



ALROWWAD

**Annual Report
2020**

General Director's message

the challenges weren't easy, and the hard times of 2020 weren't light either. Ever since March of 2020 all the challenges that Palestinian face in their daily life have doubled, whether it's regarding the economic conditions, the political, the psychological or the social conditions. In addition to the fact that Bethlehem is the city that stayed the longest under lock down in all Palestine.

For the year of 2020, we had plenty of ideas and activities planned, and our programs were at the peak. Unfortunately, however, we faced the pandemic of COVID-19 that caused several lockdowns.

Social distance, quarantine and all kind of prevention recommended by the ministry of health had been fully implemented. By which all organizations and society worked with their minimum resources, while education and training were done online.

As per usual for Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society, the amount of work was doubled and taken seriously. The first step was creating an emergency committee with local organizations and center in Aida Camp, as a response for the circumstance of the pandemic. This committee provided all the needs for the Palestinian families in Aida camp and surrounding areas, including food aid, medicine, sanitizers, gloves and face masks.

The first part of this year was loaded with activities, by which as soon as the winter break started, Alrowwad worked on implementing activities for their beneficiaries. Including a winter camp, with more than 150 children participants, meeting with public figures, such as Prince Charles the crown prince of the United Kingdom, the French councilman and way more. In addition, the activities for other programs, including the education, arts, images for life, women, the vocational training center and environment and health units kept on working.

During the month of Ramadan, and in the middle of the pandemic panic, Alrowwad started a solidarity kitchen program called "Tekket Aida". As the first of its kind in Aida camp, this program, and using Alrowwad's educational kitchen, prepared warm iftar meals for

families, and delivered them to their houses. Along with that, we tried our best to answer all calls of help in order to cover the necessities for families of Aida camp and areas around. This happened because of the help of Friends of Alrowwad locally and internationally. Nevertheless, we did Eid clothing solidarity activities once again, by which we provided Eid clothing for children and families in need, in order to spread happiness regardless of the pandemic.

One of our noble goals was to lighten the pandemic's effects on children and to help them overcome the stress of lockdown. Therefore, and with following all sorts of health prevention criteria, we managed to organize and implement a group of summer camps, three camps with 50 children each for 10 days.

Regardless of all the challenges and the loss of 80 thousand USD because of the lockdown and closing the guest house for 10 months straight, Alrowwad managed to keep on working and helping families and the society.

2020 with Alrowwad organizing Bethlehem cultural festival in collaboration with friend of Alrowwad in the UK and Al-Harah Theater. The festival stayed for 5 days (3-7th of December) online. Plenty of public figures and organizations in order to reflect the true beautiful image of the city of Bethlehem and its arts, culture, history and societies. Along with that, the training for more than 40 different CBOs in Palestine and the diaspora. The training include topics regarding human rights, financial and administrative manuals, and more. Nevertheless, we are still working on preparing the media unit, where it will include 3D printing and films production.

We still need all the work possible to continue our job, and during these times of quarantine and lockdown, we'll try our best to take advantage of all the sources possible in order to make the educational kitchen better and ready for the solidarity kitchen in 2021, the same we did in 2020. That's why we're seeking your kelp so that we'll be able to widen our circle, and reach to more people and families. Along with the fact that we're looking forward to start using solar energy by adding solar system panels on the rooftop of Alrowwad's vocational training center.

We insist on the idea of serving our society and our people, regardless of all the circumstances and challenges we face. With a great hope inside of us that we'll be able to make the change we'll be proud of.

I thank all friends of Alrowwad worldwide, in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Norway, United Kingdom, the USA, Switzerland, and other places. We thank all of them, groups and individuals for their support. I also thank Alrowwad's team, employees and volunteers for their hard work and effort.

I also thank all people of Aida camp, the societies and surrounding areas for their awareness and full responsibility towards the pandemic. And their help for the emergency committees and the medical line.

Here we are, starting our new year, with hopes for a better health condition. And freedom for our prisoners. We are hoping for our life to get back to normal. And to live one that is full of justice and dignity. Hoping that we'll see all of our partners and friends soon.

Happy new year and best wishes,
Dr. Abdelfattah Abusrour
 General Director

General condition of 2020

Years have passed and the Palestinian conditions are moving from bad to worst. This is a result of the challenging economic, political, and social conditions that Palestinian have to face through their entire life. Those challenging conditions are the reason why the Palestinian reality is a tough one, and a place where no freedom, rights or dignity is found. The overall image about the Palestinian society doesn't only reflect the challenging economic and social conditions, but also the political ones. Especially the limitation of movement, the abuse that the Israeli occupation do towards Palestinians, and the collective punishment. To make things even worse, in March of 2020, the Palestinian reality was hit by COVID-19 pandemic, which not only means a new challenge on the health condition, but a negative effect on the economic and social conditions as well. By which the social life reached its worst, and the economic condition was on the cliff. This was seen since the unemployment level in the Palestinian society reached its highest number in years, and that plenty of families were no longer able to afford their basic needs. Having this as a start point, the Palestinian local organizations worked the engine to serve Palestinian families in order to give them a decent life that guarantee their dignity. This is by implementing plenty of programs that call for justice, dignity and decent living. This is why Alrowwad's own vision was to provide all of those things for families in collaboration with other local societies, in order to limit those challenges from ruining Palestinians' life. The outcome was to create an emergency committee to face Coronavirus pandemic. This committee ensured all the families' needs in Aida camp and surrounding areas, their dignity and health.

