

The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre

Biennial Report 2016 -17

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Forward

It was with great delight that we commemorated in 2016 the 50th anniversary of the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre. For more than half a century now, this premiere institution of the Diocese of Jerusalem has given hope to families facing hardship and need through their diagnostic, rehabilitation and educational services. Their work continues to be a major part of our Christian witness and mission to the world.

We are pleased to issue this biennial report, which offers more specifics about the many services that the JPBC has provided over these past two years, as well as some touching stories about how these efforts have transformed lives for the better.

I would like to thank all of our donors and partners from around the world for making these ministries of the JPBC possible through their generous contributions and support. I would also like to commend the Board of Directors; Mr. Ibrahim Faltas, the General Director; and all of the staff for their devoted commitment to the work of the JPBC.

We look forward to a bright future in the years ahead, continuing the good work that was first begun more than fifty years ago.

+ Suheil Dawani

The Most Reverend Suheil S. Dawani
Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem
Chairman, the Board of Directors, JPBC

Marking **50** years of service

In the 1950s, there was an outbreak of Poliomyelitis throughout Palestine, thus affecting many children with this epidemic. The wave of “Polio” swept rapidly, leaving behind a large population with physical disabilities. Hence, there was a tremendous need for a shelter to embrace and care for children affected by Polio. In 1961 the charity of “The Jerusalem Crippled Children Organization” was established by different partners headed by the Anglican Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, by Bishop Najib Qobein. This was in response to the need for providing medical and rehabilitation services for children with orthopedic and neuromuscular disabilities.

The Rehabilitation Centre was built and became fully operational in 1965. The official inauguration ceremony for the Centre, took place on 16 April 1966, and was attended by HRH Princess Basma Bint Talal- who still maintains constant support and a positive relationship to the Centre. In honour of her commitment and patronage, the name of the organisation was changed to become “The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre for Crippled Children”.

In 1993, the Centre was identified by the Palestinian Ministry of Health as one of the primary four national rehabilitation and referral centres for children with disabilities.

Currently, the Centre is registered under a new name “The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre” (JPBC) and is widely known as a leading national rehabilitation centre for children with disabilities, coming from all across Palestine. In 2015, became the first and only rehabilitation centre to receive the certification for quality ambulatory care services by the Joint Commission for International Accreditation “JCIA.” JPBC operates under the umbrella of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, and is also a member of the East Jerusalem Hospitals Network and a member of the Palestinian Higher Council for Persons with Disabilities. By 2017, the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre is proud to continue its support through its devoted 131 employees.



Ibrahim Faltas
General Director
The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre

Celebrating the Golden Jubilee

The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre celebrated its 50th anniversary in November 2016, highlighting the achievements of the Centre during its fifty years of service. The anniversary was publicized through different communication channels, targeting its beneficiaries, donors and the disability sector. JPBC's core work focuses on providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to children with disabilities (CwD) coming from across Palestine, in addition to offering inclusive education to CwD from the East Jerusalem area. Another structure affiliated with the Centre is the "sheltered workshop" providing a vocational training programme for adults with disabilities in a safe environment.

Furthermore, a central event was conducted at the premises of JPBC under the patronage of his Grace, Archbishop Suheil Dawani. The event was highlighted by a recorded speech of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal of Jordan, who inaugurated the Centre back in 1966. It is worth mentioning that HRH continues to generously support the Centre.

The event was attended by a number of distinguished guests representing partners and supporters of the Centre, namely the Governor of Jerusalem Mr. Adnan Al Hussein, Mr. Reuben Gauci, the Representative of Malta to the Palestinian Authority in Ramallah, deputies of diplomatic missions, donor organizations and partners, as well as representatives of the public and private sector and local community members.

During the event, special tribute was paid in honor of Mrs. Betty Majaj, who served the Centre for 30 years with persistent determination. Her contributions helped develop the rehabilitation services, realizing the potential of the children with disabilities. Also, Mrs. Majaj was the first to add a new addition to the Centre's premises by opening an elementary co-educational school in 1987. At first, the school was designed to accommodate up to the sixth grade, and promoted an inclusive model which allowed all students to learn alongside their peers. Now the school has grown and provides also high school education. Since its inception, the inclusive school has remained a place where students learn together; play together; grow and are nurtured together.

As the number one institution providing needed and specialized medical rehabilitation for children with disabilities, JPBC continues to provide care, treatment services and education to CwD. In 2017, as part of JPBC's outreach programme, 1,199 children were assessed by the rehabilitation medical staff through 60 visits to several cities including: Hebron, Jericho, Ramallah, Qalqilya, Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarem, and surrounding communities of Jerusalem. As a result of these efforts and JPBC's role as the main referral center for the treatment of CwD, 667 children were treated in 2017 in the rehabilitation centre, out of which 490 came from the West Bank and from Gaza¹. The Centre provides treatment services to children with

¹ 8% of the CwD were referred by UNRWA, 8% by Palestinian Medical Military Services, and 84% by Palestinian Ministry of Health.

Cerebral Palsy, Neuromuscular Diseases, Pediatric Limb Deficiencies, Congenital Malformations, Post Musculoskeletal Traumas, Neurodevelopmental Disorders, and Communicative Disorders including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Because children and their families live in the West Bank and Gaza and lack easy access to JPBC, they are registered into a comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation programme. As part of this intensive 2-3 week programme, CwD are provided with needed treatments, complemented by a “Mothers’ Empowerment Programme” designed to train mothers on how to provide needed in-home therapies for their child. In 2017, 490 mothers with CWDs received training and support, as part of our “Mothers’ Empowerment Programme”.

