



Newsletter

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THE INTERESTING NEWS OF APRIL



Beit Atfal Assumoud newsletter is published monthly by the National Institution of social Care and Vocational Training. Each letter is issued for publishing the works 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.

Family Happiness Project

The Family Happiness project gives the sponsored children and their families the opportunity to have an access to all the activities of BAS.

Awareness sessions

- On the world health day, 35 mothers from Ba'albek attended an awareness session by an environmental specialist from UNRWA about food safety on April 9th. On April 12th, the sponsored children in Beddawi center were informed about the healthy food that they should consume. The session was ended by distributing apples on all the children, knowing that "An apple a day keeps the doctor away".
- The sponsored families in Burj Shemali center participated in a session about adolescence on April 7th. In addition, children aged above 13 years old received a session about the right relations in Burj Shemali center on April 16th.
- Within the campaign against drugs organized by different NGOs with the participation of BAS, a group of mothers were invited to an awareness session about drugs given by Mrs. Miray Hamdan from "Youth against Drugs" in Burj Barajneh camp on April 23rd.



Commemoration

The sponsored children also commemorated the Palestinian prisoner's day in all BAS centers during April by drawing and playing games related to this day.

House Keeping theme

On April 23rd, 15 mothers were gathered in Ba'albek center and learned how to make sweets under the theme "House Keeping".



Educational Programs

Thank You RKK

The Kindergarten children in the Palestinian camps and the remedial education children of BAS were so happy to receive gifts “Dream bags” from Beit Atfal Assumoud donated by the appreciated Japanese organization Risho Kosei Kai (RKK). Thanks to everyone in Japan who contributed in drawing the smile on our children’s faces.



Kindergarten

Educational Activity

The kindergarten children of BAS enjoyed the reading week during April. They visited libraries inside and outside the centers to read stories and learn how to value the book.



Recreational Activities

BAS is thankful for the support of the Japanese organization “Campaign for the Children of Palestine” (CCP) for giving Burj Barajneh kindergarten children the opportunity to enjoy their time in Al Syoufi Public Park and the Zoo on April 30th.



More thanks to Ms. Anu Piippo and her friends from Finland who supported the trip of Shatila kindergarten children and their mothers to the same Public Park on April 8th.

Health Activity

Gratefully, BAS appreciated UNRWA for offering the fourth Polio vaccine for the kindergarten children in Burj Shemali, Rashidieh, and Burj Barajneh centers.



Workshop

In collaboration with the Welfare association-Lebanon, BAS organized a workshop for the mothers of the KG children in Beddawi center about the importance of children independency on April 25th.

Remedial Classes

Spring Vacation Activities

BAS teachers implemented educational and recreational activities with the remedial education children during the spring vacation. The educational activities included social theme, health theme, revisions, reading, solving extra worksheets, puzzles, while the recreational included drawing, singing, dancing, handicrafts, drama, sport, and trips. The trips were for those in Beirut, Ba'albek, and North areas under the support of the Japanese organization CCP.



Meetings

An environmental specialist from UNRWA met the remedial children in Ba'albek center and gave them a session about personal hygiene. The session was followed by distributing soaps for all on April 4th.

A staff from CCP organization met the mothers of the remedial education children in Burj Barajneh center on April 28th, and discussed with them strategies to improve the remedial program.



Special needs

Recreational trip

The students with special needs in Burj Barajneh center went on a trip to Kaskas Public Park-Beirut on April 11th to spend an enjoyable day.

Vocational Training

18 students from Rashidieh camp have started learning barbering in BAS-Rashidieh center. The course has started on April 1st, and will last for four months.



Here! Love your Health



DENTAL CARE

Would you like to keep your children's teeth healthy and beautiful?

It's here in BAS dental clinics!!!

BAS dental clinics daily welcome KG children from the Palestinian camps and treat their teeth because their oral safety is BAS responsibility.

1121 was the number of children who received treatments during April. All the children were from Shatila, Beddawi, Nahr El-Bared, Ein El Hillweh, Rashidieh, and Burj Shemali camps.

Besides, 735 sponsored and KG children and their mothers from BAS received awareness sessions about teeth safety. Some of the sessions were followed by presenting a film related to the theme.



Pediatrics

On April 27th, the pediatricist Dr. Sameh Akram Al Jaber gave the mothers in Nahr El-Bared center of BAS a session about Mumps, its causes, symptoms and precautions.

World Autism Awareness Day

The world autism awareness day was celebrated by the Family Guidance centers (FGCs) of BAS in participation with the centers in the south and north areas on April 2nd. Parents and children participated; they flew blue balloons in the sky as a symbol for autism, and distributed brochures and made speeches related to the day.



