A Loving Home for Every Child
YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN in 2019

Thanks to your generosity, care and readiness to support our work in 2019

245 children and young people who once had no one to care for them, had loving families and opportunities for a bright future.

695 families (with 4619 children) that were once at risk of falling apart grew stable and strong together.

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Our donors, supporters and dear friends,

First, I would like to thank you very much for the support you have given us during the year! With your support, we have continued to provide care for children, young people and families at SOS Children’s Villages Palestine. We will continue our work in the upcoming year to achieve a better thriving future for them. SOS Children’s Villages Palestine realizes that its’ existence is one of the most important corner stones of the Palestinian State’s governmental organizations regarding providing quality care and safe and caring environment for the child to grow and reach their full potential. Currently, due to the difficult economic and social circumstances of Palestinian families and the resulting increase in the number of children at risk of losing family care because of these problems. We must continue to work on developing our programmes, our services and expanding our work to a larger number of beneficiaries.

In 2019, we opened more Community Houses, Short Term Care Centers inside SOS Villages and developed new form of care “Reintegration with biological families” for children and youth whenever possible. We also continued empowering young people through empowerment and employability initiatives with different partners, as well empowering women to be able to support their children and provide family care.

At SOS Children’s Villages - Palestine, we are working within the SOS International 2030 strategic plan for innovative alternative care solutions for children, strengthening vulnerable families to prevent their disintegration, developing youth capacities, supporting and advocating for children’s rights and investing for growth in funding and other necessities in line with the plan. As the National Advisory Board for SOS Children’s Villages Palestine had supported the mission of SOS Children’s Villages International and directed the work of SOS Palestine in parallel with Palestinian culture.

Finally, I leave you with latest SOS achievements in 2019. As we hope to continue working together towards a better life for children, youth and SOS families.
101 years ago, Herman Gmeiner, the founder of SOS Children’s Villages, was born. Hermann Gmeiner envisioned a new way to care for children left without parents after the Second World War. Through this concept, he hoped that no child in the world would have to grow up alone. His vision today can be seen in 136 countries around the world.
OUR HELP IN 2019

THE CLOSURE OF “EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION” TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME IN THE FRAMEWORK FELISTENYAH PROGRAMME.

The closure of “Effective Communication” Training for Women in Family Strengthening Programme in the framework of Felistenyah programme affiliated to Bank of Palestine. An agreement between the Bank and SOS Palestine had been signed for 2019. As the closure was attended by a number of women who participated in the training for 40 hours, focused on effective communication in order to enhance communication skills for women and empower them psychologically and socially until reaching the stage of economic empowerment.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTES TO WELL REHABILITATION AT SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGE IN BETHLEHEM

SOS Children’s Villages Palestine and Brigham Young University - Jerusalem Center (BYU – JC) signed an agreement to support the rehabilitation of one of the water wells in SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem. The agreement signed in the presence of Mr. Mark E. Morrison - Director at Brigham Young University Jerusalem Center for Near East Studies, and Mr. Mohammed Shalaldeh - National Director of SOS Children’s Villages in Palestine and in Jordan. The agreement aims to enable SOS Children’s Village Programme in Bethlehem from supporting children with the basic water needs in the village. As the water well will be rehabilitated by BYU, it will serve more than 100 children at the village along with their SOS families.

THE PROCESS OF LEARNING NEVER FAILS TO BE CHEERFUL AT SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGE IN BETHLEHEM IN COOPERATION WITH AMWAJ CHOIR.