In addition to providing the highest level of rehabilitation treatment and quality care, JPBC is home to an inclusive school. For the 2017-18 school year, 406 children enrolled in the Inclusive School, where 37% of the school children were identified with some form of disability.

Furthermore, JPBC provides vocational training through the “Sheltered Workshop” designed to support and provide a space for people with disabilities to gain skills, work on projects as well as providing them with better opportunities to get re-integrated in their communities and workforce. In 2017, 24 adults were enrolled in the vocational training programme. While the inclusive school and vocational workshop are both an essential piece of JPBC’s commitment to providing support and promoting inclusion of children and people with disabilities, its main role in the community is as a rehabilitation facility and resource for clinical students studying rehabilitation and intervention therapies. In 2017, 28 clinical students from Palestinian Universities participated in the JPBC clinical training programme.

JPBC at a Glance:

- **BENEFICIARIES:** In 2017, **2477** beneficiary cases received some kind of service at the JPBC, and 2571 in 2016.
- **Child Rehabilitation Centre:** In 2017, **667** cases of children with disabilities from Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza Strip received rehabilitation therapy services in 2017, while the 2016 figure stood at 547.
- **Mother Empowerment:** In 2017, **490** mothers from West Bank and the Gaza Strip of children with disabilities participated in the “Mothers’ Empowerment Programme,” whereas the 2016 figure stood at 426.
- **Princess Basma Centre’s Clinic:** In 2017, **103** children with disabilities received assessment at the Princess Basma Centre Clinic, as compared to 93 in 2016.

- **Adult Physiotherapy Clinic:** By October 2017, **708** adult persons received physiotherapy and hydrotherapy sessions until the end of October 2017, as compared to 984 in 2016.²
- **Inclusive Education:** In 2017, **416** Children were enrolled in Princess Basma Inclusive School, where **161** were children with disabilities, constituting a percentage of **38.7% of the total school students**. **112** school students with disabilities received rehabilitation services at the Rehabilitation Centre. In 2016, **469** Children were enrolled in Princess Basma Inclusive School, where **151** were children with disabilities, constituted **32% of the total school students**, and **112** school students with disabilities received rehabilitation services at the Rehabilitation Centre.
- **Vocational Training Programme:** In 2016 and 2017, **24** adult persons with disabilities received vocational training at the Sheltered Workshop.
- **Clinical Training Programme:** In 2017, **16** Students from Palestinian Universities were enrolled in the clinical training programme and 28 in 2016.

² The JPBC Adult Physiotherapy closed operations permanently in October 2017.

The Rehabilitation Centre

The rehabilitation Centre is divided into two distinctive departments: The Children Rehabilitation Department and Physiotherapy Department (clinic) for adults.

The Child Rehabilitation Centre



*During 2016 and 2017, the child rehabilitation centre treated **1,214** children with disabilities from the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem; **916** children with disabilities were from the West Bank Gaza, and **298** from East Jerusalem were referred and admitted for the comprehensive rehabilitation services that include: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Hydrotherapy, Sensory Therapy and Music Therapy.*

Therapy Sessions Provided:

In 2017, these children were treated through receiving a total number of **14,845** therapy sessions divided as follow:

- ✓ **3,525** Physiotherapy sessions
- ✓ **4,125** Speech and Language Therapy sessions
- ✓ **3,801** Occupational Therapy sessions.
- ✓ **333** Hydrotherapy Sessions
- ✓ **1,619** Music Therapy sessions.

In 2016, these children were treated through receiving a total number of **12,634** therapy sessions divided as follow:

- ✓ **2971** Physiotherapy sessions
- ✓ **3568** Speech and Language Therapy sessions
- ✓ **3421** Occupational Therapy sessions, which included **1025** hydrotherapy sessions.
- ✓ **333** Hydrotherapy Sessions
- ✓ **1316** Music Therapy sessions.

Type of disability:

The Child Rehabilitation Centre (CRC) treats children with all kinds of disabilities from birth until 15 years of age. The CRC focuses its support to children with Cerebral Palsy, Neuromuscular Diseases, Pediatric Limb Deficiencies, Congenital Malformations, Post Musculoskeletal Traumas, Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Communicative Disorders such as (Autism Spectrum Disorder “ASD” Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder “ADHD”).

In 2016, the highest percentage of CWD treated from the **West Bank and Gaza** was for children with multiple disabilities forming 35.21% of the total number of CWD admitted, followed by children with Cerebral Palsy 30.28%, children with the Autism Spectrum Disorder “ASD” 11.74%, children with Psychomotor Retardation 9.15%, children with Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder “ADHD” 4.46%, children with Down Syndrome 3.76%, children with Spinal Bifida 2.58%, children with Muscular Dystrophy 1.64%.

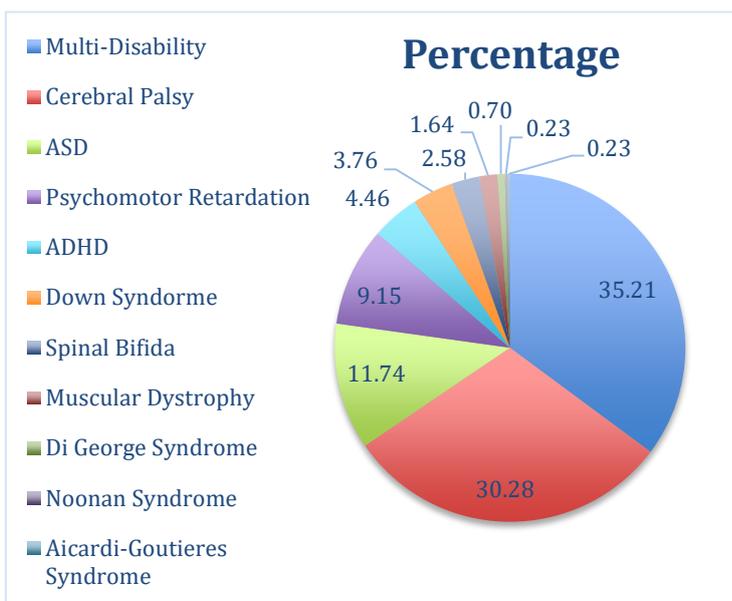


Figure 1: Types and percentage of children with disabilities from WB/Gaza treated in 2016