On April 30th, a session about autism was organized by BAS - FGC saida at Nibras organization. The session was given to 81 persons and representatives of schools and organizations by Dr. Jihan Rahim and by two therapists Mrs. Fatima Zabad and Mrs. Sara Majzoub.



Mothers' Awareness session

The mothers of the children who receive treatment in the FGC-Beddawi received an awareness session about sexual harassment on April 27th.

In addition, 21 mothers who benefit from FGC-Nahr El-Bared learned about Behavior Disorders on April 9th.

Documentary Film by Robin Hammond

The photographer Mr. Robin Hammond from the Handicap International organization documented a film in FGC El Buss concerning the mental health program on April 23rd, 25th, & 28th. The film included interviews with social workers, therapists, children and parents about their experiences within this program.



Mothers' Committee in FGC-El Buss

The mothers' committee in FGC El Buss had the chance to get training about providing the right services upon the request of the beneficiary. It was given by the psychologist Mrs. Sofia Me'amari from the Handicap International organization on April 28th.

Psychosocial Support Program

Art Activity

Al Rashidieh center invited mothers displaced from Syria to enjoy a handicraft activity on April 7th. This activity aimed at reducing their daily stress, and teaching them new skills that develop their abilities and talents.



Recreational Activities

On April 14th, Burj Shemali center accompanied a group of children involved in the activities of psychosocial support program to a picnic in Al Remali area.

The mothers and youth who participate in the program's activities in Al Rashidieh center were accompanied to Ras Al Ein reserve in Tyre for relaxation and enjoyment on April 21st.



Two activities were organized for the children in Rashidieh center on April 26th. One was an outdoor where the children enjoyed their time in the duck natural reserve, and another was an indoor where they celebrated the birthday of their friends who were born in April.



Parents Deal

18 mothers from Nahr El-Bared center benefited from the recreational activities performed within the parents deal theme on April 29th.

Workshop

Two social workers from Rashidieh and El Buss centers were invited by MAP to participate in the Safe Identification and Referral TOT workshop. It was organized by UNHCR and the International Rescue Committee for four days from April 27th till April 30th.

Reproductive Health & Peer Education

Awareness sessions

- BAS social workers and peer educators who are involved in the reproductive health and peer education project gave different awareness sessions for children, youth, and mothers about different important topics. The sessions tackled topics that increase their awareness on certain diseases and related problems. These were part of the reproductive health project, beside the other clinical activities that are carried monthly.
- During April, awareness sessions were given to the vocational students who partially supported by the Norwegian People's Aids in Burj Barajneh center and to youth from Shatila center about communication and team work followed by playing the game "Moving Forward".
- A delegation from MAP organization was accompanied by Mrs. Marta Petagna to Al Rashidieh center on April 12th. They attended the session about the risks of drugs that was given to a group of youth. The aim of their participation was to evaluate the project for the possibility of further funding.
- 23 youth were gathered in Ba'albek center on April 3rd, to start giving a cycle of awareness sessions within the peer education program. The project technical supervisor Ms. Dunia Fatayri introduced the project to them, and took their suggestions concerning the program.



Workshop

Four day residential workshop about Aids, Drugs, Voluntary work and Sexual Transmitted diseases was organized from April 10th, till April 13th in Burmmana/Hotel Le Crillon. 22 peer educators from the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and 5 social workers benefited from the workshop under the facilitation of the technical supervisor.

Workshops

Stress Reduction

- On the first and third of April, the two Finnish friends from FiPSR organization Mrs. Kirsti Palonen and Mrs. Nina Lyytinen organized hiking days for stress reduction. One was with 16 social workers to Arz Jaj and another with 27 children from Shatila, Burj Barajneh and Mar Elias centers to Kfarzebian Mountain.
- On April 4th, they continued the stress reduction workshop in Mar Elias center as a continuation for that in March.



Art Workshops

- A three days Art workshop was held with children in Burj Barajneh center during April. At the beginning, it included story crafting activity for drafting a manuscript for a picture story. Then, the children made a short animation with Ms. Inna Paakkonen from Finland under the assistance of Mrs. Kirsti Palonen. The children were so motivated and concentrated to do amazing art works.
- A comics drawing workshop was organized by BAS on April 6th, in Mar Elias center for all the participants who are involved in the comics activity under the supervision of the Art coordinator Mrs. Jamal Abu Saleh.



Women Can Do It

Beit Atfal Assumoud organized a two days training workshop within the project “Women Can Do It” supported by NPA under the title “Empowering the Women to Integrate in the Society” on April 20th, & 21st.



Empower Marginalized Communities in South Lebanon

Two Social workers from El Buss center and two others from Burj Shemali center participated in the workshops organized by the Welfare association-Lebanon within the “Empower marginalized communities in south Lebanon” project. The workshops were about Autism and Communication skills. They were held during April at Al Najdah Association and Nabaa organization.