As a group of children from SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem voluntary participated for in Amwaj Choir Trainings. Music educators and social workers of the Amwaj Choir School and Senior students of the Amwaj Choir involved in the training according to a memorandum of understanding signed between the French association Soutien Amwaj and SOS Children’s Villages Palestine to support music activities in 2019-2020.
NEW ADVISORY BOARD FOR SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGE PALESTINE
SOS Children’s Villages Palestine held its Annual Advisory Board meeting for the third time in a row at the Prime Ministry headquarters in Ramallah in the presence of His Excellency the Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Shtayyeh, former Chairman of the Advisory Board, and Mr. Talal NasserEdeen, currently Chairman of the Advisory Board, Dr. Ahmed Majdalani The Minister of Social Development, Mr. Wilfred Viziozle, from Hermann Gmeiner Fund, and Mr. Mohammad Shalaldeh, National Director of SOS Children’s Villages Palestine, and members of the National Council In a speech by His Excellency the Prime Minister, Dr. Muhammad Shtayyeh, thanked all members of the Advisory Board for accepting this humanitarian mission and dedicating themselves to serve the Palestinian Children.

WAFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORTS SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES PALESTINE FOR TWO YEARS
Under the auspices of Palestinian Prime Minister Dr. Muhammad Shtayyeh, WAFA International Organization for Development and Capacity Building provided support to SOS Children’s Villages Palestine, where a support agreement had been signed to contribute to support the work of the SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem, and serve children without family care within the village and meet their needs. The ceremony took place at the prime minister’s office in Ramallah with the attendance of SOS Palestine Head of Advisory Board Mr.Talal NasserEddin and its’ National director Mr.Mohammad Shalalheh, as well as WAFA Palestine office director Mr.Mohaisen AlAtawneh and members of SOS Palestine Advisory Board and WAFA organization.

LIFE COACHING CENTER SERVES MORE THAN 300 FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN WEST BANK.
SOS Children’s Village Bethlehem programme had received the funding to initiate the Life Coaching Center within Bethlehem Village Facility. Which contributed to the training and development of more than 100 women from Family Strengthening programme families, as well hosting events and trainings of SOS Youth council and children activities. The Center hosted diverse activities such as, Positive parenting skills, Communication skills, breast cancer awareness initiative, art activities and SOS Youth Council meetings and trainings.
**OUR HELP IN 2019**

**YOUTH WAKEUP**

“Youth! Wake-Up!” Has developed a new initiative project here at SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem. In order to develop the children’s ability to express themselves through art and in effect generate individual growth as well as improve the children’s functioning in a group setting.

**YOUTH LEARN SUCCESS FACTORS FOR LABOR MARKET FROM APIC MENTORS**

As part of the Youth Can and Youth Links partnership with APIC Group, 14 youth from SOS programmes had the chance to visit APIC headquarter to gain insights into how the company works and how they can develop skills and gain experience to build a successful career.

The visit gave the youth a chance to meet with employees from Medical Supplies Company –which is part of APIC Group, and learn from them how to plan for their future, choose their profession, and be ready for labor market.

**THE NATIONAL BANK SUPPORTS CHILDREN’S EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AT SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES PALESTINE**

The National Bank had supported SOS Children’s Villages by contributing to the educational development of children and youth at SOS. They provided children with educational laptops PSD books on parallel with their social responsibility child dedicated campaign Khatwaty. They also mentored and trained youth individually to enhance their employability opportunities in the future.

It is also worth mentioning that The National Bank and SOS Children’s Villages Palestine signed an agreement with the presence of the Palestinian Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Shtayeh at Ramadan Iftar.
RAMADAN IFTARS IN 2019
Ramadan is the season in which children at SOS Children’s Villages share their quality times with other people in the community. This year several organizations and parties had their Iftars at the SOS villages including European Union in West Bank and Gaza, Ministry of Social Development, Islamic Relief, the Indian Representative in Palestine, the Palestinian Protective Forces in Bethlehem Governorate.

QUDS BANK CELEBRATED INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S DAY AT SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGE IN BETHLEHEM AND LAUNCHED A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
Quds Bank initiated a new campaign “Light their future”, which contributes to shaping the future of children at SOS Children’s Villages Palestine. The bank team had sponsored the International Children Day Activity and launched the campaign out of its social responsibility towards Palestinian children.