Table 1: Numbers of disabilities referred in 2016

Type of Disability	Number of Children referred
Cerebral Palsy	129
Spinal Bifida	11
Syndromes	21
Down Syndrome	16
Di George Syndrome	3
Noonan Syndrome	1
Aicardi-Goutieres Syndrome	1
Muscular Dystrophy	7
Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	19
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD/Autism)	50
Multi-Disability	150
Psychomotor Retardation	39
Total	426

In 2017, the highest percentage of CWD treated from the **West Bank and Gaza** was for children with Cerebral Palsy forming 31.69% of the total number of CWD admitted, followed by children with Developmental Delay Milestone at 28.40%, children with Multi-disability at 11.50%, children with Autism Spectrum Disorder at 10.09%, children with Psychomotor Retardation at 9.15%, children with Syndromes at 8.92%, children with Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder “ADHD” 7.75%, children with Congenital Malformations 2.82%, children with Hydrocephaly 2.35%, and children with Spinal Bifida at 0.94%.

Figure 2: Types and percentage of children with disabilities from WB/Gaza treated in 2017

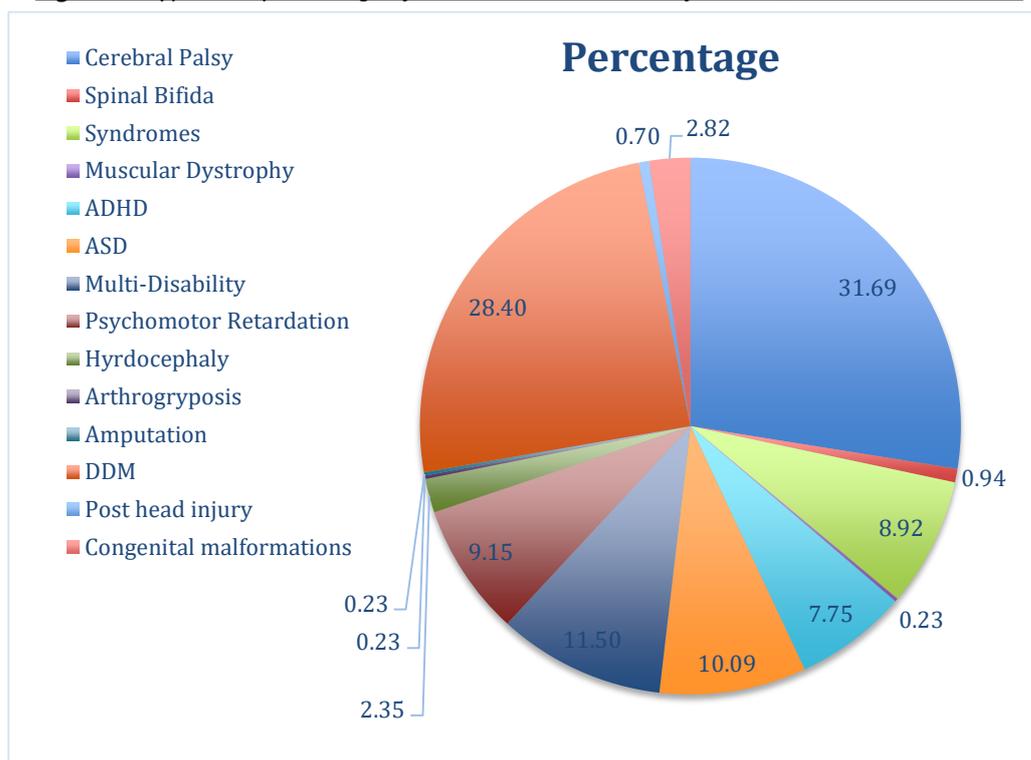


Table 2:

Numbers of disabilities referred in 2017

Type of Disability	Number of Children referred
Cerebral Palsy	135
Spinal Bifida	4
Syndromes	38
Muscular Dystrophy	1
Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	33
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD/Autism)	43
Multi-Disability	49
Psychomotor Retardation	39
Hydrocephaly	10
Arthrogryposis	1
Amputation	1
Developmental Delay milestone	121
Post head injury	3
Congenital Malformations	12
Total	490

Age and Gender of Children with disabilities treated:

JPBC treats children with disabilities from birth until 15 years old, the data of 2016, indicated a higher percentage of children age (from birth until 5 years old) forming 65% of the total number of children treated, followed by 29% for the age group (6-9 years old), and 6% for the age group (10-15 years old).

Age of children: The age of children admitted to the rehabilitation Centre is from birth until 15 years old; segregated as detailed in table 1.

Table 3: Age and Gender of Children with Disabilities being treated

Age	<1-5ys	5yrs-9yrs	10-15yrs	
	374	90	26	
Gender	Females	176	Males	314

As for gender distribution, the data of 2016 indicates a higher number of boys treated rather than girls. 64% of the children treated in 2016 were boys, compared to 36% girls.