Events

Land's Day

Rashidieh center organized two more events to celebrate the land's day on April 2nd, & 3rd. The first event was celebrated with the kindergarten children in participation with the mother's committee by performing different activities including drawing painting Henna, national songs and serving Palestinian meals. The other event was organized in participation with Burj Shemali center, local NGOs, sportive clubs and citizens in Rashidieh center. The event started with the Lebanese and Palestinian anthems, and then the center's director made a speech followed by music and dancing shows.



During April, Nahr El-Bared and Ein El Hillweh also celebrated the Land's day in participation with children and mothers by performing national and art activities including dancing drawing drama etc...



Participations

- Rashidieh dancing group participated in the anniversary of Ain El Assal UNRWA School for honoring the excellent children on April 4th.
- The trainees involved in the "Empower Marginalized Communities in South Lebanon" project from El Buss center participated in the lunch organized by Nabaa organization on April 7th.
- Nahr El Bared center participated in the annual dinner of the 15th anniversary of establishing the Arts, Sciences, & Technology University in Lebanon in Quality Inn Hotel on April 16th.



- On April 27th & 29th, Beddawi and Nahr El-Bared dancing groups performed impressive shows during the commemoration of Nakba day at the Lebanese University in participation with the Arab Palestinian Cultural Club. They also performed folkloric activities and organized painting and art exhibition.



- BAS centers participated in different activities (Sit-in solidarity, press conferences etc...) with other NGOs for supporting the Palestinian cause and Palestinian rights.

Meetings & Visitors

General Director's Meetings

- Meeting with the education project coordinator Mrs. Marta Schena on April 21st, for the opportunity of partnership in the north centers.
- Meeting with the senior programs manager Mrs. Piera Redaelli from Terre Des Hommes-Switzerland on April 22nd, for future collaboration.
- Meeting with Al Kamandjati president Mr. Ramzi Abu Redwan and the project manager and development Ms. Julie Vautard to discuss the music project and the children summer camp on April 23rd.
- Meeting with the Minister of Health with the Common Space Initiative to discuss the problems faced by Palestinian refugees on April 30th.

Visitors

- Mrs. Kirsti Palonen and Mrs. Nina Lyytinen visited the remedial classes and kindergarten children in Burj Shemali center and took them photos while performing activities on April 2nd. She also visited Shatila center with Ms. Inna Paakkonen to learn about the center's services.
- The sponsor Mrs. Aseel Farah from Switzerland came to Lebanon and was interested to visit Shatila center with BAS president Dr. Najla Bashour on April 9th.
- Another sponsor Mr. Alexandro Zano from Italy visited his sponsored child in his house and visited Shatila center to get an idea about its activities on April 9th.



- On April 11th, a staff from the United Lebanon Youth Project (ULYP) paid a visit to Burj Barajneh center and had an idea about its activities.
- Mr. Neil Kirtlan from Britain visited Burj Barajneh and Shatila centers with his wife for the purpose of visiting the families he photographed two years ago to present his book (Families of Nakba).
- A delegation from MAP-Britain visited Nahr El-Bared center on April 21st, and discussed the psychosocial support program.
- During April, the Special assistant to the chairman Mrs. Pamela Bailey from the Euromid organization-USA visited the centers of BAS in South, North and Beirut areas. During her visit she visited some sponsored families displaced from Syria, and she got an idea about the centers' activities for future collaboration.
- The president of Al Kamandjati organization Mr. Ramzi Abu Redwan from Ramallah visited Burj Barajneh center with Mrs. Karma Al Jaroudi to follow up the music project on April 26th.
- FGC Saida welcomed the two sponsors Mrs. Gabrielle Bosshart & Mrs. Kathrin Stutz from Switzerland on April 29th & 30th. They met some families who received treatment in the FGC and benefited from the mental health program.



Special Corner

Ziad Abdul Hadi is a 14-years-old child; he lives in Shatila camp with a naïve father and mentally disordered mother. He dropped out from school 6 years ago, and became responsible for his younger siblings. Neighbors feel sympathetic with them and give food for the family. They also receive care from BAS. After opening the drop-outs class in Shatila center, we registered Ziad in the class, and we gave him the opportunity to participate in all the center's activities. In addition, we sent him to learn carpentry as a vocation for his future. Ziad is very happy to continue learning and achieve a part of his dreams. After BAS intervention, Ziad became self-confident, more responsible, initiative, persistent and committed. He feels now that he is not alone; someone else is helping him to reduce his sufferings, and ensure his childhood.



We kindly share our latest activities with our appreciated partners, friends and colleagues. Enjoy discovering what new at **BAS!**



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