Regardless of all the conditions that reduces the chances of decent living, and the work of our organizations, Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society didn't stand still. Alrowwad, even under the pressure of lockdown and quarantine, walked in the path of fixing the current condition, following all sorts of prevention measures recommended by the ministry of health. By which most of the activities and programs kept on working during the pandemic, only online. This was using all sorts of technology, programs and social media platforms. For instance, plenty of meetings and workshops were

held using communication platforms, and some were face to face with individuals.

Meetings through platforms like ZOOM or Skype mainly focus on mass and individual meetings with fellow organizations and partners in projects. Which means that there wasn't any obstacles for such meetings to continue. Face to face meetings were also held, only if they were individual ones and following all sorts of measures when it comes to COVID-19. For instance, projects related to capacity building kept on going online with no problems whatsoever. Along with that, Alrowwad established a Palestinian kitchen meeting, that was held on a weekly basis using ZOOM, reaching beneficiaries from Gaza, the west bank, and friends of Alrowwad abroad. This also applies to all different units and programs of Alrowwad, including education, arts and media. One of the most outstanding initiative that was done during the pandemic, and due to all the difficulties people had to face financially and socially, Alrowwad, hand to hand with Aida camp's committee and other camp's organizations, came up with the idea of a solidarity kitchen (Tekeyyet Aida). In this initiative, Alrowwad and its team worked on preparing and delivering fresh, healthy warm meals on a daily basis for families in the camp and surrounding areas during the holy month of Ramadan. The continuous actions and initiatives done by Alrowwad guarantee living in dignity for people of the camp and neighboring areas.

During the year of 2020, and with the presence of Coronavirus pandemic, Alrowwad's work shifted to relief and supporting local community. Especially that the Palestinian local community suffers from all kind of oppression, whether it is political, economic, social, or even health. Under all these circumstances, the Palestinian individual was no longer able to provide basic living necessities. Since Alrowwad cares about dignity and providing as much of an healthy environment as possible, they established a relief program, that including an emergency committee. This program helped with providing all sorts of medicine for those dealing with diseases, such as diabetes and blood pressure. In addition, Alrowwad worked on helping families who tested positive for COVID-19 and were under strict quarantine, by providing them with all living necessities, including food and sanitary necessities. Alrowwad team, along with

the emergency committee partners, worked hard in sanitary work for the camp, and holding online awareness campaigns regarding coronavirus pandemic.

It breaks hearts to see children's faces with no smiles on them. And under the circumstances of the pandemic smiles upon children's faces were vanished. This is where Alrowwad stood out and decided to help children smile again. Alrowwad, in partnership with UPA, came up with an initiative where Eid clothing were distributed for children of Aida camp. This to ensure that children of Aida camp live in dignity and are happy as all children of the world.

Since one of Alrowwad's main objectives is to break the stereotypical images taken about Palestine and the Palestinian society; Alrowwad worked on a new program entitled "Investment in Human Rights". This program, funded by ASTM and friends of Alrowwad in Luxemburg, aims to strengthen Palestinian local grassroots and organizations through capacity building. Hoping to reach a point where all those grassroots are strong enough to be part of the change needed for Palestinians to obtain their rights as human beings. This project will be working during 2021 as well, and more, where a network for local society will be built calling out for human rights for the Palestinian individual. It is worth mentioning that this program includes and targets local community grassroots in the West Bank, Gaza and the diaspora. At the end of this program, all those target and partner grassroots will be strong legal defenders of human rights.

In 2021, we, as Alrowwad, are hopping to expand our working circle with more local and international organizations and societies. As well as working harder on responding to the local community's wants and needs through our programs, projects, activities and workshops. Especially under the circumstances of living in a place full of challenges at all levels; whether it is economically, socially, or politically. All programs and units of Alrowwad will be working in accordance to a well-developed strategic plan that takes into account and consideration the needs of our local society.

22 years of nonstop leadership

22 years have passed, and Alrowwad is still working in accordance to the vision set by the founders. 22 years of working on creating a free society where human dignity and rights are obtained. 22 years of creating a safe environment for youth, children and women to unleash their inner artists and express themselves. 22 years of working on breaking the stereotypical idea and image taken about the Palestinian society and cause.