LIFE COACHING CENTER SERVES MORE THAN 300 FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN WEST BANK.
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The Center hosted diverse activities such as, Positive parenting skills, Communication skills, breast cancer awareness initiative, art activities and SOS Youth Council meetings and trainings.
Hala drew a picture for her SOS Mother Wesal on the occasion of Mother’s Day. Nine-year-old Hala lives at SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem, she loves drawing special things to her heart. She started expressing herself with her SOS Mother and using colors.

Above the drawing in the picture Hala wrote in Arabic: “Your love, your safety, there’s heaven under your feet, when you laugh life blossoms, with you I feel safe”. She ended with, “My mom, you’re in my heart”.

Mother Wesal has a surprise of her own for Hala. She plans to organize an exhibition of Hala's drawing in all the homes at SOS Children’s Village. “I want to encourage her talents,” Wesal says.

Hala’s favorite subject to draw: girls. Why? “Because they are beautiful girls,” she replies.
SOS Children’s Village Rafah

COMMUNITY HOUSE MEANS MUCH MORE THAN A FAMILY!

Mama Fatima takes care of seven children at the Community House of SOS Children’s Village in Rafah including the seven years old Ahmad. Ahmad spends his free time in combining Lego pieces, transferring them into funny shapes of beautiful houses. In the weekends Mama Fatima takes the family to the beach. Ahmad spends his time together playing in the sand and Lego with his siblings. “he has a beautiful imagination which helps him to enjoy playing with those small pieces” says Mama Fatima.

When Ahmad first arrived at SOS Children’s Village in Rafah he was very calm and preferred to play alone. After a while he started joining his siblings especially Ali to enjoy their time playing the ball at the beach.

Now, Ahmad has space to express his feelings and play the games he always wanted to share with his brother. “My favorite part of the weekend is playing with Ali at the beach; I love to share things with him”
Ahmad first arrived at SOS at a small age, now he is pursuing his bachelor degree in law. Aspiring to become independent one day and join his family.

At the age of 18 Ahmad started school with the support of SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem. He started studying Law. He passed through several challenges at the beginning while going out to the community. But with the guidance and support of SOS youth coordinator and Ahmad’s ability to represent his peers, he became lively, active and gained skills that helped him represent SOS Youth later on in the International Youth Council in Austria in 2019.

With continuous support and good sense of responsibility towards the community Ahmad participated in several initiatives and projects as member of the SOS National Youth Council. He gave support to his peers at SOS and to youth heading to independent life same as he did.

Ahmad says: “Last year in the International Youth Council gathering and SOS ND meeting I challenged myself and talked in front of 400 people without fear, I was so proud of myself and were I reached”
Thekryat came to SOS Children’s Village in Rafah in 2008 as a child at the age of 12. Currently, she is twenty years old studying at Al-Quds Open University where she is specializing in Special Education. One of the main challenges that face her as a youth, was reuniting with her biological family and coping after spending so much time away from them.

“I am worried about what my future would look like, and how my relatives, family and neighbors would receive me after being away for so long. But today, I am motivated by direct support from both my biological family and my SOS mother”.

Thekryat is ambitious towards finding a job that is related to her major once she graduates. She also wants to launch a center for people with disabilities, get a practical training in sign language, and interested in learning photography. She had been able to build her independent personality at SOS Children’s Village in Rafah. Now as an independent youth she participates in capacity building activities prepared by SOS for youth. Which is specifically prepared to develop youth’s career and professional skills, and improve their readiness to labor market. So as to have brighter future.

“I am currently at my junior year in college, I look forward to a brighter future and suitable job opportunity so that I settle more in my life.”
Bethlehem Education

SARAH ... MADE HER DREAMS AND AMBITIONS OUT OF DIFFICULTIES

Sarah lived through difficult circumstances that began when she was six-year-old girl living with her family. Her parents were separated, so no one was able to take care of her and her brothers. As a result, they came to SOS Children's Village in Bethlehem.

Sarah dreamed that she would return with her family and siblings to meet their mother and father. She continued to study with great efforts until her dreams come true. She was interested in music and piano playing.

