

Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative



Annual Report July 2017–June 2018



Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative

جمعية مركز فلسطين لرعاية ضحايا الصدمات النفسية

PALESTINE TRAUMA CENTRE FOR VICTIM'S WELFARE (PTC)



Friday of Joy Initiative



The Friday of Joy Initiative transforms the meaning of the streets: drab areas of rubble and despair become identified with community joy, laughter, colour and music.



Developed by PTC's drama specialist in 2013, the project has a team of clowns, animators, technicians and psychologists who bring games, dance, stories, face-painting and music to the streets. More than 500 children benefit from each visit on a Friday afternoon. Thousands have smiles brought to their faces every year.



There are no safe, green areas for children to play, no resources for high quality education, no large-scale sports facilities and only occasional cultural events for children to explore their world in a creative way. FoJ breaks the circle of isolation and sadness for families living under siege and deprivation in Gaza.

For more information, look at our website www.ptcuk.org



Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative

Table of contents

No.	Subject	Pg. No
1.	Summary	3
2.	Observation and referral procedure	3
3.	Local community feedback (Children, Parents, and Teachers)	3
4.	Professional supervision in Britain, Field supervision, developing the work team's skills, activities' techniques and diversification	4
5.	Sport Activities (Kung-Fu)	5
6.	Annual work plan	5
7.	FOJ manual	6
8.	Challenges & Solutions	6
9.	Recommendations	6

Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative

Summary:

The annual report for the Friday of joy initiative, funded by Palestine trauma centre-UK, includes the period from 01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018. The project activities are funded for the fourth year by Palestine trauma centre-UK and other supporting groups in London. The initiative's activities aim to help the children in overcoming the traumas and pressures that they have lived through during the past traumatic experiences, where the activities of the initiative helped to change the meaning of the street for children and their families from grief and sadness places to joy, happiness and entertainment places for children and their families.

The total number of beneficiaries during this period (July 2017-June 2018) is 27,320 beneficiaries (22,410 children, 4,910 parents), and these activities were often provided one off basis. The team delivered (45) entertaining activities throughout this period for the beneficiaries (11,210 male, 11,200 females, and 4,910 parents) in various areas of the Gaza Strip, especially the marginalized from them.

1. Observation and referral procedure:

During the period of this report (01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018), the Friday of Joy Initiative's team observed and transferred (60) children (male and female) for individual intervention for having some behavioral and introversive behaviors (Aggression, Bedwetting, Lying, Isolation, Severe fear) . (13) male children benefited from interventions after being transferred by the Friday of joy initiative to the family therapy project.

2. Local community feedback (Children, Parents, and Teachers)

Hosam Thabet (35yrs), a man from Sawarha area in Nusairat Refugees Camp said:

"I was very happy with these activities, especially seeing my children so delighted and participating with the singing and dancing, my children struggled through a very difficult period after the destruction of our house. These activities are very important, we need more of such events, and I hope we could have a celebration like this every Friday".

Dr. Entesar Khozondar (55yrs), a school manager from Gaza-Naser area:

"Dr. Khozondar gave many thanks and appreciation to Palestine Trauma Centre and the Friday of joy team for delivering an entertaining event in Abd Ellateef School".

Mrs. Hala Shaath (55yrs), Ambassador of Arab Women in Lebanon-Jalaa area:

"Mrs. Hala talked about the amount of happiness that she saw during the implementation of these activities in the Nahr al-Bared region in Khanyounis as this area is a marginalized

Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative

and random and suffers from the lack of components of life, Thank you so much Palestine Trauma Center and Friday of Joy initiative”.

Mai Soltan (13yrs), a child from Jabalia area:

The child talked about the different paragraphs of the initiative, she said: “I liked ‘Jooz and Looz’ play, it is similar to ‘Fozy and Mozy’, I am really very happy”.

3. Professional supervision in Britain, Field supervision, developing the work team’s skills, activities’ techniques and diversification

Professional supervision in Britain

The project coordinator Mr. Monther Yaghi continuously communicates with the professional supervisors Dr. Mohamed Altawil and Mr. David Harrold through Skype for professional follow-up of the work and the team. Weekly reports are sent to Britain for follow up on implementing the project’s activities, discussing challenges, and finding solutions.

Field supervision:

The field supervisor Mr. Ahmad Thabet meets with the team to review the work processes, and discuss the hardships and challenges that may face the team.

Developing the work team’s skills:

The team receives trainings problem solving skills, psychological first aid skills, skills for developing the initiative’s activities, for instance; (Barashoot game, birds tree, Al Hakwati storyteller), and observational skills for children who may need transfer for psychotherapy at the centre.

Activities’ techniques and diversification

New diversified activities and tools and paragraphs were added during this period including (Barashoot game, birds tree, safety and protection by adding a paramedic to the team, protecting the children’s heads, renewing the games).

Educating parents:

Prior to implementing the paragraphs, parents are introduced to the nature of the delivered activities, its objectives, how to implement them with the children, and the expected positive outcomes. when delivering the initiative’s activities, parents are educated on how to break the barriers between their selves and their children by participating in the activities.

Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative

Ways of coordination with implementation sites

A schedule is prepared including all four areas of the Gaza strip, in which four events are distributed in all areas (North, Gaza, Middle, South). The team communicates with someone in the designated area (a relative or friend), or through the initiative's Facebook page, whereas proper coordination and arrangements can be made to implement the event.

4.Sport Activities (Kung-Fu)

During this period, Kung Fu was added to the activities as sport activity. (80) participants with psychological and behavioral trauma were integrated. The activity was implemented for 3 months from October to December 2017 in Jenin sport club in Nusairat camp. The pre and post assessment were used to measure the degree of improvement in participants suffering from psychological problems. The results showed an improvement rate of 95%

5.Annual work plan: July 2017- June 2018

Activity	7/2017				8/2017				9/2017				10/2017				11/2017				12/2017			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Week																								
Activities in camps																								
Activities at schools																								
Activities at kindergartens																								
Activities with local NGOs																								

Activity	2018/1				2018/2				2018/3				2018/4				2018/5				2018/6			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Week																								
Activities in camps																								
Activities at schools																								
Activities at kindergartens																								
Activities with local NGOs																								

Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative

6.The Friday of joy initiative project's manual:

Through the continuous follow-up and supervisory session's with the professional supervisor, a special manual for the Friday of joy activities was prepared and completed.

7.Challenges and solutions:

The increasing demand for the project's activities by the local community. 2017-2018:

The demand to provide the project's activities made by the local community is growing, while the team is unable to cover all this demand because of the nature of the initiative's work for one day every week. Hence, we would like to increase the number of activities in order to overcome and cover all the areas of the Gaza strip.

8.Recommendations:

-Extend the work period because there is a desperate need by the Gaza community for similar social activities for their children, whereas many areas still needs these activities.

-Change the team work system to work daily rather than one day per a week.

-Provide a budget for the implementation of activities during the year such as (bicycle marathon, photos exhibition, festivals, street publicity).

-Provide the team with new sketches, records, and songs.

- Provide a trainer and training courses for the team in order to improve the quality of the activities.

Watch Short Film about FoJ



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83XJzfQw1yU&feature=youtu.be>

Annual Report-Friday of Joy Initiative



FRIDAY OF JOY INITIATIVE



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