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In the light of recent developments, Red Oak is committed to serve our vulnerable communities through a **holistic and innovative approach**, with a particular **focus on inclusion and the empowerment of women and youth** in the design of our programs.

In parallel to the implementation of a series of interventions in response to the devastating explosions of the Beirut port, a full scope of psychosocial services was developed. Red Oak has doubled its efforts to respond in urgency to the damage and increasing needs arising from the aftermath of the blast and the continuously deepening national crisis, all while bearing in mind how important it is not to sideline support and long-lasting development programs for the most vulnerable communities.

To this end, Red Oak has widened its geographical scope of interventions with the addition of a total of 3 community centers in Mount Lebanon (Nabaa, Bourj Hammoud) and the Bekaa (Al Marj, Saadnayel) - to be closer to the communities we serve.



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# Number of **PARTNERSHIPS**

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- AVS
- Caritas
- EMHRF
- Fondation de France
- Intersos
- King Salman Humanitarian Aid
- La Guilde
- Medair
- Médecins sans frontières
- Relief Centre (KSRelief)
- Save the children
- Terre des Hommes (italy)
- UNESCO
- Unicef
- War Child
- World Rehabilitation Fund
- World Vision

#### **MUNICIPALITIES**

Barja, Borj Hammoud, Al Marj, Saadnayel

#### **EDUCATION & HEALTH CENTERS**

The Medico-Social Dispensary of Nabaa



- Al Irshad Wal Islah
- Al Saydeh Church
- Caritas
- C'est la vie
- Dar Al Aytam
- Himaya
- Mouvement social
- Nabad
- Nehna Hadak initiative
- The Orthodox Youth
- Movement in Nabaa (MJO)
- UPEL (L'Union Pour La Protection
- de L'Enfance Au Liban)
- Village Najat



## **Expression through art**



## Providing **FOCUSEDSUPPORT** To Families As A Whole

## Save the Children, UNICEF

1 April - 15 June



#### PSS to 503 children FPSS to 240 children FPSS to 1455 women

Three types of psychosocial interventions: community based psychosocial support sessions, focused psychosocial support sessions, and emotional support sessions for women. The children were offered PSS and FPSS exploring various activities ranging from expressive arts, music therapy, dance therapy, theater, circus and clowning. A series of workshops and training focusing on dealing and braving the effects of trauma were given to female caregivers, including joint support groups with and for children. Exploring family structures and roles, empowering women and children looking up to the ambition of the female household-leads.

Mainly targeting communities in and around the Bourj Hammoud and Nabaa area:

Awareness sessions were given to the parents and we were able to involve both parents in these sessions.

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## **QUDWA,** THE CHILDREN AMBASSADORS

2 different groups one in Bourj Hammoud Nabaa one with Home of Hope at Kahale received a drawing workshop about Children rights with a professional artist. The aim of the workshop was to help the participants learn how to express themselves through art, drawing and painting.

At the end of the workshop an exposition was organized by Red Oak with the drawings of the participants on December 14th at the Hagop Der Melkonian Theater in Bourj Hammoud. 100 children and caregivers from the community attended the exposition. Later a coloring book composed of drawings made by the participants was designed to share with other children the experience and the key messages taken during this workshop.

**Z.C.** 12 years old girl Performed on stage during the "No To Cyberbullying" event, was a bit resistant to the subject of bullying at the beginning of the workshop because she was very bullied because of her name and her hijab. Thanks to the discussions with the trainer, she felt like she could speak up. She reported that the sessions helped her develop self-confidence and she felt stronger. She participated very actively. During the performance, her mother was very surprised by her confidence on stage. She said "I thank Red Oak and the Qudwa initiative, because she was being subject to a lot of bullying and it was negatively affecting her. I was surprised to see her so sure of herself on stage, I am very grateful for this."





## **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT** And Support Through **ARTISTIC EXPRESSION**

#### Terre des Hommes (Italia), UNICEF ¹ May - 30 August



#### Case management for **177** children:

-TDH cycle 2: Case management was given to **97** children who are exposed to child labor, worst forms of child labor, abuse and neglect, living in extreme poverty, suffering from psychosocial distress.

-TDH cycle 3: 80 cases of children

"A series of workshops and training focusing on dealing and braving the effects of trauma were given to female caregivers, including joint support groups with and for children. Exploring family structures and roles, empowering women and children looking up to the ambition of the female household-leads."

