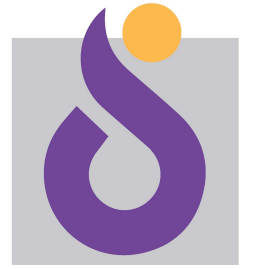


Zahrat Al-Amal

Educational magazine issued about persons with disabilities in the Middle East



الأمل للرعاية والتنمية الاجتماعية
Al Amal For Development & Social Care

9th year - 30th issue - Apr 2016

Issued by Al-Amal for Development and Social Care

مشروع عيون:

نقوم من خلاله بزراعة عيون اصطناعية
تجميلية لعدد من المرضى فاقدى العيون
كلفة المشروع: 2080\$

مشروع سمع:

نسعى في هذا المشروع الى تأمين سماعات
طبية ل 100 شخص وعلاج النطق ل 150 طفل
كلفة السماعة: 440\$
كلفة علاج النطق: 159\$

Opening Speech

Dates & Occasions

IApril 2nd..World autism awareness day.

May 27th.. Month of Ramada Al-Mubarak

Dates and occasions that pass by rapidly and make us wonder how to welcome it.

We become confused before the amount of disability in the world which reached 2 billion according to the UN's definition of disability, we become confused while trying to precede time with our services and projects as Charitable association concerned about PWDs while the world leaves behind new disabilities on a daily and yearly basis starting by war and disputes and ending with tiniest reasons for disabilities.

On the World Autism Awareness Day.. and the month of Ramadan Albubarak, let's make a pledge to move our hearts and hands along with our sons and daughters to include PWDs and to create homelands that love us and love it back.

The Editorial Board

Words of Charity People



Dr. Mohamad Kheir Faraj
Lebanese University Teacher

Index

- Opening Speech
- 1- Philanthropists.. A hope for life
- 2- Rehabilitating and hiring persons with disabilities
- 3- Is your house or institution well accessible for persons with disabilities?
- 4- When the Will prevails
- 5- Dalia Frayfer, a blind lebanese broadcaster sets a Guinness World Record for the longest live TV broadcast
- 6- Our achievements
- 7- Introduction to sign language
- 7- No comment

Philanthropists.. A hope for life



Dr. Mohamad Kheir Faraj
Lebanese University Teacher

As human beings, we are weak when we're alone, but strong when we are with others because our civil nature is dominant. ”

We get used to each other, and others get used to us, our hearts pulse with love, our personality yearns to intimacy, purity is intrinsic in ourselves, and our minds always ask for human contact. These meanings are best represented deep in our humane side when any of us finds a brother outside his immediate family where a pure humane friendship carries during all its phases the truest love, unspoiled loyalty, spontaneity and fulfillment of each other's needs. Such a relationship is referred to as: "Preserving the value of humans honored by their creator. Allah says: "Truly, We have honored the children of Adam".

Indeed, providing care for persons with disabilities can carry the best pictures of this humanitarian relationship as philanthropists and charitable people offer unconditional paternal-like care, and give incessantly like mothers, especially when they express their warmest feelings through heartfelt words when helping persons with disabilities. Hence, persons with disabilities don't sense that disability is an obstacle, but a blessing since they share feelings like loving mothers, and love with hearts that never know but goodness.

I experienced this splendid portrayal of love first-hand when I was participating in the Istanbul conference along with my brothers from Al-Amal Society for Development and Social Care. Back then, a girl assertively came to help me adjust the interpretation headsets on my ears. I felt that her tender hands substituted my amputated arm, and she didn't even hurt my feelings with that traditional question: "Should I help you Sir"? While helping me, she didn't let me feel that I'm missing a body part because with her deep humane character, warm feelings, profound faith, and assertiveness reminded me of my mother, my only sister Om Tarek, and my devoted wife Om Khyr Al-Deen. This girl truly cultivated high hopes deep in my spirit.

A plea to good people: Cultivate seeds of hope everywhere through offering your moral and financial support to those who lost certain blessings in their lives. You will hence rejuvenate hopes lost in our lives. Everything around us may vanish and depart except goodness which stays deep in our humanity. consequently, We will be all happy and satisfied in this world and the afterlife, too. “

Rehabilitating and hiring persons with disabilities

counterparts. Here, we are reminded by the agreement NO. (159) issued by the International Labor Conference in 1983, the recommendation NO. (168) issued by the same Conference, the recommendation NO. (99) in 1959, and "Special Work programs for Persons with Disabilities" and the "Standards Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities". Both were issued by the United Nations General Assembly. All these universal agreements and declarations underscore the commitment of the humanitarian community and all its various regional and international institutions to achieving equal opportunities that can ensure the rights of persons with disabilities, including rights to receive vocational rehabilitation, and to work, too.