22 years of ups and downs, of blood, sweat and tears. 22 years of working to provide local society with all of its needs, regardless of all the living challenging conditions that Palestinians and local community organizations have to deal with. Peeking through all the darkness, Alrowwad is able to overcome the obstacles in front of creativity, dignity and safety. 22 years were reached due to the clear vision and mission, and this is the reason why we, as Alrowwad, are able to defend our cause. All of this reaching a point where our youth, children and women are safe, and are able to express themselves and their daily life struggle under the oppression of the Israeli occupation.

22 years have passed, with a starting point of a small house in Aida camp, a house that has dreams of freedom written on its walls. A house that was full of laughter, tears and resistance. A house that hugged children, youth and elderly. 22 years and this small house is still standing. 22 years now with two buildings holding the same message as the tiny house.

Alrowwad didn't stop, and after 22 years, we became the first to create a vocational training center in all refugee camps. We target youth on up-to-date trainings, including 3D printing, CNC, media, and hotel management. 22 years from the allies of this temporary camp. 22 years ago, Alrowwad's ship has sailed with its 8 founders, and is still sailing in the sea of freedom.

22 years with a mindset of the importance of voluntary work as the pillar of success. 22 years of providing job opportunities for youth and women to eliminate unemployment. 22 years and we still encourage youth to do voluntary work, and we still believe in the

change that volunteers do. Reaching a better reality and a better Palestine. 22 years of continuous work, networking, partnerships, governance and planning. Alrowwad was able to build networks and partnerships locally and internationally. Stressing on the point of rising and developing the Palestinian society. This hard work was noticed with us receiving star foundation first prize of transparency and integrity in 2016 in London.

22 years of the mindset of the importance of dignity and the Palestinian cause. 22 years holding on the mindset of saying NO to tied funds. 22 years with the belief that resistance in all shapes and forms is beautiful against the ugliness of the Zionist colonizers.

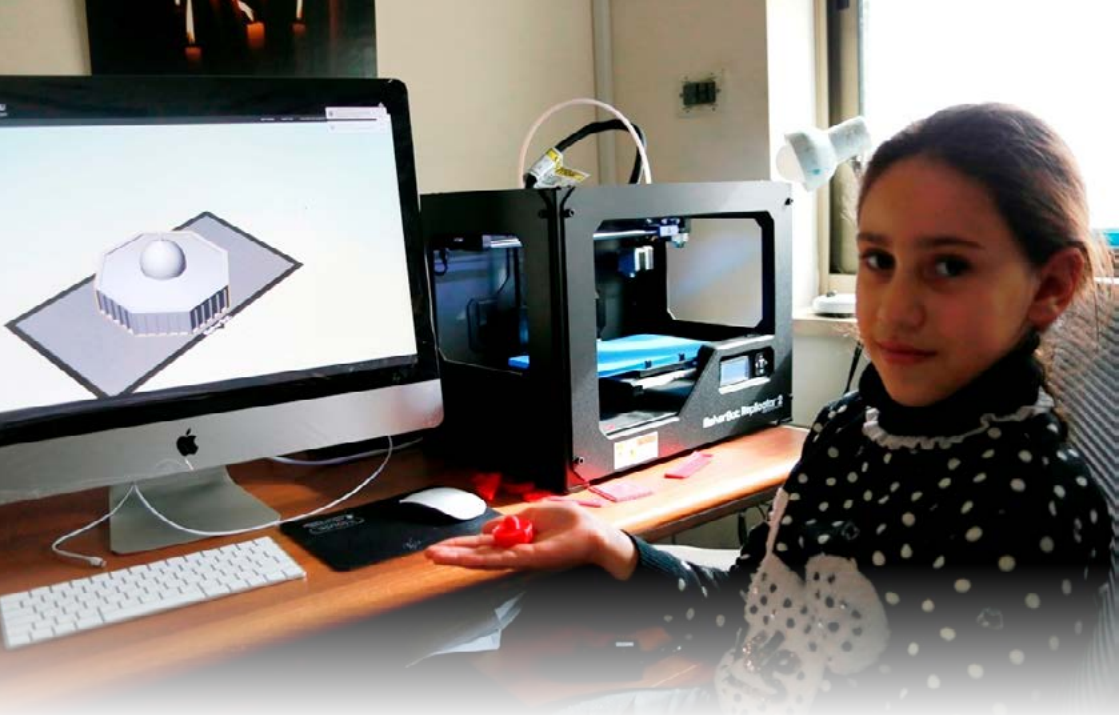
Spotlights 2020

In 2020, and after the pandemic hit Palestine, Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society was able to find the turning point of its executive plan, following an emergency one.

- **Alrowwad winter camp (little creators)**

Alrowwad cultural and arts society, in January of 2020 started the implementation of winter camps and activities during winter break. By which a winter camp for children took place in January. This winter camp included more than 150 children. During this camp, children took activities to help them shape their personality, and discover their talents. By which a safe environment was held for them to express themselves freely.





- Workshops/ 3D printing trainings/ a cup of coffee meetings for women.

