope and capabilities.

Our Mission

- Contribute to the maintenance and development of Palestinian identity.
- Improve the quality of life of the marginalised groups mainly women and children.
- Strengthen social responsibility through community empowerment

Our goals are to:

- Support the development of community coherence and integrity;
- Enhance and facilitate empowerment of women, children and families;
- Provide a development basis for children and women towards a functional family;
- Create networks among organizations that share our values



• Promote and provide training for women leadership.

All our programs contribute to social change through targeting the family in a holistic, integrative and inclusive approach, constantly developing to meet the local needs of our target groups; ranging from service delivery to raising awareness and community empowerment. Being inclusive we make sure that the local target groups are involved in the planning through the evaluation, which ensure long lasting effect. Although our main office is situated in Jerusalem, we have been able to reach and serve the marginalized groups of the Palestinian communities in Israel and in the West Bank mainly in the villages North West Jerusalem and in the Shufat Refugee Camp.

Annual Report Current Programs

The Trust leads different and diversified programs

- The **Mother-to-Mother Program** supports and strengthens the parenting skills of young mothers (and fathers) and empowers the parents individually and as a group. It empowers mothers and offers them the supervision and guidance to become more effective members of the society on the family and the community levels.
- The **Young women empowerment program** gives young women the opportunity to gain self-confidence and knowledge in the field of education and raise the awareness of parents and young women of the consequences of early marriage.
 - The **Teachers Training Program** offers basic and advanced training to kindergarten teachers and supports them in working with children, parents, and the community.
 - **Combating Family Violence Program** aims at engaging in the fight against violence in families, developing new capacities and equips them with the necessary skills and technical know-how to face the challenges of family violence. The need for skills is ever increasing.





- The Learn-by-Play program which aims at limiting illiteracy and decreasing the dropout rate from schools by operating on three levels: parents, teachers, pupils. College students and young adults are engaged as volunteers.
- The **Trust's CTRD** "Center for Training, Research and



9

Development" which seeks to contribute to early childhood, family and community education by conducting action research, feasibility and planning studies, program evaluation and training.

• **Networking** also takes a big part in the Trust's strategy where we organize regular seminars, study days and workshops for the target population and for local organizations; this encourages mutual learning and increases the outreach capacity.

The Mother-to-Mother Program

"I used to yearn for the praise of others, like my husband's family, and to do things just to please others. However after joining the program and after meeting other women from my neighborhood, I was able to share my problems and my experience as a woman and as a mother, just then I realized that it is fine to have time for myself and to invest in myself, the subjects that were discussed in the meetings opened my eyes and with the support of the coordinator I learned that I can help myself without waiting for someone else, and that



the power to develop was inside me all the time". Quote by mother - Jerusalem

Although it is called the Mother-to-Mother program yet, in the end, it leaves a positive impact on the whole family, because once the mother realizes her full potential and invests in her personal and professional growth then she will be able to pass it to her children and improve the quality of life of her family.

The program continued this year according to plan at all sites: Jerusalem at the Shufat Camp and the Old City, in Ramla, Lod and Rahat in the Negev. The program has qualified more than one-hundred women from these sites to become paraprofessional mothers and counsel other mothers from their neighborhood. Being a paraprofessional mother has enhanced the women's self-esteem and sense of appreciating of their abilities helping them to become active members in their family and in the community.

Through the home counseling and the group counseling the program has reached more than five-hundred families who have children from birth to three years old. The counseling has improved the mothers' skills on how to respond to their children's physical and emotional needs.



Quote by mother: "I read and sing to my child every day, I am more patient and I even play and dance with him, we are bonding more than ever".

We were also able to reach more than four-hundred families through the workpapers and the newsletters that were distributed on the families in order to involve the husbands and get their feedback during the discussions in the meetings. Furthermore, twenty-seven couples from Jerusalem and Ramla participated in group meetings and reported that the work-papers are effective and that they are doing their best to improve their relation with their spouse and with their children. Another successful component continued this year as well, it is the dialogue group at Ramla and Lod for Arab and Jew mothers that facilitate mother child play groups.

In Ramla and Lod, the successful dialogue program has advanced the understanding between the Arab and Jewish families and we were able to overcome the difficulty to recruit mothers and children in the program. This joint culture activity bridges the relations among the mothers and provides quality time for them to spend with their

children. As an indicator of success is that one of the schools in Ramla requested that we implement a similar program of dialogue but between Christian and Moslem students at the school which we are currently considering.