"My dream was fulfilled when I was seventeen years old. I reunited with my family, my siblings and I went to live with my mother."

When the family was reunited and Sarah and her siblings felt the family’s security more, her dreams grew larger and she had an ambition to be accepted in university.

"My mother's dream was that she would study at Birzeit University. I liked to fulfill her dream and enroll at Birzeit University."

One of the things that Sarah cherishes most is her diligence to succeed in high school and enter the university. She worked hard in her studies than before and was accepted into Birzeit University, majoring in administrative and banking sciences.

"My story, my dreams and my aspirations were not realized on their own, and I certainly got great support from an angel who guarded, guided, and helped me with providing all reasons for success, and she is my SOS mother"
Omar is in the third grade at Hermann Gmeiner SOS School in Rafah. He lives with his family in the SOS House, under the care of Mama Kifah; an alternative SOS mother who takes care of seven children including the 8-year-old Omar. Omar lived among difficult family conditions with his natural family, which prevented him from living his childhood like all of his friends, that is before he joined the SOS Children’s Village in Rafah. He was not able to play and spend the happy childhood moments like the rest of his companions due to the lack of a safe family atmosphere.

During the first period with his SOS family at SOS Children’s Village in Rafah, Omar was suffering from the inability to write or read, and has difficult health problems that no one cared about treating which could have affected his future. He also preferred not to talk to anyone about his feelings, desires, or wishes.

With the help of Mama Kifah and after joining his SOS family, Omar got used to the lovely family atmosphere, got excellent grades at school and became more interactive and involved in the school and society. He started telling his SOS mother all the details of his day and expressing his great longing for her upon his return from visiting his natural family. Omar gained back his brightness and laughter, which circumstances forced him to lose. Nowadays, he is energetic, engaged in activities loved by those around him, and he has become more stable and balanced.
‘I ACHIEVED SOMETHING’

A Palestinian mother confronts society to create a better life for her children

Deciding to divorce and raise her two children alone was a hard decision for Nadera. Divorce comes with stigma for women in her Palestinian community and can even be an impediment in finding work. But Nadera’s former husband did not take responsibility for the children as a parent or breadwinner. For the sake of her children, she felt she needed to take control. However, without a job or formal education, she struggled.

“My life before I got support from SOS Children’s Villages Palestine was limited,” says Nadera, 36. “I didn’t know who to turn to for guidance, because I was divorced and this is a problem in our society.” Her daughter, Bayan*, and son, Fadi*, were quite young when the couple divorced more than 10 years ago. Raising them by herself was particularly difficult since her son’s medical issues required long stays in the hospital. What Nadera lacked in skills and education she made up with a fierce determination in build a life for herself and her children. She had the courage to face the insecurity and stereotypes of divorce for the chance of a better future. “I’m a fighter when it comes to raising my children,” she says.

Nadera turned to SOS Children’s Villages Palestine for guidance and support. Through an SOS programme that helps about 600 vulnerable families in both the West Bank and Gaza, Nadera received psychosocial and emotional counseling as well as financial support to open a small clothing boutique in 2017. “My dream was to have a clothing boutique and it was fulfilled by SOS Children’s Villages,” Nadera says. “It takes care of all our financial needs and especially my son’s medical needs.”

“Now I have created some independency in our own home in which my children feel warmth and independent in their life,” she adds.
A SMALL PROJECT STANDS FOR A BIG DREAM OF FAMILY SUPPORT

Mahmoud works to support his family after receiving support through the Family Strengthening Program. Where he started the ornamental birds project in 2019, which achieved remarkable success in a short period. He became a source of security and support for his family and his child Rami which boosted his willingness to live.

The family of Mahmoud -52 years old-, joined the Family Strengthening Programme since 2017, where he lives with his wife and 12-year-old son Rami, who had been adopted as a baby because both parents desired to have a family of their own and take care of a child whom lost care and love. The child grew up with his parents’ care, but the difficult economic conditions in Gaza Strip prevented them from providing the protection and care necessary for a decent life for their only child.