During the year of 2020, ACTs has realized a group of activities, workshops and project to create a safer environment for its target group. Being the first in Bethlehem, Alrowwad held professional and specialized trainings in 3D printing. Where participants were able to design and create their own pieces. Moving to the women's unit, a number of meetings entitled "a cup of coffee" were held during this year. These meetings gave women the space needed for them to talk and express themselves. Along with that, these meeting included awareness sessions regarding topics that interests women legally, economically and socially.



- English and French languages sessions

Alrowwad cultural and arts society worked on holding sessions for foreign languages, such as French and English for children of the camp. Along with that, education program held supportive education program for UNRWA school students, where they were taught basic subjects (Arabic, Mathematics, science). Not only that, but students were also introduced to extracurricular activities with local and international volunteers.



- Meeting HRH Prince Charles in Bethlehem.

General Director of Alrowwad, Dr. Abdelfattah Abusrour met HRH Prince of Wales during his visit to Bethlehem. In the presence of plenty of important people from Palestine and the United Kingdom. Dr. Abusrour talked about Palestinian refugees, and the challenges they face living in camps. And he briefly described activities and programs offered by Alrowwad to serve Palestinian refugees and the Palestinian Cause.



- Alrowwad cinema club.

ACTs worked through their media unit on establishing a cinema club targeting those who seek interest in the industry of cinema and film. This club aims to spread the idea of Palestinian cinema industry and its treasures. This idea targets those who show interest in filmmaking and cinema, giving them an opportunity to be in the industry in the future.



- **Media and photography sessions.**

Alrowwad cultural and arts society worked during the month of March on media and photography sessions and workshops. One of these sessions targeted Alrowwad media club for girls, where more than 30 girl students participated. In this session, girls were introduced to media, social media platforms and photography. Moreover, another session targeted both genders in photography, where more than 90 male and female students from UNRWA schools participated.



- **Dabka and arts trainings**

ACTs, during the month of March, opened the doors to new Dabka, theater and chores groups for children and youth to be part of the culture and arts program. More than 150 children and youth joined the groups, each in accordance to their preference. Hoping to be professionals in reflecting the true image of Palestine and Palestinians.



- **Cultural nights, trainings and workshops**

ACTs hosted plenty of workshops, trainings and cultural nights during 2020. One of these workshops and cultural events were with the tertulia for youth who show interest in literature. Furthermore, plenty of workshops were regarding mental health, crafts, arts, mosaic for children, youth and women. A new workshops was one regarding IT and how to use platforms for online schools. These meetings targeted more than 80 UNRWA students in Aida camp.



- **Alrowwad welcomes the French Consul-General in Jerusalem.**

headed with the Consul-general, a delegation from the French Consul in Jerusalem visited Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society in Aida Camp. Dr. Abdelfattah Abusrour and a number of Alrowwad Crew welcomed them. he French delegation got the chance to be introduced to all different units at Alrowwad and the situation in Aida camp through a tour in the building, followed by a tour around the camp. From his side, the French Consul said that he is really glad that he did the visit, and he is happy that a place like Alrowwad is trying to offer plenty of opportunities for children and youth, as well as providing a peaceful space.



- ACTs and COVID-19 pandemic

As soon as the pandemic hit Palestine and Bethlehem in particular, Alrowwad established, through its online media, a message of solidarity to the entire world. Through this message, Alrowwad reflected the image of suffering that people had to deal with in Bethlehem, especially with the lack of medical support. Not only that, but plenty of people lost their jobs during the pandemic and lock down due to the fact that majority work in the tourism industry and others are daily paid. This created an even bigger problem economically and financially considering the people and families were no longer able to afford their daily living necessities. In addition to the misery, the Israeli occupation did a forced lockdown on Bethlehem, closing all of its entrances and exits, turning Bethlehem into an open-air prison. In its solidarity message, Alrowwad asked the world to turn its eyes to Bethlehem, its villages and refugee camps that were all under strict lockdown.

Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society, from the very first day the pandemic hit Bethlehem, has created an emergency committee that includes all camp's local grassroots and organizations. This committee was mainly created to help people during these tough times. Even though lockdown was mandatory, Alrowwad opened its doors for those in need for help and relief. The committee came up with an initiative called Mazioona is fine, that mainly help people of aida camp during COVID-19.



- Online learning and schools

As a response to lockdown of all school, and the education system turning online, Alrowwad created an online platform on its website targeting UNRWA students in general and participants of the education unit in particular.

During lockdown, Alrowwad didn't stop the activities, but turned them all online just like all other institutions. Alrowwad team were in direct touch with students in Aida camp, especially that it wasn't easy for students nor parents to use online platforms.

As a response to this turn of events, Alrowwad did a full on training targeting mothers, where they were trained on using online meeting platforms, such as ZOOM, Teams and google meet. This to ensure that children actually go to school online and receive the teaching they deserve.



- **Camp sterilization and medical support during COVID-19**

ACTs, being a part of Aida's emergency committee, did continuous sterilization of the camp. This was done with the help of the Palestinian Civil Defense and UNRWA. In addition to sterilization, the emergency committee worked on distributing food portions, hygienic supplies and medicine for families of Aida camp, especially those who were under quarantine.