All twenty-six paraprofessional from the different sites attended the study days conducted by the Trust on community empowerment, social gender empowerment, and on positive thinking that consisted of a small lecture, discussions, small work groups and role play and were met with positive reactions by the participants.





The Mothers' Forum

In February 2012 the Mothers forum implemented a voluntary day for thirty children in Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, at the Kidney dialysis and Cancer department. The day was implemented by four volunteer paraprofessional mothers where different activities were performed in order to activate the children, and help them get over their loneliness at the hospital and to alleviate their pain. There were also activities for the sick children's mothers such as an arts workshop where the mothers learned how to make hand puppets, finger puppets and toys for their children.

A similar activity was conducted in the end of August 2012 in cooperation with the social and psychological counseling section at the hospital in order to bring joy and happiness into the hearts of the sick children. The joy and smiles on the children's faces increased when the Doctor Clown Ahmad Joubeh started activating the children with his devotion and dedicated effort. The paraprofessional mothers distributed candy and gifts to the children.

We would like to add that the mothers' forum consists of a group of paraprofessional mothers who finished their work in the "Mother to Mother program" and decided to volunteer in other activities within the local community. One of them was the weekly activity at the Augusta Victoria Hospital, where three of them volunteer for 3 hours to read for the children, play games and other activities, in addition to offering a small gift.



The Young Women Empowerment Program



The young women empowerment program is one of the Trust's distinguished domains that works on improving the quality of life of young women and works with them in three groups of age that vary from 13 to 25 years, tackling, by this, the different stages in their life from teen-age to adulthood. The program has been active for several years and our reports have shown that 70% of the families have improved their relationship with their daughters and about 250 young women got involved in community work either in our learn-by-play program or as teacher assistants in kindergartens, or become part of the working force.

What distinguishes our program is that we walk step by step with the young women to raise their awareness and help them to seek new opportunities as an alternative to the cycle of dependency and gender discrimination. The program has been successfully running in the three sites: at the villages, in Ramla and in Jerusalem



towards fighting inequality, exclusion, pre-mature marriages and discrimination caused by the patriarchal community and intensified by the political strains.

The program has reached 370 young women through its different components, which also had a positive impact on their mothers, 81 mothers from the different sites were involved in the program who learned more about adolescence phase and the emotional and physical changes in their daughters life. In addition, they were involved in meetings about early marriage, sexual harassment, and communication skills. The meetings allowed the mothers and daughters to improve their relationship and create mutual understanding.

The coordinator used the Trust's adolescence kit, conducting several activities such as case studies, arts, stories, work-papers, and meditation, which responded to their needs and helped in building their self-esteem and empower their personality.

Involving a group of young women as tutors in the learn-by-play program

Another part of the program is a qualification training course that is followed by regular supervision and enrichment helping the young women to become involved in the community based programs. The Trust's coordinator chooses some of these young women to get involved in the Learn-by-play program as tutors.

This year we selected fifty young women from the three sites who gained skills in teaching and in communication with people (whether parents, teachers, school-principals, and pupils) they also continue to receive weekly and monthly enrichment. The program coordinator stated that the program helped them prove themselves as active members in the society since they are contributing in preventing school drop-out among the school pupils.

Quote by one of the young women: "joining the program was a challenge for me, it has allowed me to improve my self-confidence and today I feel more capable to help others and that I have a goal in my life, I love the children and I get excited every time we meet because they show me how much they love the program and seeing them improve and seeing them happy is a true reward for me and my colleagues".





In February 2012 The Trust of Programs for Early Childhood, family and Community Education organized a study-day for all the tutors of the 'Learn-by-Play' program from: Northwest Jerusalem, Lod, Ramleh, Rahat, and Shufat refugee Camp. 65 tutors participated in the study-day which discussed the subject of Behavioral Theories and how they can be applied in the Learn-by-Play program. The tutors were intrigued by the meeting, due

to its importance in their field work with the children of the program. Quote by participant: "it is important to be supportive and to be firm at the same time, the program gives the pupils a chance to learn through playing, experiences, and making mistakes.

Another national study- day was conducted in March 2012 on the child's behavioral and the cognitive development theory. 52 participants, young women and tutors from the learn by play program participated from the different areas of Shufat Refugee camp , the villages North West Jerusalem, Lod and Ramle.

The study-day was conducted by a psychologist who introduced to the participants the importance of active learning and discussion of many cases from the field, how to understand child's behavior and the best ways to deal with them. The lecturer concentrated on the cognitive theory and the mechanisms of understanding the different behaviors such as anger, feeling of guilt and the reasons behind it.