Figure 3: Age Distribution

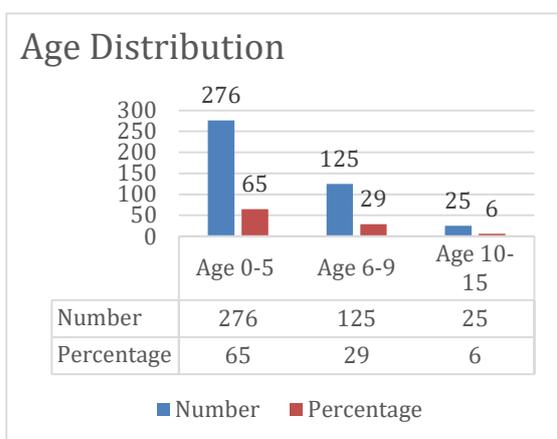
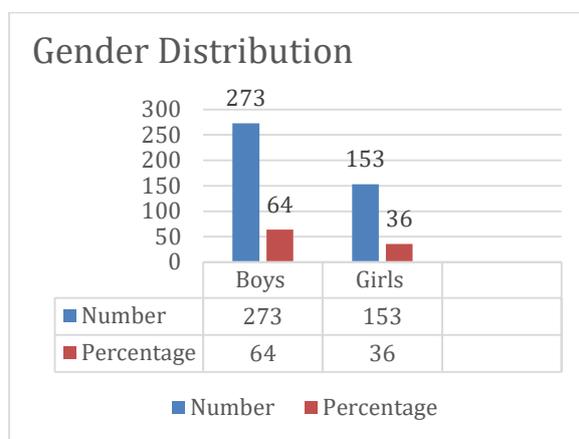


Figure 4: Gender Distribution



“We are condemned to hope”

Mira, a child working for a Better Tomorrow

It is the thirteenth admission for Mira Masri into the Rehabilitation programme at the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre. Mira is four years and seven months, and was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy as a result of placental abruption from her mother’s uterus prior the delivery, causing Mira’s mother to suffer a severe bleeding. The critical situation obliged Mira’s mother to have an immediate C-section, in order to deliver her baby girl. Mira, weighing less than 900 grams, remained in the incubator for neonatal care for almost two months and was connected to an artificial respiratory machine. Making things worse, a feeding tube was inserted into her stomach deforming Mira’s soft skin.



Her mother says” I feel pain when I remember the days I had to watch my daughter suffer. I witnessed the fear of death after her heart stopped twice.”

Five times are the total number of operations Mira’s little body had to endure. Her mom explains “Mira’s actual age is less than the number of surgeries she has undergone throughout her life”. This included Retinal Cryopexy surgery, another one to fix a congenital heart disease, followed by a hernia repair and a critical surgery in the leg’s tendon.

Razan, Mira’s mother shares her story “When Mira was 9 months old, I noticed a delay in the development of her growth.” I took her to “Farah” clinic in Nablus where Dr. Waddah Malhis and a multi-disciplinary team from the JPBC diagnosed her, and requested to run some tests and transferred her to receive comprehensive services at the JPBC before she even completed her 13th month.

I remember well every admission Mira went through and the positive results she achieved after every rehabilitation cycle. The progress in Mira’s condition was attained after she had received therapeutic services at the Centre with my company to all her therapy sessions, in addition to performing certain exercises I was trained to conduct through the customized home-program provided by the Centre. Razan continues” At first, Mira started lifting her head, and then she began sitting alone and belly crawling, and gradually shifted to hand/knee crawling. Later, she started moving her legs, and slowly started walking assisted by the kay walker which helped her move between rooms and to the bathroom. The improvement in her physical abilities was accompanied by development in all other fields including, cognitive, linguistics and communication skills in addition to becoming independent in various daily activities. Razan resumes “In the admission prior to the last one, Mira made exceptional progress. She walked eight steps by herself and succeeded recently to walk 100 steps all alone in her last admission.”

Therapists who have worked with Mira say that she first came to the Centre with sensory, physical communicative and linguistics difficulties, in addition to behavioral problems related to social interaction. Regarding to Mira's physical problems, she had motor developmental delay in her lower limbs, weakness in trunk muscles and in her balance when sitting. She also suffered from problems in sitting, crawling, and standing up. On the occupational level, Mira had sensory problems, and difficulties in fine and gross motor skills that disabled her from grasping things in both hands. Adding to this, Mira faced problems in daily life activities including her dependency on others while doing her chores. However, Mira walks at home alone now without anyone's help at home. She uses the crutches at the kindergarten but she is independent in most of her daily activities exhibiting a huge progress to be integrated to be enrolled in the primary level at school.

"At the beginning of the admission, Mira showed delay in her communication, linguistic and expressive progress, oral cavity problems, in addition to delays in her cognitive skills. After receiving treatment at the Centre, Mira's communication and even social skills progressed in a remarkable way. Her speech began to be understandable. Her sentences became long. She is even capable of telling stories", Speech and language therapist Hadeel Saideh comments.

Razan tells how relatives and friends were discouraging and disappointing "A girl with a cerebral palsy can't achieve anything of this sort". Others discouraged my attempts to help Mira and my trip all the way to Jerusalem to seek rehabilitation and treatment. Only therapists at Princess Basma Centre supported and filled me with their contagious hope. Indeed, I started accompanying Mira and learning as much as I can from her treatment sessions. I memorized all exercises and practiced them at home. My husband couldn't believe the progress Mira had achieved. I even taught him and my eldest daughter, Laura, how to do certain exercises to ensure Mira's development".