Rami’s parents went through many difficulties to be able to raise him, as they were unable to provide themselves and him with treatment. But when they entered the program, the partner association, with the help of SOS Children’s Villages Palestine; provided them with the necessary treatment in addition to psychological support and correct guidance, and thus the family witnessed an improvement on the health level.

Rami was also integrated into an educational center to take tutoring lessons, and was also enrolled in a youth capacity building project to receive courses in English language, life skills and information technology.

At that time, the parents participated in many trainings to build their skills in social upbringing, parenting, life, and combating gender-based violence, in order to create a healthy environment for their child to grow up. The family became stable after receiving economic empowerment training in 2019 and then qualified to receive the income-generating project of birds.

Mahmoud says, “I did not imagine that under difficult living conditions I would be able to stand on my feet. I did it, thanks to the project. I will not stop, but rather expanded it in order to support my family, especially now that I can give my child a bright future.”
GIVING BACK IN PALESTINE

Here are the contributions of our Institutional and Corporate Partners in 2019.

INTRODUCTION

SOS Children’s Villages Palestine believes in long term partnerships and has long history full of cooperation with Corporates, Institutions, and Organizations. Our valued partners demonstrated their commitment to give back to the Palestinian society. They gave loving homes and education to children, empowerment and leadership opportunities to youth, and economic opportunities to families. Here are their contributions in 2019:

Hammad H. Harazeen

We are honored to receive the significant annual donation from Mr. Hamad H. Harazeen, who generously contributes each year in covering several costs of Bethlehem and Rafah villages at SOS Children’s Villages – Palestine.

Talal Nasereddin

Mr. Talal represents the SOS Children’s Villages Advisory Board, which he started as head of since inauguration in 2019 by the former head of Advisory Board Dr. Mohammad Shateyh. This year he gave a generous donation as a sponsor for SOS children’s future and one of their guardians.

Arab Palestinian Investment Company (APIC)

Arab Palestinian Investment Company (APIC) has been supporting SOS Children’s Villages Palestine for the past six years in fulfilling our humanitarian mission to foster, nurture and educate children who have lost their family care. In addition to annual Ramadan Iftars that they support, APIC had been the major corporate partner for Youth Links and Youth Can! Programmes. Youth learned from mentors offered by APIC how they can develop skills and gain experience to build a successful career.

A. Sbitany & Sons Co. Ltd

A. Sbitany & Sons Co. Ltd. supported SOS Children’s Villages through “We Care” social responsibility programme. As it contributed to providing SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem with home appliances needed for SOS Families.

Haj Hashem Atta Shawa Charitable Foundation

Once again during Ramadan, Haj Hashem Atta Shawa Charitable Foundation contributed a significant donation to SOS Children’s Village Rafah in 2019, who sponsored more than 80 children with a certain do-

Canada Feminist Fund

Canada Feminist Fund supported SOS Children’s Village Programme in Bethlehem through the establishment of the first Life Coaching Center in Palestine, which aims to establish a life skills training center that supports women who headed their families to be able to express their creations effectively and significantly. This center is the first of its kind in Palestine that touches on the needs of marginalized families and in particular develops strong systems of social support for children and families so that they can grow and learn in a positive and supportive environment.

Bank of Palestine, in its responsibility to serve the Palestinian community, allocates a portion of its annual profits to support social responsibility projects and activities. This year’s support to SOS Children’s Villages Palestine included empowerment of women through Family strengthening Programme, and with shared vision of Bank of Palestine’s Felistenyah Programme.

World Food Programme

For the past decade, the World Food Programme donated essential food supplies to SOS Children’s Villages – Palestine in Bethlehem and Rafah. In 2019, they continued to support the SOS Children’s Villages Palestine Programme. Year-round in-kind donations helped SOS provide good nutrition to all children living in both SOS villages in Palestine.