The Learn-by-Play Program

"being in the program means that I am free to play and learn at the same time, I am responsible for my choices, therefore, I respect my tutor and the rules of the group. When my friends and I use our imagination and are allowed to express our feelings and present our own ideas, we feel happy and doing our homework is just another activity within the learning process". Quote by pupil from the 4th grade.

The Learn-by-Play program matches the second goal of the Millennium Development Goals; it is based on the vision that every child, boy or girl has the right to education. The program aims at reducing and limiting the factual and latent dropout among the children in addition to reserving and maintaining their right to education. What distinguishes the program is that it takes the curriculum and simplifies it into work-papers and activities developed by the Trust, that helps the pupils understand the material and learn in a pleasant environment.

The program has taken a major role at the schools where it is implemented and improving their status which is seen clearly in the program through the teachers, the parents and the tutors feed-back. The program has succeeded to reach 560 school children from Rahat, the Shufat Refugee Camp and the villages South West Ramal-



lah. The children are from the 2nd,3rd and 4th grade, they have progressed a lot during the past year. Most of them had better grades and improved well in Math, reading and writing skills in English and Arabic language and in recognizing the letters, numbers and writing. On the behavioral level, and through the focused groups, the children started to listen and share with each other, their participation in the classroom has also improved since they are now more prepared for their lessons.

Quotes by school teachers:

"I can see the children showing respect to me and to one another, they are more confident and their behavior has surely improved".

"Hala used to be very shy. She was afraid of talking to anyone. After participating in the program, however, she developed self-confidence and is now able to express herself. She also has more friends than before".

"Sabeel now knows her alphabets. She started out not knowing any letters, or any words. Now she is able to put words together and make them into sentences".

In the beginning of the school year we were happy to see that the school principals are initiating contact with us, this is due to the success and the good reputation of the program which made the schools' administrator interested in implementing the program. They help us in recruiting the children who really need our help; furthermore, we used the screening test which is based on the cooperation between the program staff and the school teachers and administrators.

The tutors started using the educational kit which was very helpful in implementing the different components of the program. Although the ministry of education is cooperative, they do not have funds or policy to integrate the program in the school curriculums yet; therefore, it is essential to continue conducting the program. The educational kit included the didactical games and materials and work-papers.

The parents showed great interest in participating in our activities. Mothers met for follow up, discussing methods of raising and dealing with children. The parents participate in monthly meetings with the teachers, and in individual meetings according to their needs.

The coordinators and the tutors conducted six recreational days at the schools where the program is conducted.



In addition to the monthly recreational days, the Trust organized a closing festival for the members of the Learn-by-Play program in May 2012 at the pool-park in Bir-Nabala. Pupils from seven villages participated and also some parents and represen-

tatives of local institutions. The day included many activities and speeches, where the importance of the program and of extra-curriculum activities were emphasized, and one of the speakers Mr. Fathi Barakat, the regional director of the Jerusalem suburbs in the Ministry of Education, praised the success of the Learn-by-Play program which was acknowledged by an evaluation that was conducted by school principals and the Ministry of Education. He also emphasized the importance of broadening the Trust's scope by reaching new schools in North-West Jerusalem, for the urgent need of such programs in other schools; and the importance of developing the work of the Trust and its programs in order to target the largest segment possible of children and students. At the end of the festival, gifts and certificates were distributed to the children.



The Teachers' training program

"They all gather in pairs, with discipline and joy, children with anticipation in their eyes and hope that this is going to be the best day in their life. The teachers have already explained to them what the banners they hold in their hands stand for, the teachers also hoping that one day these children will achieve their rights. The banners hold your rights written on them, she says, your rights to decent living, food and health care and above all she says your right to live in a safe environment. The children look at each other happily, they don't fully understand, but they are optimistic, like all children should be, they look up at the sky, they wait for the teachers' directions, and they hold up their banners and start chanting cheerfully the songs they learned with their voice spreading in



the air of the Refugee Camp, like colours spreading into a grey sky, defeating the miserable environment and the burned garbage containers on the sides of the streets..."



The significance of the teachers' on-the-job training program lies in addressing the lack of professional educational backgrounds and professional training of preschool teachers and the poor environment in the preschools that lack didactical games and have limited space for the child's activities. Our philosophy in working with teachers is bringing them to relate to the child as a whole entity throughout the child's cognitive, physical and emotional development. Also, as part of the life oriented approach we realized the importance of parents' and the community's participation in the child's educational process.