Mira has a unique smile that doesn't leave her. She loves taking "selfies", making different poses on the camera and capturing happy moments on her mother's mobile. Mira got recently enrolled in a kindergarten in Nablus and was integrated in the same class with the rest of her peers. She takes the kindergarten bus every day and lives her daily life overcoming all the obstacles, the physical ones but most importantly the social obstacles society has created.

Razan says "Mira's progress has exceeded everybody's' expectations. I will continue following up with her and training her until she becomes a fully independent productive person.

Mira's success story falls under the support given by "Embrace the Middle East ". The programme provides rehabilitation services for children with disabilities in the West Bank and fosters the network of partnerships with rehabilitation centers in the society. The programme also aims to raise awareness of disabled children in Palestine, transfer them for the specialized rehabilitation program, and empower their mothers through the treatment and rehabilitation process.

The Outreach Programme



In 2017, the total number of 60 multidisciplinary outreach visits were conducted in cooperation with 15 partner Community-Based Rehabilitation Organizations (CBRO) within eight Palestinian governorates (Hebron, Jericho, Ramallah, Jerusalem, Jenin, Qalqilya, Nablus and Tulkarem).

In addition, 120 field clinic visits were conducted in cooperation with Abu Raya Centre for Rehabilitation in Ramallah and Farah Centre for Rehabilitation in Nablus.

In 2016, a total number of **1,349** children with disabilities were assessed during the 43 outreach and 107 clinic visits to Abu Raya Centre, Farah Centre and JPBC clinic in Jerusalem. 501 children with disabilities received a multidisciplinary assessment in the partner CBROs and 848 children with disabilities were assessed and examined by the JPBC Rehabilitation Doctor/Medical Director.

In 2017, a total number of **1,343** children were diagnosed throughout the **Outreach Visits and clinics** through **180** visits reaching different Palestinian cities (Hebron, Jericho, Ramallah, Qalqilya, Tulkarem, Jenin, Nablus and surrounding towns of Jerusalem). As a result, **490** children with disabilities were admitted for the comprehensive rehabilitation program at JPBC

Table 4: Multidisciplinary 2016 outreach visits segregated to Palestinian Governorates

Governorate	Total Number of visits	Total number of children seen
<i>Hebron</i>	10	124
<i>Jericho</i>	6	57
<i>Ramallah</i>	10	126
<i>Jerusalem</i>	1	11
<i>Jenin</i>	8	87
<i>Qalqilya</i>	8	96
Total	43	501

Table 5: Multidisciplinary 2017 outreach visits segregated to Palestinian Governorates

Governorate	Total Number of visits	Total number of children seen
<i>Hebron</i>	9	91
<i>Jericho</i>	8	72
<i>Ramallah</i>	7	72
<i>Jerusalem</i>	9	85
<i>Jenin</i>	8	106
<i>Qalqilya</i>	8	80
<i>Nablus</i>	8	61
<i>Tulkarem</i>	3	50
Total	60	617

It's worth noting, that the Outreach program is an integral part of the work of JPBC and it aims at facilitating accessibility to quality rehabilitation services for children with disabilities from the West Bank.

The Mothers' Empowerment Programme



In 2016, **426** mothers of children with disabilities participated in the Mothers' Empowerment Programme (MEP). This programme is designed to support the mothers of children with disabilities to provide care for their children, in addition to providing them with the needed psychosocial support and education on their needs and the needs of their children. In 2017, the JPBC MEP served **490** mothers of children with disabilities.

The Adult Physiotherapy Clinic:

In 2017, a total number of 708 adult patients (293 males and 415 females) from the East Jerusalem area, received physiotherapy and hydrotherapy sessions. The types of cases treated can be seen in Table 6 below and the distribution of treatment by gender for 2016 and 2017 can be seen in Table 7.

Table 6: Adult Physiotherapy 'Diagnosis' / 2017

OPT 2017 Diagnostic types		
Diagnoses	Number of patients	%
Neck Pain	162	23%
Back Pain	230	32.4%
Facial Palsy	3	0.4%
U.L. Disorder	129	18.2%
L.L. Disorder	142	20%
Neurological	11	1.5%
T.M.J.	1	0.1%
Lymphedema	3	0.4%
Others	27	4%
Total	708	100%

In 2016, a total number of 984 adult patients (453 males and 531 females) from the East Jerusalem area, received physiotherapy and hydrotherapy sessions. The types of cases treated were as shown in figure 5 below:

Figure 5: Adult Physiotherapy diagnosis / 2016

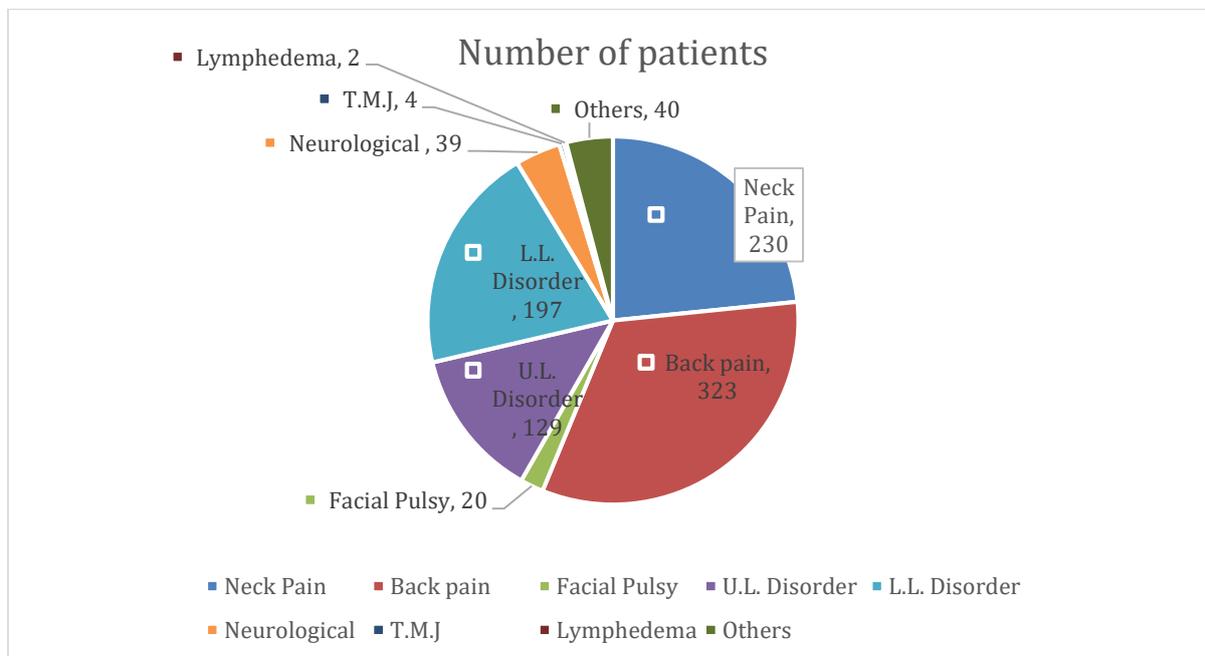


Table 7: Adult Physiotherapy by Gender 2016 / 2017

Gender	Male	Female	Total number of patients in 2016/2017
2016	453	531	984
2017	293	415	708
Total by Gender	746	946	1692

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.” Proverb

The Outreach Programme is the spinal cord of the tangible work done at the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre (JPBC). It aims at reaching out to rural areas and marginalized groups in the community, thus providing children with disabilities with an opportunity to access the medical and therapeutic resources they need, in order to reach their full potential and highest level of



personal independence. The Programme also aims at engaging the Community-Based Rehabilitation Organizations (CBRO) by providing their practitioners with new methodologies in the field of rehabilitation. It is also formulated to actively involve the community and members of families in the entire rehabilitation process of children with disabilities.

Supported by *Embrace*, and to ensure the sustainability of the programme, (JPBC) established strong rapport with 4 intermediate rehabilitation centres in the West Bank, where a multi-disciplinary team from the JPBC conducts weekly visits to partner rehabilitation centres in the West Bank Governorates of Ramallah, Nablus, Qalqilya, Jenin, Hebron, and Jericho, in addition to Jerusalem and its surroundings. During these visits, children with disabilities (CWD) are diagnosed and those in need for advanced treatment are referred to receive comprehensive rehabilitation services at the Centre in Jerusalem.

One of the strong Centres JPBC partnered with is Bint Al-Reef Rehabilitation Centre in Dura-Hebron. “We receive children with various kinds of disabilities from all places of Hebron city. The Centre contains 5 classes, 3 of them are for special education, a class for treating children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and another “pre-vocational one” where children are prepared to enroll in vocational training”. Fatmeh Abu Katteh, Head of Bint Al Reef Centre for children with disabilities mentions “A significant relationship was created with the JPBC where a professional team paid us regular visits, hence building the capacities of our staff”. Fatmeh continued.

“The JPBC did not only abide by the articles of the Memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed with them only; our relationship exceeded the written components to developing a higher level of commitment. They helped us in designing the classroom environment for CWD, in addition to applying adequate adaptations to the special education classes as well as arranging the sensory room based on professional criteria and advanced standards.” She added, “Our sensory room benefits children with ASD, and it is also used as a comfortable atmosphere to hold other kinds of therapies, such as language and speech therapy, occupational and physiotherapy therapies.



Not only the equipment that JPBC brought to furnish and support the rehabilitation services at the Centre, but also the transfer of knowledge the professional team of Princess Basma equipped our staff with. We have 10 devoted therapists who benefitted from on-the-job therapeutic trainings”, She concluded.



Mothers in field are very much satisfied with what is done by the Outreach Programme. They always give positive feedback especially when they participate in awareness-raising sessions on related issues to the health and well-being of children with disabilities. “My son (Arafat) was injured in a car accident, where he lost the ability of walking and speaking. Tips

I got from the sessions I attended at Bint Al-Reef Centre helped me a lot on how to deal with him”, a mother of a child with disability said.

“Hebron district has one of the highest rates of disability (3.6%). The percentage is much higher but stigma and shame result in under-reporting of numerous cases of children with disabilities”, said Mithqal Jaber, Programmes Manager at the JPBC. “Therefore such interventions are necessary to ensure the empowerment of children with disabilities for full inclusion in their communities”, he continued.





The Inclusive Education Programme

The Inclusive school was established in 1987. As an educational institution dedicated to implementing inclusive methodologies designed to meet the needs of children with a range of abilities from the East Jerusalem area. Following students from Kindergarten through the 12th grade, our school promotes opportunities for children with disabilities and children without disabilities to study together in mainstream classrooms. In addition to their education CWD also receive rehabilitation services at our Child Rehabilitation Centre.

For the academic year **2016/2017**, 469 children were enrolled in the inclusive education programme, 300 males and 169, about 32% of them are children with disabilities. The school also offers special education classrooms specifically equipped for students with autism, as well as for those with hearing and learning difficulties. In total, there are 2 classrooms for children with autism, 2 for children with hearing disabilities, and 2 classrooms for children with learning difficulties (ADHD).