What's meant by Equalization of Opportunities for persons with disabilities in rehabilitation and employment? In fact, achieving equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities in terms of rehabilitation and employment is considered a goal that requires organized and continuous national efforts to materialize. While some countries succeeded in achieving this goal,

The right to work is among the fundamental rights that human beings shall enjoy. Accordingly, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ensured the right to work, as well as the right of free choice of employment and financial independence. Furthermore, the Declaration of Philadelphia which has represented the major turning point that constituted the basis of the International Labor Organization and all its issued agreements and declarations onwards, emphasizes that any individual shall have the right to choose their profession and find decent and productive work. These choices will guarantee them economic independence, and a prerequisite for achieving social and economic progress on the one hand, and being a pillar for social security and stability on the other. Productive work does not only fulfill economic needs, but also it's an indispensable means to achieve self-independence for any individual, protect their human dignity, and enhance their integration in the social fabric. As the productive work garners this importance for the able-bodied, it has even an additional importance and specificity for persons with disabilities. In other words, providing persons with disabilities with training, rehabilitation, and work opportunities does not only support the national production and economy, but also minimizes the deployment of extra financial and human resources required to run the social security and healthcare programs that serve unproductive or the less fortunate categories

What are the main features of modern civil society?

The most prominent features of the modern civil society lie in protecting the rights of its individuals, and at the same time, offering support programs and facilitations for individuals with special needs. Almost all international disability agreements and declarations strongly recognized the rights of persons with disabilities to work, and receive vocational rehabilitation, as well as offering them support other programs and services so that to enable them to work in an equally just manner of their able-bodied

others are either striving to progress, or still falling behind. Given this difference between nations coupled with the specificity of every society in terms of cultural, economic, and political aspects, there is still no unified standard to achieve equal opportunities, but the overall principle is applicable to all societies. Equalization of opportunities does not necessarily mean trying to improve the level of rehabilitation and employment services only, but it also calls for recognizing the rights of persons with disabilities of equality, equal dealing, and equal opportunities on an equal basis with their able-bodied counterparts. Nevertheless, achieving this general principle requires legislating national policies that ensure achieving equal opportunities. These policies should be in line with related international declarations and conventions. Hence, the proposed policies should strive to achieve the following:

- 1- Endorse social policies aimed at slowing down the unemployment rates among persons with disabilities so that not to exceed its average in the whole society.
- 2- Ensure fair representation of persons with disabilities at all levels of work according to their rate in the whole society.
- 3- Broaden the scope of work opportunities for persons with disabilities, and enhance their free choice of employment.
- 4- Set out suitable work conditions so that neither employers nor do workers with disabilities suffer any harm in the event of any unjust work conditions in the mutual contract.
- 5- Encourage work arrangements and forms that better address and meet the needs of persons with disabilities.
- 6- Offer vocational training opportunities for persons with disabilities in order to boost their participation and contribution in the public, private, and unregulated sectors.
- 7- Enhance their participation in devising vocational training and employment policies.



Is your house or institution well accessible for persons with disabilities?

We sometimes feel embarrassed when a person with disability visits us to our inaccessible apartment where there are no elevators, or narrow rooms and washrooms, and other issues that we normally don't take into consideration. However, these adjustments are extremely essential for persons with disabilities in their daily life. Disability has become a major social and health issue in most world countries, and persons with disabilities have physical and psychological needs that should be fulfilled as a part of their social life, especially at their places of residence. Satisfying these needs will help persons with disabilities to be effective elements in building societies, but depending on their social and health capabilities.

Here, we would like to clarify the main requirements of houses and buildings to be accessible enough for persons with disabilities, to facilitate their safe mobility, and enable them to move freely and independently as much as possible. These facilitations will certainly help them to effectively interact with their family members, and fulfill their own daily life needs. When designing a building, designers should avoid obstacles that hinder mobility of persons with

disabilities, prevent them from performing their daily tasks, or limit their access to main features and amenities of the building. Entrances, doorways, corridors, and walls:

1- There should be elevators, ramps or levers on floors that contain staircases. 2- In order to facilitate the mobility of wheelchairs, stairs or (Doorsteps) are not recommended at doorways. If necessary, the barrier height shouldn't exceed 2 CM. 3- The width of corridors shouldn't be less than 1.5 meters so that a person with disability can move freely, turn, and leave a room for another person to pass through. 4- Corners should be protected by blunt buffers so that to ensure safety upon collision. - Rooms: 1- The distance between the room items should be 150 CM or more so that to leave space for persons with disabilities to move and rotate. In addition, passages should have a space of 90 CM to enable users to move freely, and reach out to all corners. 2- The dimensions of Double rooms should be 4m in 5m, where 4m in 4m for single rooms. Windows should be easily reached, and walls near windows shouldn't exceed 70CM for a better view and control. Electric switches and plugs should rise between 45CM minimum, and 120CM maximum. Closet hangers between 120CM and 170 CM. (To be continued in the next Issue).