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I used to stay at home all day, because teenage girls are not allowed to go to school or to work in my family. I experienced during these sessions a beautiful routine. And I met lovely friends with whom I felt safe especially that we agreed on some points from the beginning. Like no bullying and respect other's opinion. So, I was able to express myself very easily. I learned a lot of things from the topics. I know now how to protect myself and to organize my time even if I am not going to school or at work. Sometimes, staying at home need more organizing techniques than going out.



# **CONNECT** To Empower

### La Guilde AFD & Fondation de France

15 March - 15 July

#### Cybersecurity training to **105** women and **300** children

Fostering social inclusion while simultaneously attempting to curb the risk of increased inequalities. The ability to access and use the internet effectively is central to women's digital inclusion and their empowerment. Women and children were able to address these through awareness sessions, training on cybersecurity and hands-on breakdown of abuse engaging in self-exploration through performance.

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## EDUCATE & INITIATE

#### UNESCO & King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre



#### 1 June - 30 June

#### 662 beneficiaries

The program "Educate and Initiate", which provides technical and vocational education and training (TVET) to 600 mothers of Syrian and Palestinian children in the in West Bekaa.

## STRONGER TOGETHER

### **World Vision**

15April - 30 August



#### 391 beneficiaries

Red Oak provides specialized psychosocial services for children and caregivers in the Akkar region in Lebanon.

The project provides support sessions to 120 children at risk and survivors of violence exploitation and abuse. These sessions enhance interpersonal relations and self-protection and increase the capacity and awareness of children to negotiate risks and know where to go for help. The group sessions help improve children's ability to identify emotions and to express them through drawing, drama, puppet theater, games, storytelling, art and crafts, etc. It also improves their abilities to concentrate and improve memory skills.

Mariam

#### **Positive parenting:**

I was struggling to deal with my child and the stubbornness he exhibited. I was desperate for help as I was not able to handle him. But ever since the first session, all my perspectives have drastically changed. I really thank you. It was made a great difference for the both of us



## INCLUSION



## **SPORT** for Resilience

## Intersos, UEFA

1 May - 31 December 2022

The initiative gathered 200 children and youth with and without special needs to engage jointly through sport activities - raising awareness on the importance of equality and inclusion.





## **DOORS.Please touch**

Ministry of Culture, the Italian Cultural Institute, the National Museum of Beirut, the Omero Tactile Museum of Italy & MACAM (Modern and Contemporary Art Museum) 1 October - 30 June



#### **102** beneficiaries

Red Oak launched the second phase of "DOORS. PLEASE TOUCH" in partnership with the Ministry of Culture, the Italian Cultural Institute, the National Museum of Beirut, the Omero Tactile Museum of Italy and MACAM (Modern and Contemporary Art Museum). This project aims to make art and culture in Lebanon accessible to the blind and visually impaired, and the deaf and hard of hearing, through a tactile guidance system, trainings on accessibility, and educational inclusive tactile art activities.





## WE ARE GROWING

Let us introduce you to our young sister organization **Red Oak France**, setting roots in the suburbs of Paris. The aim is to widen our reach and continue to pursue the protection of children, empowerment of **women** and **girls**, with a special attention for people with **disabilities** all while promoting innovative approaches through **education, art, art therapy** and **mental health**.



#### RED OAK FRANCE PROMOTING HANDCRAFTED PRODUCTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM THE BEKAA AT VERSAILLES MARKET

Red Oak France participated in the Marché de Versailles along with Energis Libani and other Lebanese associations to promote handmade products created by Lebanese women and girls from the Bekaa region. This event was held to bring awareness of traditional craftsmanship from the region and its people.

This initiative will not only provide economic opportunities for women and girls in need but also build bridges between different communities across cultures.

#### TRAINING IN TACTILE TOOLS PROMOTING ACCESS TO ART AND CULTURE FOR ALL

Red Oak provided training to a group of art mediators, art therapists and related aid workers in its educational and inclusive tactile art activities.

This training took place as part of the "Accessibility and Cultural Inclusion"



program, which focuses on developing tactile tools that promote accessibility to art and culture for all, encouraging an inclusive culture through creative and sensory workshops. Designed to raise awareness on the tactile relationship, creativity, interest and curiosity in arts as well as self-expression and communication, these tools have pedagogical value for all childrens or youths with any disability.

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