Since it was hard, and relatively dangerous and risky for people that suffer from diseases to go out. Alrowwad made sure to distribute the needed medicine for all, including people who suffer from diabetes, cancer and blood pressure. This was done with the consultancy of a medical team in Aida camp.



- **Alrowwad's solidarity with Italy**

Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society stands in solidarity with Italy by an online music session using zoom. In the sessions, the music students in Alrowwad stood by Italy because of the Coronavirus outbreak and on the day that Italy got freed from Fascist regime. Children performed "Bella Ciao" along with some traditional Palestinian songs as a sign of solidarity with Italy and its people. This is one of the supporting and solidarity messages that Alrowwad have participated in during the global breakdown of COVID-19. Not only that, but it is also a message to say that all occupations and cruel regimes must end.



- **Palestinian kitchen program**

Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society, targeting friends of Alrowwad from all around the world, launched a group of cooking sessions with the help of friend of Alrowwad in England. The show aims to teach some simple Palestinian dishes and recipes. The first session, which went live on Alrowwad's page, went viral. Manal Odeh, coordinator in Woman's Unit, using zoom, gave a brief explanation on how to prepare Palestinian traditional bread, Hummus, and Fatteh. This idea came as a way to keep in touch with friends of Alrowwad from all around the world under the global lockdown caused by Coronavirus.



- **Alrowwad participates in a solidarity campaign with Nogent-sur-Oise.**

As part of the solidarity campaign launched by people's committee and other societies and organizations in Aida Camp, Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society participated in solidarizing with Nogent-sur-Oise, which have been a supporter of the camp for more than ten years. This campaign was found due to Coronavirus outbreak. Different organizations within the camp sent supporting messages and prayers for the people of Nogent-sur-Oise. Using both languages, Arabic and French, Alrowwad, presented by its administration, sent prayers and messages to the people of Nogent-sur-Oise, expressing how strong the relationship between them is. And they wished an ending for this COVID-19 outbreak.



- Alrowwad launches “a dairy of a kid under lockdown” competition.

Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society launched a press and media competition online during lockdown. This idea came to encourage children to document their daily life under Coronavirus lockdown. The main goal of such competition is to give children the opportunity to fill their time with something useful, along with giving them the chance to discover their talents. All the videos sent from the children are posted on Alrowwad’s official page. Each competitor in this competition had to film a two-minute video about his/her own experience in lockdown, along with some of the activities that he/she does. Plenty of amazing videos were received by Alrowwad’s media team, and we were amazed by all different talents. Winners of this completion will be announced by the end of Ramadan.



- Tekkeyet Aida “Aida’s solidarity kitchen”

Tekeyet Aida was successfully concluded after working the entire month of Ramadan. by which it served families by offering daily fresh meals, and have them delivered to their houses. The initiative and idea of having the Tekeyyah was introduced by Alrowwad, in collaboration with Lajee Center, Aida Youth Center, Amal Almustqbal, Nour Center, Fateh, and people’ committee in Aida camp. This Tekeyyah was able to provide and distribute more than 11500 fresh meals throughout the entire month of Ramadan. By which, in the first days of the month, around 300 meals were daily distributed, reaching to more than 550 meals by the end of the month. regardless of the consequences of COVID-19 pandemic, Alrowwad was able to deliver fresh meals safely to all families affected by the outbreak. Tekeyet Aida is one of the initiatives done by Alrowwad under the outbreak of Coronavirus. it is worth mentioning that Alrowwad has been working hard in this solidarity kitchen and other solidarity initiatives in order to stand by affected families and needy ones. Alrowwad thanks all societies and individuals that help with making Tekeyet Aida a successful one, specially Alrowwad’s French partners “LA BOUMBOUM” and friend of Alrowwad all over the world.



- Eid clothing for children

Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society provided more than 450 Eid clothing for children of Aida camp. Alrowwad stressed on the importance of providing moral and material support for all children and needy families, as it creates a positive atmosphere. Not only that, but this support help them to overcome all the consequences created because of Coronavirus pandemic and the economic conditions. Alrowwad sent a special thanks to UPA, and all contributors who made this intuitive see success and for drawing a smile upon children's faces, regardless of all the stress caused by the lockdown and other conditions like economic ones, and occupation.



- Returning summer camp the 5th.

Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society concluded its 5th summer camp entitled "returning". With the COVID-19 pandemic, and with the awareness of the importance of keeping social distance, this summer camp is divided for three separate camps, each with 50 children. The first camp includes younger kids, with a group of activities that interest them. 50 kids participated in this summer camp, and they are divided into 5 different groups, holding names of Palestinian cities (Jerusalem, Jaffa, Haifa, Acre, Lod). General Director of Alrowwad, Dr. Abdelfattah Abusrou, said that the presence of summer camps during summer break is really important as it is an opportunity for children to express themselves, improve their talents, and to enjoy their time. This is because, Alrowwad is a place where safe environment is provided. Most importantly, Alrowwad took all hygiene and sanitary conditions given by the Palestinian Ministry of Health into consideration. Since Palestine is still facing Coronavirus pandemic for four months. This is why the summer camp is divided into three sperate ones. The first day of the first summer camp was a total success, especially after the lockdown. The activities varied from games, coloring and drawing, crafts, watching short films, dabka, and a workshop regarding the Palestinian land and its history. Alrowwad kept all sanitary conditions in mind, by which temperature is taken twice a day. In addition of wearing medical masks, and using sanitizers.



- **Face masks DIY initiative for children**

Due to the circumstances that people are dealing with because of Coronavirus pandemic, Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society's Woman Unit decided to come up with an initiative to make masks for children of Aida camp. By which, through this initiative, Alrowwad worked on making the masks and distributing them for children and their families for free. This comes to encourage kids to wear masks in order to prevent themselves from getting infected by COVID-19.



- **Investment in Human Rights Project**

Alrowwad cultural and Arts Society established a new project called "Investment in Human Rights" that aims to empower and enable grassroots in Palestine and the Palestinian diaspora. In order to create a group of strong societies that are able to stand for Palestine and its people. In 2020, the project worked with more than 35 grassroots on managerial and financial manuals, strategic plans, HR and so much more in capacity building. This project will continue for three years, with an outcome of creating a network for all partner grassroots, and for them to be a reliable source of information.



- **Make a Wish short film**

As a new step into such field, Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society worked on making a film produced by Wesam Aljafari, one of Alrowwad's team members. The journey started during the month of August, and is worked on to be a successful film addition to the Palestinian cinema.



- **Bethlehem cultural global festival**

In partnership with friends of Alrowwad UK and Alharah theater, Alrowwad organized the first online Bethlehem's cultural festival. This festival that was held internationally included plenty of cultural and arts activities, music performances, dances, plays, and short films that reflect the rich culture image of Palestine in general and Bethlehem in particular.

Programs and units 2020

- **Arts program**

Ever since Alrowwad was established, cultural and arts activities were the pillars of work. It started by providing safe places and environments for Palestinian youth, children and women to free their creativity. This was neatly done by creating and forming different groups and cultural bands for Dabka, music, theater, and so on, for different ages. These groups, through their art and creativity, helped with breaking the stereotypical image taken about the Palestinian society, and promote the idea of a beautiful resistance in all shapes and forms. Local and international tours were the key points to reflect the true image of the Palestinian society, along with giving the opportunity for Palestinian youth to unleash their inner artists.

Plenty of Palestinians from different ages and backgrounds joined Alrowwad's arts program. As it provides them a perfect atmosphere away from the marginalization, oppression and challenging living conditions they have to deal with under the Zionist occupation. They all gathered in one place, sharing similar interests, building a better future and making change happen.

In 2020, and under the hard time of the pandemic, all meetings for the arts program were held online, making sure that everyone is safe. But the pandemic never stopped the work, nor the dreams of these youth, as participation was great all the time.

- **Education program**

Alrowwad's education unit's main objective is to create a better, healthier, more developed educational atmosphere using up-to-date techniques for children. The program, with its fully developed library and computer space for all school students and university students to use for academic research or school projects. In addition, education unit works every summer and winter break in creating summer and winter camps for children.

During the year of 2020, education program at Alrowwad worked full-time on giving school education for kids of Aida camp, especially those who attend UNRWA school, as they lost all kids of contact to

their education during the pandemic. The education program team kept in touch with these students, whether it was through online classes and sessions, or face to face following all sorts of health prevention methods. Teacher at Alrowwad created daily worksheets and send them for school's children to practice their education.

Next to the school education work that is done in the education program, our team also work on spreading awareness among children, mainly in the times of the pandemic. Our team worked on planning and organizing campaigns regarding health care and hygiene in the time of these hard times. This was done by online campaigns, summer and winter camps and workshops for students and their parents.

One of the most outstanding activities done is the training on using ZOOM and other online platforms. This training targeted mothers and parents of students, in order for them to adjust to online learning.

The program includes a library archive that has more than 4000 hardcopy and softcopy books. These books cover plenty of topics, whether it's prose, poetry, literature, language, history, sociology, kids...etc. the library has books in three different languages, English, Arabic and French. This library was fully turned into an online one for students and readers to borrow books as needed online.

The education program is always looking forward to make change in the Palestinian society, as we believe that positive change comes from clean minds.

This year, there were 385 direct beneficiaries, 150 males and 235 females, along with 500 non-direct beneficiaries through workshops and activities.

Stories of success

- **Mrs. Nihad Alean (mother)**

As soon as I heard that Alrowwad is offering a training for using ZOOM and Microsoft Teams, I joined. The whole change of the learning style was new to me, and I was not able to use any of the online platforms to help my children with their studies. It was a great decision that I made, and I'm so glad taking this step as I am now able to use these platforms with my children easily.

