

PERSEVERANCE DESPITE GENOCIDE

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YOUNG CHILDREN UNDER CRISIS AND WAR: NURTURING HEALTH,
EDUCATION, PROTECTION, AND RESILIENCE IN PALESTINE

JULY 30-31, 2024 | Kempinski Hotel - Amman, Jordan

The Palestinian and Arab Networks for Early Childhood Development, in collaboration with Jordan's National Council for Family Affairs, are pleased to present the official program for the symposium dedicated to the young children of Palestine.

Organized by Juzoor for Health and Social Development, this two-day event includes diverse sessions, panels, and discussions aimed at exploring existing challenges and initiatives in early childhood development in Palestine, sharing best practices, fostering coordinated responses, and mobilizing support to meet the immediate and long-term needs of Palestinian children, with a particular emphasis on Gaza.

Please find the **detailed event program** below.

Supported by

TUESDAY, 30 JULY 2024

UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT AND PAVING THE WAY FORWARD

Arrival & Registration | 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Opening Session | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Welcoming Speeches

Dr. Umaiye Khammash | Representing the Palestinian Network for Early Childhood Development (PNECD), Director General of Juzoor for Health and Social Development, Palestine

Dr. Ghassan Issa | General Coordinator of the Arab Network for Early Childhood Development (ANECD)

Dr. Mohammed Meqdady | Secretary General of the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA), Jordan

Ms. Rita Karam | Secretary General of the Higher Council for Childhood at the Ministry of Social Affairs, Lebanon

Keynote Speech | 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Dr. Rima Salah | Chairperson of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC)

Session 1 | 9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Showcasing the Impact of Crisis and War on Palestine and Its Children

Panelists

Introduction: Dr. Siobhan Fitzpatrick | Chairperson of the International Network on Peace Building with Young Children, Former Chief Executive Officer of Early Years – the organization for young children, Ireland

Dr. Tareq Emtairah | Director General of Taawon (Welfare Association), Palestine

Dr. Raed Amro | UNRWA Chief Field Health Programme in West Bank, Palestine

Dr. Yehia Abed | Director of Juzoor for Health and Social Development in Gaza

Dr. Sana Najjar | Acting Field Family Health Officer at UNRWA

Dr. Sawsan Abu Sharia | Director of Mother and Child Health Department at Palestinian Ministry of Health; Head of Palestinian National Committee for Early Childhood Development

Moderator

Dr. Jumana Odeh | Founder and Director of the Palestinian Happy Child Center

Q&A Session | In-person or Anonymously Using Mentimeter Digital Q&A Platform

Video Report: Voices from Gaza | 11:00 AM - 11:05 AM

Session 2 | 11:05 AM - 12:00 PM

Addressing Child Rights Violations and Enhancing Child Protection in Palestine

Panelists

Dr. Ammar Dwaik | Director General of the Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR), Palestine

Mr. Ayed Abu Eqtaish | Program Director of Defense for Children International - Palestine (DCIP)

Dr. Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian | Professor and Global Chair in Law at Queen Mary University of London, United Kingdom, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Ms. Jehan Helou | President of the Palestinian Section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY Palestine)

Ms. Nour Hamayel | Gender Equality Technical Advisor at Save the Children

Moderator

Mr. Hussein Al-Amoudi | Gaza Emergency Response Manager at War Child, Jordan

Q&A Session | In-person or Anonymously Using Mentimeter Digital Q&A Platform

Coffee Break | 12:00 PM - 12:15 PM

Video Report: Hope Despite All | 12:15 PM - 12:20 PM

Session 3 | 12:20 PM - 1:30 PM

Exploring Effective Practices to Support Young Children in Emergencies and Crisis Settings

Part 1: Examining Successful Models from Other Crisis-affected Contexts

Speeches

Ms. Liana Ghent (Ukraine) | Executive Director of International Step by Step Association (ISSA)

Ms. Akhlaq Al Shami (Yemen) | Secretary General of the Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood

Mr. Alfateh Younous Haroun (Sudan) | Board Member and Program Coordinator at iACT

Ms. Abeer Alsharani (Syria) | Early Childhood and Education Program, Aga Khan Foundation

Ms. Suna Hanöz-Penney (Turkey) | Director of International Programs at AÇEV—Mother Child Education Foundation

Part 2: Showcasing Innovative Approaches and Technologies for Emergency Contexts

Panelists

Ms. Dima Nustas | Head of Education Programme at Seenaryo, Jordan

Ms. Hamida Jahamah | Country Director at Plan International, Jordan

Ms. Majd Albeltaji | Regional Policy and Advocacy Advisor at International Rescue Committee, Jordan

Moderator

Mr. Sulieman Mleahat | Education Program Director at ANERA, Palestine

Q&A Session | In-person or Anonymously Using Mentimeter Digital Q&A Platform

Lunch Break | 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Session 4 | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Advising Effective Strategies for the Holistic Development of Young Children in Palestine

Panelists

Ms. Nabila Espanioly | Director of Al Tufula Center, Palestine

Mr. Mohammad Ismail | Deputy Head of Program at World Food Programme, Jordan

Ms. Lubna Musa | CEO of The Palestine Children's Relief Fund

Ms. Hana Al Rabadi | Evidence, Learning, & Accountability Director at World Vision, Palestine

Ms. Rim Othman | Urjouha Project Coordinator at the Arab Resource Collective

Moderator

Dr. Ali Shaar | Technical Advisor for Early Childhood Development at An-Najah National University, Palestine

Q&A Session | In-person or Anonymously Using Mentimeter Digital Q&A Platform

Coffee Break | 4:00 PM

Session 5 | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Introductory Speech

Ms. Nabila Espanioly | Director of Al Tufula Center, Palestine

Poster Exhibition: Building on Resilience and Showcasing Ongoing Initiatives for Children in Palestine

This session will begin with an opening speech on harnessing resilience, discussing how current initiatives in Palestine should be built upon, and introducing new approaches for childhood care and development in Palestine. Following the speech, the session will transition into an exhibition showcasing the ongoing initiatives by various organizations for children in Palestine, with attendees going around to engage with and learn from the presented work.

Participating Organizations

Juzoor for Health and Social Development; World Vision; Palestinian Child Institute; Nafs for Empowerment; SOS Children's Village Palestine; Plan International; QADER for Community Development; Tamer Institute; Palestinian Happy Child Center; Early Childhood Resource Centre; Arab Resource Collective; Urjouha; & more

WEDNESDAY, 31 JULY 2024

FORMULATING SOLUTIONS AND FORGING PARTNERSHIPS

Opening Session | 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Recorded Speeches

Ms. Tricia Young | Director of Moving Minds Alliance

Mr. Aziz Kaichouh | Secretary General of the Higher Council for Education, Training and Scientific Research (CSEFRS) in Morocco, Vice President of the Moroccan Foundation for the Promotion of PreSchool Education (FMPS)

Commencing Session | 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Speakers

Dr. Wigdan Madani | Nutrition Specialist at UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office

Ms. Shereen Abu Manneh | Member of the Executive Committee of the Gaza Health Initiative, Jordan

Guided Working Groups | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Discussing Ways Forward for the Holistic Development of Young Children Based on Insights from Day 1; Outlining Recommendations

Coffee Break | 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Group Presentations & Discussions | 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Closing Session | 11:15 AM - 11:30 PM

Recommendations

H.E. Dr. Mai Al-Kaileh | Former Palestinian Minister of Health

Moving Forward

Dr. Ghassan Issa | General Coordinator of the Arab Network for Early Childhood Development (ANECD)

Closing Remarks

Ms. Rihab Sandouka | Representing the Palestinian Network for Early Childhood Development, Director of Programs at Juzoor for Health and Social Development

Lunch | 12:00 PM

END OF DAY 2