The program is implemented in Ramle, the Shufat Refugee Camp in Jerusalem and in the neighbouring villages of Ramallah; we reached over 1300 children through training 55 preschool teachers from the three sites. The teachers were committed to both the basic training course and the advanced training course that are built on both theory and practice. Most of the teachers started by rearranging the classroom and providing a variety of activity centers, giving by this the children more space to move and covering their reality and developmental needs. In the arts workshops the teachers produced games and educational material according to each educational subject, mostly by using scrap and natural material that encouraged the child to practice active interaction. Our program coordinator reported, following her followup visit, that the children showed positive interaction and are participating more in the activities especially that the teachers are now hanging the wall decorations and educational materials on the child's eyelevel, putting labels, and categorizing them according to the subject and season.

In Rahat the teachers involved both the mothers and the children in activities that were conducted at the community center. Also in Jerusalem and the villages we have worked with parents of the children through the mothers groups, parent teacher meetings, the mother on duty day and home visits when needed in addition to the recreational days.

The teachers' forum in Shufat Refugee Camp had a vital role in networking, preparation and implementation of recreational days. Also, as part of networking, in July 2012 we conducted a field trip for a group of 25 teachers to Al-Kasimi Academy in Baqa where they were introduced to educational methods and shared their experience on early childhood education and development.



23

In August 2012, Ms. Irene Berger, consultant from Caritas Germany for kindergarten programs, conducted a training workshop for a number of preschool teachers and principals. The training workshop mainly discussed the Life Oriented Approach that was developed in the 70s in Germany and supported by Caritas Germany, and how identifying the key situations in the child's life can help us in the educational process. This is the second time the Trust hosts the German specialist noting the additive value her experience has left on the educators.





The coordinator conducted bi-monthly recreational-days at the kindergartens in cooperation with the teachers' forum and with the parents' involvement. In addition to another three days that took place in the end of December 2011 that were also conducted in cooperation with the teachers' forum in Shu'fat Refugee Camp and in the villages to alleviate the suffering of the young children living through arts, playing with balloons, clown, games and face painting.





This year we integrated a health awareness program to the program that involved the teachers and the mothers of the children on two levels: first raising awareness of the teachers and the parents on primary health care and prevented diseases, and second by performing medical check-ups on the children and their mothers. In addition, we conducted two open-days under the title "health, fun and education are my right", the children carried posters with quotes on health and rights in the streets around their kindergarten and at the end of the day we distributed fruits and vegetables on the children to eat.



We conducted three days health campaign for mothers at three of the kindergartens, a doctor and nurses from the Medical Relief Services conducted several check-ups for the mothers, measured their weight, BMI, blood pressure and diabetes.

The Nanni Center

In Ramla, The establishing of the Nanni Center has contributed a lot to the community such as the extra curriculum activities which has lately involved sixty children who got support in their schooling. The women from the neighborhood also use the center as a meeting point for conducting workshops on women's rights. The additive value of Nanni Center was clearly seen in the child and mother activities, which gave all the programs in Ramla a sense of belonging; as one of the mothers said: *"we are very proud to have a center where we can feel as a second home for us and our children"*. The Nanni Center will continue this year as well to enrich and deepen our services to children and families.



Combating Family Violence

Everyone has the right to live without violence, and this is our vision that one day our children will have peace of mind and live in a safe world. The program entered its third phase with the beginning of the year 2011 to continue to serve the target population in the eight villages of Beit Soreek – Al-Jeeb –Beit Duqqo – Biddo –Beit Anan –Beit Ejza –Qubeibeh and Qatanna, involving them in the program's goals and activities working together towards limiting and transforming domestic violence.



We worked in the past year with approximately 870 families in the targeted villages within the program's different components, we have reached about 290 women through the open groups, 70 women through the closed groups, 58 families through work-papers, 60 families through the counseling center, and spreading awareness to over 400 families through newsletters and the magazine, in addition to the week-ly enrichment that our facilitators continue to receive and develop their capacities.

One woman said, "From the time I started attending these meetings I started feeling that I am alive and that I exist not only to take care of my children but also for myself"

The women visiting the counseling center showed a lot of confidence in the specialists evidenced in the fact that they openly talked about violence of all types breaking the wall of silence about such issues that are considered a social taboo. About 70% of the women expressed a noticeable improvement in their relationships with their children and spouses.



In addition, the counseling at locations helped increase the number of women receiving counseling and the local organizations made numerous referrals of students and parents to the center.

Quote: "we are grateful that there is a clear address with a group of professional specialists whom we can reach out to, this makes us feel somehow safe".