- **Ahmad Zboun (student)**

My name is Ahamd and I'm 13 years old. I suffer from learning difficulties, which made me a bit late in school. I study in Seera school for children with learning difficulties, and I'm not able to go to a public school like my friends. I'm a participant in Alrowwad's education unit, and the teachers offer me with extra attention and teaching methods for me to be able to read and write, and soon be able to join my friends in a public school. My teachers at Seera school noticed that I'm being better with my studies and they all encourage me to be better academically.

Activities:

Activity	Male beneficiaries	Female beneficiaries
Basic computer skills training	5	18
E-mail skills workshop	7	15
Computer activities	25	30
Films- summer and winter camps	15	25
Physical activities- summer and winter camps	30	50
Internet and research methods	5	20
Using computer in coloring and drawing	7	25
3D printing activities	4	20
Photoshop basics	1	5
MS TEAMS, ZOOM training	-	6
Classes (English, Arabic, Maths, general science)	14	21
National and religious activities	15	20
Health, awareness and cultural workshops with Tamer and YMCA	20	40

- **Images for life program (media program)**

the idea of having a media program started in 2001, and it held the name "images for life", where it started as a unit for producing animated films. In 2003, the first ever photography training took place, targeting youth in Aida camp. These sessions were mainly organized for youth to find future opportunities. In 2007, images for life started as a full-time program at Alrowwad, targeting people from all ages and genders and giving them proper training on photography, media, multimedia and filmmaking. Participants of the media program, with the new profession they gained, are now able to reflect the true image of the Palestine society and breaking the harsh stereotype.

ACTs' media program grows bigger and bigger with each year, as in 2008, an official filmmaking diploma was established by the

program, followed by a media diploma in 2014 for Palestinian youth. These diplomas and academic certificates opened up gates for those who were able to get them, and graduates are now working in the field.

In 2015, the media program opened the first ever radio station for children, called radio 194.

In 2020, the media programs entered a new area of work, where they produced a short film entitled "Make a Wish". Hoping that it will gain the fame locally and internationally. And creating a new road for those youth who show interest in filmmaking and the cinema industry.

Stories of success:

- **Maha Alazzeh, Participant in filmmaking and photography course for youth.**

Maha is a youth participant in the filmmaking and photography youth course, done by Alorwwad Cultural and Arts Society, and she says: " I first got to know Alorwwad society when I read the announcement regarding this specific course. And I felt like this is a great opportunity for me to get to know more things about photography and filmmaking, which I always thought was super complex. I was fully trained in this course and I was able to produce my first documantry film "the black lover" and I got to be one of the top three on all productions.

- **Diab Malash, participant in the filmmaking and photography course for youth.**

Diab, a participant, says: "I really was looking for an opportunity were I'll be able to get to know more about photography, media and filmmaking, so that I'll be able to reflect the daily job I do as a first aid medic in the Red Crescent. I was really looking forward to reflect the struggle we deal with. Being part of this course gave me this opportunity I was always looking forward to.

- **Dima Rjoub, member of the Alorwwad girls' media club.**

I've been always interested in media and photography, and it has always been my hobby. Joining Alorwwad's media club for girls gave me a bigger opportunity in enjoying my hobby as well as giving me more skills and techniques to take better pictures and more professional ones. I was able to join a photography gallery with around 30 pictures taken by my own eye. I am glad that I'm becoming a better photographer and that I'm finding a safe place for me to enjoy my hobby.

- **Women program**

Alrowwad cultural and arts society deeply believe that women are changemakers, and the strongest pillar in the society. This is why Alrowwad started a program that is dedicated to women and their interests. This program gave all women the perfect, safe atmosphere away from the society they live in. Making them aware of their value in this society, and aware of their rights, and equality.

In 2020, women program was able to outstand all expectations, and women were actually change makers. The program, with friends of Alrowwad UK, started a cooking ZOOM program that is held each weekly. Through cooking and dishes, women were able to reflect the Palestinian culture worldwide.

During the tough times of the pandemics, all activities and workshops were held online, but nothing stopped. The women program stayed in touch with its beneficiaries, making sure that everything is going alright mentally and financially.

Stories of success

- **Mrs. Hala Abdoul**

I've always been a member of Alrowwad's women program, where I took plenty of activities, workshops and trainings here. The first workshop I participated in was Palestinian embroidery one, where we also get the chance to get awareness about the importance of the Palestinian culture, and how Palestinian embroidery is related to the Palestinian identity. In 2020, Alrowwad's women unit contacted me and asked if I'll be able to do embroidered face masks fighting the pandemic. Which was a great opportunity for me since things has been tight with the challenging economical and financial conditions.

I also participated in the online ZOOM meetings about Palestinian kitchen, where I was able to share my Palestinian recipes with friends from abroad.