Jawwal Employees

Jawwal employees continued their commitment in giving generously to the children at SOS Children’s Villages Palestine. They sponsored families at SOS Children’s Village in Bethlehem, in addition to supporting youth employability through Go Professional youth employment programme.
WAFA
WAFA international organization signed a partnership agreement in 2019 to support SOS Children's Villages Palestine with family sponsorship needs and fulfill the needs of children who lost parental care. The agreement signed under the auspices of the Palestinian Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Shtayyeh as he confirmed the importance of this initiated partnership between SOS and WAFA.

Birzeit Pharmaceutical Company
Birzeit Pharmaceutical Company (BPC) believes that its success depends on the social responsibility it takes towards the community. According to its commitment to the development of the Palestinian community; it aims at serving Palestinian people, so it gave a generous donation this year to obtain children's safe future at SOS.

Razan Specialized Center
The center is planting seeds of hope all over Palestine through its giving, as those in charge of it deeply believe that in SOS Children's Villages Palestine what is worth living. Therefore, this year they made their generous donation for the first time to support the growth of children in SOS children's Villages Palestine.

Palestinian Islamic Bank
The bank allocates a portion of its net annual profits to support activities, institutions and programs in the education and health sectors and charitable institutions specifically those that deal with orphans, the elderly, people with disabilities and the less fortunate. This year its support was dedicated to support SOS Children's Villages Palestine out of its social responsibility and to leave a positive impact on the Palestinian society.

Palestinian Zakat Fund
The fund donated its zakat to SOS Children's Villages this year during the blessed month of Ramadan, at the behest of Prime Minister Dr. Muhammad Shtayyeh. Whereas, the fund is the authority authorized to follow up on zakat affairs in Palestine.

Tamkeen Insurance Company
Tamkeen aspire to empower the Palestinian society and marginalized groups especially children through its work, as it provided support to SOS Children's Villages Palestine with a general donation to cover children's basic needs.

Palestine Community Foundation
Friends of the Palestinian community from the United Kingdom came through a cycling marathon event in November in order to tour Palestine and finally reach SOS Children's village in Bethlehem while children welcomed them in a festive way, they presented a donation to the children to support their education.

Royal Industrial Trading Company
The company attaches great importance to the social responsibility of the local community, as it has a great annual contribution in development sector. Also, contributes to the support of SOS Children's Villages Palestine.
# Our Donors & Partners in 2019

## Major Donors 2019
- Hammad H. Harazeen
- Talal Nasser Eddin

## Institutional Partners
- Haj Hashem Atta Shawa Charitable Foundation
- WAFA
- Canada Feminist Fund CFF
- World Food Programme
- Brigham Young University in Jerusalem

## Corporate Donors
- Arab Palestinian Investment Company (APIC)
- Bank of Palestine
- Akram Sbitany and Sons. Company
- The National Bank
- Islamic Palestinian Bank
- Tamkeen Insurance Company
- Birzeit Pharmaceutical Company
- Razan Center
- Royal Industrial Company

## Supporting Friends
- Jawwal Employees
- Palestinian Zakat Fund
- AlNajah Academy
- World Bank Employees in Palestine

## PR Partners
- Triangle Adv.
TOTAL EXPENDITURES 2019
FOR SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES – PALESTINE USD 4,320,676

Our continued focus on care for the child at risk and prevention of family separation is reflected in that more 84.5% of SOS Children’s Villages – Palestine expenditures goes toward our programmes in Family Based Care, Family Strengthening, and Education.

84.5%  12%  3.5%
Percentage of budget spent on programmes    Percentage of budget spent on administration    Percentage of budget spent on fundraising

FUNDRAISING INCOME 2019:
TOTAL LOCAL FUNDRAISING INCOME 2018 FOR SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES – PALESTINE USD $384,004

As an integral part of the Palestinian community, we believe that financial support from the surrounding community is essential to our success. In 2019, we reached over 616 individual and corporate donors joining together to support vulnerable children and families in Palestine.

30 %  26 %  20 %  15 %  9 %
Percentage from individual givers    Percentage from major donors    Percentage from corporates    Percentage from Institutions    Percentage from In Kind