As part of the program's new strategy we began integrating the materials and skills into our other running programs and we also established ongoing cooperation with other NGO's active in family services. We conducted training for 13 women at the Life Gate in Bethlehem and 23 women from Al-Lid association in Nablus to raise their awareness to family violence and to train them in performing home visits and supervision. The participants expressed their happiness of being part in such a course and showed interest to continue with us next year.



The Trust organized and conducted a workshop on the subject of 'violence based on Gender' on Thursday the 26th April 2012. More than sixty people participated, from the Trust's team, representatives of the PA government, municipalities and schools participated in this workshop. Representatives from the Ministry of Welfare, the Ministry of Women, the PA Police Authority, Ministry of Health and UNRWA presented papers and actively participated in the proceedings of the workshop.

The Trust's Center for Training, Research and Development

The workshop was prepared and organized as continuation and cross reference with the workshops on "Cultural Violence in the Palestinian Community" which took place in April 2011 and 'Violence in School' which took place in December the same year as part of Trust's efforts to raise public awareness and to strengthen the network of the services and organizations which work on reducing family and communal violence. The workshop program was drafted by Trust team and coordinated with the representatives of the Ministries who presented papers in the workshop.



The CTRD "The Trust's Center for Training, Research and Development" continued for the second year building on the Trust's vast experience in working with community-based approaches and benefiting Arab children and their families 'wherever they are'.

Farid Abu Gosh, the president of the Trust, conducted a training for the Arab Community in Germany in cooperation with RRA (Bureau for Intercultural Albeit) in Essen-Germany for stakeholders in order to help them in instituting an association for creating and implementing educational programs for the Arab community in Germany. It was agreed upon implementing the concept of the "learn-by-play" program within the Kurdish community in Essen. Farid considered this experience as very crucial, because it matches the Trust's philosophy in supporting and empowering the marginalized.

On the other hand, in March 2012 the UNESCO repeated the training experience in Mauritania throughout the Trust, which was considered as successful, especially that the Mauritanian official and private organizations positively evaluated the efforts that our team (Yusra and Maha) made in the training program last year. The training was based on developing a strategy to face illiteracy in Mauritania through Family literacy program. Following the workshop, our coordinator Yusra Mohamad has developed an educational kit of the training that was submitted to the UNESCO.

Staff Development:

Although we don't mention it much, but staff development is a crucial component in the Trust and has taken big part in the enrichment of both our professional and paraprofessional staff.

Over the past year we conducted monthly enrichment for our staff members on two levels, the first was by a local or international professional, and the second was by one of our staff members who shared his experience with the others.

Pooling Resources:

Over the years the Trust has succeeded to build a range of network among other local organizations who share, in a way, the same mission and vision to offer comprehensive and complementary services that would benefit the target community.

Our coordinators have worked on consolidating and deepening this network;

- in Shu'fat Refugee Camp, with the women's centre, the Medical Relief services, Al-Qattan Foundation, YMCA and the UNRWA preschools.
- In Ramla, the Trust networks with the five associations in which the women start their voluntary work: Kshatot, Al-Huda Association, the Ministry of social affairs, and the Community Centre. The associations are now more supportive to the program, which is important for implementing the program successfully.
- In Rahat Negev our relationships with our partners is seen in their active participation in our programs. Our cooperation is mainly with the community Center, the social affairs of fice, the Ministry of education, the Omar Ben Al-Khattab school and the preschools involved in the program
- In Biddo and the villages: Our work continues with the Ministry of Education in the area. More significant was our cooperation with the schools where we intensifies our efforts towards raising the pupils' school achievement. The Mintar Cultural Centre, The Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), and Radio Al-Sharq that cooperated in conducting fun-days. We also established contact with a number of the Palestinian ministries and governmental agencies.



Special Thanks and appreciation to all our supporters who were kind and generous enough to allow our programs to continue to serve the local community:

- Deutcher Caritas Verband Germany
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Germany BMZ (through Deutscher Caritasverband)
- The Swiss Friends of Kiryat Yearim in Israel Switzerland
- Misereor Germany
- Stella and Charles Guttmann Foundation Inc. USA
- The Barrow Cadbury Trust England
- The Harris Foundation USA
- The Leo Model Foundation USA
- Stichting Kinderpostzegsels Netherlands
- Evangelischer Arbeitskreis kirche und Israel in hesse
 - und Nassau Bischoeflches Hilfswerk Misereor E.V. Germany
- Caritas Italiana Italy
- The Province of Upper Austria via Geza Vienna
- The Trust Germany