- **Mrs. Hanan Shararah.**

I first joined Alrowwad's women program through all mental health sessions organized by the program. I am so into mental health and Alrowwad offered a perfect environment for me. It was amazing exchanging knowledge and experience with professionals and other women from different backgrounds, and see how important mental health is and how it has huge impact of family and friends around.

Month	Workshops, activities and sessions	No. of beneficiaries
Jan	Interference with education program	20 children with their mothers
	Winter camp activates	
Mar	Participate in writing "Bethlehem's diary under lockdown" with friends of Alrowwad UK.	50
Apr		
May	Palestinian kitchen Zoom meetings	15
June	Summer camp activities	20 children with their mothers

July	Making embroidered face masks during COVID-19, in partnership with friend of Alrowwad UK	7
Oct	A series of workshops with volunteers and social workers	20
	Workshop "involvement of men in gender-based violence" with PWWSD	4

- **Health and environment program**

During 2020, and all the circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic, majority of the activities mainly focused on advocacy and awareness regarding the pandemic and health condition in Palestine and the world. However, it is a fact that the economic factor is taken into consideration when it comes to this program. This is mainly done by providing women and families with greenhouses on rooftops, where they are able to plant, consume and sell their own harvests of vegetables and fruit.

The health and environment program also focuses on children, and takes good care of their health. This is through different activities and free medication days held for kids on a regular basis, whether it is through summer, winter camp, or open days. Another major activity that children enjoy in this program is the recycling activity, where they get the chance to recycle the plastic waste with toys or decoration of their choice.

The health and environment program also holds activities and workshops targeting Palestinian families to go green, and reduce the unnecessary waste by using organic options instead.

When it comes to women, this program gave them a great place and atmosphere for sports, yoga, and first aid activities.

Stories of success

- **Mrs. Mariam Badawneh**

I'm one of the beneficiaries of the greenhouse project done by Alrowwad and Karamah society. Having the greenhouse on the rooftop of my house really changed my life. I plant and harvest my own fruit and vegetables, consume them and sell them for friends and family. Which gave me a much needed income for my family.

- **Dr. Ruba Sarhan**

I've been the dentist Alrowwad calls for children's medical days and activities forever, and I couldn't be happier. I enjoy helping kids taking care of their teeth and gum the rights way. I also worked on plenty of workshops with women when it comes to dental care.

Month	Workshops, activities, sessions	No. pf beneficiaries
Feb	Fitness and sports with Suad Darras	8 women
	Heathy dieting and weight loss with Raghda Alaama	14 women
	Awareness and training sessions regarding greenhosues	18 women
Mar	Online awareness campaigns for women	50 women
Oct	Breast cancer awareness campaign and pink month activities	15 women
Nov	"healthy family day", distributing milk for newborns and babies and medicine.	60 for both genders
	Dental day	70 from both genders

Vocational training center

ACTs has been always on the hunt for responding to people's needs. With that being said, Alrowwad came up with the idea of creating a new program for vocational training, and dedicating an entire building for this program alone. This was mainly found and considered to create new opportunities for Palestinian youth to get trained in professions of their interest.

So far, this training center covers areas of carpentry, media, robotics, 3D techniques, CNC, cooking, and hotel management.

The very first cornerstone of the vocational training building was in 2015, with all the support of Alrowwad's friends. It opened in 2018, fully developed and ready to be used.

In the year of 2020, Alrowwad's training center building became this place full of help and humanity. Where it held the entire solidarity kitchen initiative of Ramadan (Tekeyyet Aida). It was full of volunteers and people who are willing to help families in need in Aida camp and neighboring areas.

Stories of success

- **Issa Ismael Abusrour.**

I've been a member of Alrowwad ever since I was a little kid. I was one of the kids of the theatre team in 2003 and joined the tour in Egypt, and then joined Alrowwad's Dabka dance group, and was part of all the international and local tours ever since 2006. After finishing my high school diploma, Alrowwad gave me the opportunity to be one of the staff members, and be an actual employee in the society, where I was working in a project peace for our children and the game bus since 2012. In 2015, Alrowwad offered me with another amazing opportunity, and send me to get a full on training on carpentry, CNC, and laser. In 2017, I joined a training regarding this profession in France, where I was able to use my profession in making education toys for children.

Stations 2020

- One of the free health days at Alrowwad
- Alrowwad's celebration on independence day.
- Nakba 72 memoir.
- 3D printing workshop for children
- Establishing "Investment in Human Rights" project.
- Establishing Tekeyyet Aida.
- Establishing Alrowwad's Cinema club.
- Alrowwad's media coverage during COVID-19.
- Dabka dance trainings.
- Filming "Make a Wish" short film.
- Honoring Tawjihi graduates.
- Distributing toys for children during lockdown.
- Distributing food and health baskets for families under quarantine.
- Distributing more than 11,000 meals for families in Tekeyyet Aida.
- The French consul visit to Alrowwad.
- Meeting HRH prince Charles.
- Sterilization during COVID-19.
- Alrowwad's media camp for youth.
- Alrowwad's winter camp.
- A diary of a kid under lockdown.