Whereas, for the academic year of **2017/2018**, the total number of children enrolled at the Princess Basma Inclusive School was 416 children from kindergarten to 12th grade, of which 264 were males and 152 females, while the number of children with disabilities stood at **161**. In addition, **112** children with disabilities at the school received rehabilitation services and psychosocial support.

Table 6: Children with Disabilities enrolled at the Princess Basma Inclusive School for 2016

Type of disability	Number of students
Autism	19
Learning Difficulties	39
Health	7
Visual	2
Hearing	26
Physical	58
Total	151

Table 7: Children with Disabilities enrolled at the Princess Basma Inclusive School for 2017

Type of disability	Number of students
Autism	28 (10 included)
Learning Difficulties	12
Speech	10
Health	0
Visual	0
Hearing	3
Physical	59
Total	112

The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre continues to develop its service in Autism

5 years ago, The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre established its Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) services as one of the most important programmes at the centre. Since then, the centre has become one of the leading institutions in Palestine in providing comprehensive rehabilitation services and inclusive education for children with autism coming for the East Jerusalem, in addition to children admitted for the child rehabilitation services from the West Bank and Gaza.



Particularly between 2015 and 2017, the centre has extensively worked in developing its autism services through building on the existing and cumulative experience in ASD in order to further support children with autism. As a result, the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre is now able to deliver a holistic intervention that includes educational, medical rehabilitation and psychosocial support to families of children with ASD.

Additionally, the centre has established a second classroom for children with ASD, with the total number of children enrolled in the autism unit reaching 20 children; 4 are integrated in the regular classrooms at the Princess Basma Inclusive School. It has also established a music therapy unit, that provides music therapy to children with ASD as well as to children with ADHD, and children with other kinds of disabilities admitted for the comprehensive rehabilitation services.



Moreover, the JPBC has developed its multi-disciplinary service to provide education and rehabilitation services for children with ASD. This multidisciplinary service includes a team of expert practitioners that provide holistic services to the children, teachers and parents.

Inclusion for Ezz ...



Ezz Al Din in his classroom

Ezz Al Din Bakhatan, 7 years from Jerusalem, is currently a student in the first grade at the Princess Basma Inclusive School, Ezz joined the autism unit in 2015 after he was diagnosed with autism. In the classroom Ezz received an intensive educational support and rehabilitation services that include occupational therapy, speech and communication therapy, sensory therapy, hydrotherapy and music therapy. This enabled him to develop the skills needed to integrate him in the regular schooling system. Ezz is an excellent student in his classroom, independent, has a strong visual memory, and he enjoys music and sports.

Ritaj, breaks the stereotype of her wheelchair.

“Ritaj” eagerly walks down the aisle of the rehabilitation centre that is adjacent to the therapeutic rooms. She pedals her wheelchair with all her strength and determination towards the physiotherapy room in order to start exercising. She tries her best to compete her disability and insists to overcome her current state of indolence.

Ritaj is a four-year-old girl, and the third child to a family that consists of four children. She was included in the kindergarten class at the beginning of the school year 2017/2018 – an inclusive class comprised at the Princess Basma Inclusive School.

The little girl was born with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. She also suffers from hemiplegia (paralysis) and delayed development in her fine motor skills due to her delivery during the 7th month of pregnancy, which left her spinal system incomplete.

Ritaj developed remarkably at school and became more responsive. She now can classify colors and shapes together. She has a lead personality and has the ability to build social relations, solve her problems, express herself and react towards her surroundings.

In an interview with Ritaj’s teacher about the progress has made over the past months, “I can say that Ritaj’s personality has blossomed from the beginning of the school year until now, she has been shy and introverted. But she began to change gradually. Now, she plays with other kids and chats a lot with her peers”.

Ritaj’s parents suffered when it came to helping their daughter go to the bathroom, because Ritaj lost sensation of her sphincter control (lower parts), and her medical condition did not allow her to go to the bathroom by herself. Accordingly, Ritaj’s parents had to regulate the hours of her going to the bathroom and get her body used to urinate and defecate. This also applied to her condition at school, as the nurse at the school had to escort her to the bathroom in certain hours as to establish a regular routine and retrain the body to hold on and become continent.

In addition to that, Ritaj receives a package of comprehensive rehabilitation services at the rehabilitation centre which includes two physiotherapy sessions and two occupational sessions per week.

Her physiotherapist Muhannad says: “Ritaj did not know how to move her wheelchair to the mattress and back, but now she can do that on her own with little help. She has better control over the muscles of her pelvis and upper trunk, knowing that in the past she had inflexible muscles”.



However, Ritaj does some unusual movements like standing on her knees and balancing, in addition to taking steady steps forward while using the parallel bar.

Regarding the occupational therapy, Ritaj had weakness in the movement of her fine muscles, which resulted in giving her some exercises to strengthening her muscles. Ritaj has done noticeable achievement regarding the use of her both hands and holding things with her fist. She can also eat independently without any help from her parents.

Ritaj is one of the many students with disability who receives educational and rehabilitation services in JPBC. It is worth noting that the Arab Bank has generously covered the rehabilitation therapy for 14 children with disabilities from the area of Jerusalem. JPBC team along with its board of directors, beneficiaries' families are very thankful to the generous contribution of the Arab Bank which helped in upgrading the educational and rehabilitation services offered to children with disabilities (CWD) who get the opportunity to study in Princess Basma Inclusive School. This initiative helped to empower and integrate CWD in their own communities as well as alleviate the financial burden of their parents.