When the Will prevails

The visually impaired girl "Menna Allah Al-Bitar" breaks all rules as she takes part in Karate classes at Al-Mashtal sports Club in the city of Gaza. Menna is 13 years old, and totally blind. Instead of using a cane like any other blind person to defend herself, she showed impressive skills in avoiding punches that could hit her face and tender body. This is thanks to her ability to memorize and perform all moves related to martial arts. Being blind since birth didn't prevent her from jumping nimbly in the air without any stumbling. she is also very skillful in performing various self-defense moves. With a full sensory concentration, Menna says that now she feels very confident after practising Karate. "I want to be strong and defend myself," she adds. Menna's family provided her with full support and all means so that she proceeds and continues her journey which was not easy especially in its beginning according to Menna. She also says that she spends a long time in her room before meeting her teacher as she thoroughly studies

and prepares all the exercises suggested by her Karate trainer. She doesn't mind the difficulty of these exercises as everyday represents a huge challenge for her that she aspires to overcome and become the best of the best according to her. Menna is very proud of herself that she's playing Karate despite her slim body, but she stresses that her inner mind can easily and smoothly grasp all information and exercises. Her trainer Hassan Al-Ra'i says that he is dazzled with Menna's "amazing" mastery of Karate training moves. He adds that she is the very first Arab totally blind girl to play Karate. Commenting on the schedule, Al-Ra'i says that they practise Karate 7 hours for 12 days a week according to a preset program that uses certain moves and verbal clues that correspond with Menna's visual impairment. The trainer feels extreme delight when training Menna, adding: "She possesses extraordinary understanding skills, and she's willing to reach high levels in Karate". "I'm convinced that she will reach very advanced levels in achieving Karate belts," he concludes It's worth mentioning that the training program tailored for Menna relies mainly on sensory perception that works on sounds, and memorizing different directions and moves.

Dalia Frayfer, a blind Lebanese broadcaster sets a Guinness World Record for the longest live TV broadcast

Reuters–Beirut: The Lebanese media personality Dalia Freyfer took the biggest challenge for her exceeding non–stop ٢٤ hours of live television broadcast on Tele Liban channel. Dalia, who has been totally blind, is endowed with exceptional insightfulness. She managed to continuously interview many guests, culminated on Sunday morning with breaking the Guinness World Records of longest live broadcast.

Throughout the live broadcast, Dalia interviewed personalities from the media, literature, art, poets, doctors and many more spending an average of 10 minutes with each guest, discussing topics and issues related to their areas of expertise. At Sunday's dawn, Dalia felt a minor dizziness, but refused to go to the hospital, knowing that the Red Cross personnel were waiting outside in case of any emergency.

Dalia was met by huge encouragement and enthusiasm from viewers who were commenting on social media platforms, applauding and pushing Dalia to proceed despite big challenge.

Mrs. Miriam Skaf, the president of the Christian Popular Block in Zahle, East Lebanon, posted a comment on FaceBook saying: "My greetings to the host Dalia Freyfer who's still on air since ٨ AM in the morning.. You're fantastic! You are showing tremendous perseverance and excellent self–confidence in your ability to break records". Skaf added: "Dalia lost her sight years ago, but this didn't stop her from pursuing her path, and challenging herself



and the society. We're all watching you, and we are extremely proud of you".

Another Lebanese media personality, Fares Al-Jmayel commented on his personal page saying: "Dalia Freyfer, who was deprived of her sight, proved once again that with her unwavering will and shrewd insightfulness, she succeeded to consolidate her strong presence socially and on the media arena, showing that believers don't succumb to obstacles and difficulties. A greeting full of respect and appreciation goes to you because you're a successful woman".

The whole live broadcast happened with A presence of a representative from Guinness World Records who granted Dalia a certificate with her world record.

Dalia told the National News Agency: "I myself love to take challenges and adventures," adding: " 1 year ago, I seriously thought of trying to set a record in Guinness Book for World Records".



-Covering treatment sessions fees-
Al-Amal for Development and Social Care covered and learning difficulties and speech therapy, physiotherapy, and occupational therapy sessions at Balsamah Center in Saida to children and school students.

-Sponsorships by philanthropist-
Through generous donations by a number of businessmen and philanthropists, Al-Amal provided financial sponsorships for a number of persons with disabilities.

-Step & peace-
Since our goal is to serve persons with disabilities, Al-Amal implanted a number of artificial limbs and prosthetic devices, through a generous funding by the Islah Association-Bahrain.



-Changing mindsets:-
Al-Amal held a number of awareness lectures and presentations about disability, its types, social integration, and rights of persons with disabilities in the society.

-Ibda'at Creativity Contest 2016-
Under the auspices of the Minister of Social Affairs Mr. Pierre Bou Assi along with the attendance of official and political personalities, Al-Amal for Development and Social Care held its award ceremony of "Ibda'at" Contest for PwDs 2016 for the 4th consecutive year. The ceremony was held at the UNESCO Palace on Jan-24-2017

-International Participations -
Al-Amal presents 2 work papers at the International Summit of War and Disability, Istanbul

Entrance to Sign language



ض - Dad



ص - Sad



ش - Sheen



ع - Ain



ظ - Tha'



ط - Tah

No Comment



Contact Us:

info@alamal-dsc.org

[Facebook.com/alamal.dsc](https://www.facebook.com/alamal.dsc)

www.alamal-dsc.org