The Vocational Training Programme



The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre provides vocational training in its Sheltered Workshop (handicrafts workshop) for people suffering from physical, mental, and cognitive disabilities from Jerusalem and its surroundings. The aim of this programme is to provide avenues for capacity building and job creation our trainees. The workshop's model of empowerment through skill development aims to help participants to become gradually independent and integrated in the community. In 2016 and 2017, 24 people with a range of disabilities received training at the Sheltered Workshop.

Partnering with Sunbula

In 2016, the Sheltered Workshop developed an partnership with Sunbula “a Palestinian Fair Trade Organization based in Jerusalem”. Sunbula supported the sheltered workshop in the development of a new line of smaller products and promoted them in their shop through providing a skilled designer. Moreover, Sunbula coordinates with the Sheltered Workshop for exhibiting the products in its garden, as well as in other local exhibitions and events. The partnership continues with Sunbula during 2017.

Infrastructure upgrading projects implemented in 2016/2017:

- **Renovating the Dining / Multipurpose Hall:** This project was implemented in 2016 and it was funded by The American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, for a total amount of \$120,000.



Photo: Dining room after renovations.

- **Renovating the Kitchen:** The renovation of the kitchen unit was completed in 2017, the project was funded by the Federal Republic of Germany, through phase 10 of KfW's Employment Generation Programme, through UNDP, and with gracious donations from Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal, American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, Compass Rose Society (US and Canada Chapters), Trinity Wall Street, the Episcopal Diocese of Hong Kong and Hop Yuen Charitable Foundation, for a total amount of \$201,000.



Photo: From the inauguration ceremony of the renovated kitchen.

Our Finances 2016 and 2017:

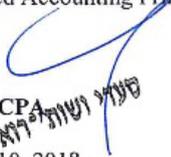


INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE JERUSALEM PRINCESS BASMA CENTRE

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre as of 31 December 2017 and 2016 and the related statements of activities, the changes in net assets and cash flow statements for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of Princess Basma management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, including those prescribed under the Auditors Regulations (Auditor's Mode of Performance) -1973 . Those standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audit, the above financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the company as of 31 December 2017 and 2016, the results of its activities and the changes in its net assets for the years then ended in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.


Saadi, & Co. - CPA
Jerusalem July 10, 2018.

The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre
 Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2017

BALANCE SHEETS
 (All amounts in New Israel Shekel)

	NOTE	2017	2016
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	(3)	1,481,575	736,262
Accounts receivable and other debit balances	(4)	6,272,367	3,909,234
Pledges receivable	(5)	73,982	21,323
Inventory	(16)	138,375	95,971
Total current assets		<u>7,966,299</u>	<u>4,762,790</u>
Fixed assets, net-	(6)	7,990,423	7,110,987
Total Assets		<u>15,956,722</u>	<u>11,873,777</u>
Liabilities and net assets			
Current Liabilities			
Bank overdraft	(7)	890,623	17,970
Accounts payable	(8)	1,824,620	1,072,373
Other current liabilities	(9)	1,664,620	1,562,690
Short term bank loan	(10)	1,333,116	1,000,000
Total current liabilities		<u>5,712,979</u>	<u>3,653,033</u>
Long term liabilities			
Loan from The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem	(11)	4,703,281	2,660,986
Provision for severance pay, net	(12)	3,819,992	3,079,582
Total long term liabilities		<u>8,523,273</u>	<u>5,740,568</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>14,236,252</u>	<u>9,393,601</u>
Net assets			
Unrestricted Net Assets			
from operations		(6,980,968)	(6,870,847)
from fixed assets		7,990,423	7,110,987
Temporary restricted net assets	(13)	711,015	2,240,036
		<u>1,720,470</u>	<u>2,480,176</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		<u>15,956,722</u>	<u>11,873,777</u>

-Notes to the financial statements form an integral part thereof.


 Rt. Rev. Suheil Dawani
 Chairman of the Board


 Mr. Ghassan Isaac
 Treasurer

Acknowledgment:

The Board of Trustees of Princess Basma Centre, and all staff members, wish to extend their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all our friends and supporters in Palestine and around the globe, for their contribution to the treatment of children with disabilities at the Centre, and for the great support of our work that aims to empower children with disabilities, and their families, to live, work, pursue education and receive healthcare services according to what has been by the International Convention of Rights of Children and Rights for Persons with Disabilities.

In particular, Princess Basma Centre wishes to thank all those who contributed to our programs in 2016 and 2017.

1. *Her Royal Highness, Princess Basma Bint Talal of Jordan.*
2. *American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.*
3. *Compass Rose Society*
4. *Trinity Wall Street Church.*
5. *Italian Government Through UNDP*
6. *German Development Bank KFW through UNDP*
7. *The European Union through Diakonia Middle East.*
8. *Diocese of Ottawa*
9. *The Welfare Association.*
10. *Embrace the Middle East.*
11. *McCabe Educational Trust.*
12. *The Advance - General Board of Global Ministries –United Methodist Church.*
13. *JustAct Middle East.*
14. *The Pontifical Mission.*
15. *Faisal Al Hussein Foundation.*
16. *Palestinian National Fund.*
17. *Evangelical Mission in Solidarity “EMS”*
18. *Anglican Board of Mission – Australia*
19. *Representative Office of the Czech Republic*
20. *Representative Office of Australia*
21. *Representative Office of Canada*
22. *Paltel Group*
23. *The Arab Bank*
24. *Hop Yuen*
25. *Hong Kong Island*

In addition to many donors who have chosen to remain anonymous; we thank you all for your precious contribution to JPBC work. None of this could have been achieved without your generosity and continuous support.

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