



ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017



EDITORIAL

Dear friends,

One more year is coming to an end with its many problems, disappointments, difficulties, challenges and pains. A year that ends with a feeling of bitterness, because, despite all the efforts, we have not succeeded in "making ends meet".

During this year, 1486 children, young people and adults with intellectual disabilities, motor disabilities, suffering from autistic spectrum disorders, were taken care of, at SESOBEL, on an outpatient basis throughout Lebanon, and at our new D.A.R. center (Diagnosis Accompaniment and Rehabilitation) in Dora.

SESOBEL tries by all means that are within its reach to offer the best for children and to be always present for their parents, brothers and sisters, no matter their social, political, religious or ethnic affiliations, they are all welcomed to benefit from a range of programs and services tailored to their needs and the needs of their children to enable them to evolve and strengthen their capacities.

80% of SESOBEL's children and young people come from low-income families.

living in difficult conditions and without any social security coverage, and the presence of a child with disability only further complicates their daily lives.

SESOBEL has always taken care of children with mild and severe disabilities requiring by this very fact the intervention of specialists in all fields and through several services at the medical, educational, rehabilitation and positioning programs, without forgetting the human and existential guidance and the professional accompaniment for those who have the capacities. Thus,

the average cost of a child's overall care is about USD 12,000 per year.

All this required a fairly substantial budget this year, which could not be guaranteed despite all the efforts invested for the following reasons:

- Lower local contributions, due to the precarious economic situation in Lebanon over the past 2 years.
- Impact of the influx of Syrian refugees on aid from international and foreign organizations that made it their priority (more than 1 800 000 syrian refugees in Lebanon)..
- Inability of the Ministry of Social Affairs to settle subsidies on time (one year late)
- Inability of other state entities to settle their deadlines (the army, general security, the Ministry of the interior, etc.).

As a result, we were unable to honor our commitments to staff, suppliers... ½ salary is paid to all staff without exception since May 2017, our debts towards our various suppliers are increasing, and the therapists in the outpatient services have not cashed their due. We are still waiting for transfers from public entities.

The parents of our young people, as main partners, have been informed of this situation and were mobilized to help us, but the proceeds of their contributions are minimal compared to our present needs.

We have embarked on a major restructuring plan for the development of the commercial and resource sectors in order to improve sales, donations, and sponsorships; which should enable us to significantly increase our revenues. Unfortunately, the results will not be felt in the short term.

Since 1976, SESOBEL has always tried to demonstrate every day, through its mission, its programs, its action plans, its basic foundations, its creed... that it is possible to work for the well-being of the child with disability by deeply believing that he can be happier. Our children and young people are there to witness their experiences through their journey.

Your support helps us cover a large part of the daily accompaniment of the children expenses such as medical treatments, surgeries, educational material, knowing that this material must always be renewed considering the heaviness of certain handicap of our children.

However, and due to the payment delays of several state entities, today our difficulties are enormous.

We count on each one of you dear friends, sponsors, colleagues, collaborators, partners, to help us overcome this crisis.

Sincerely,

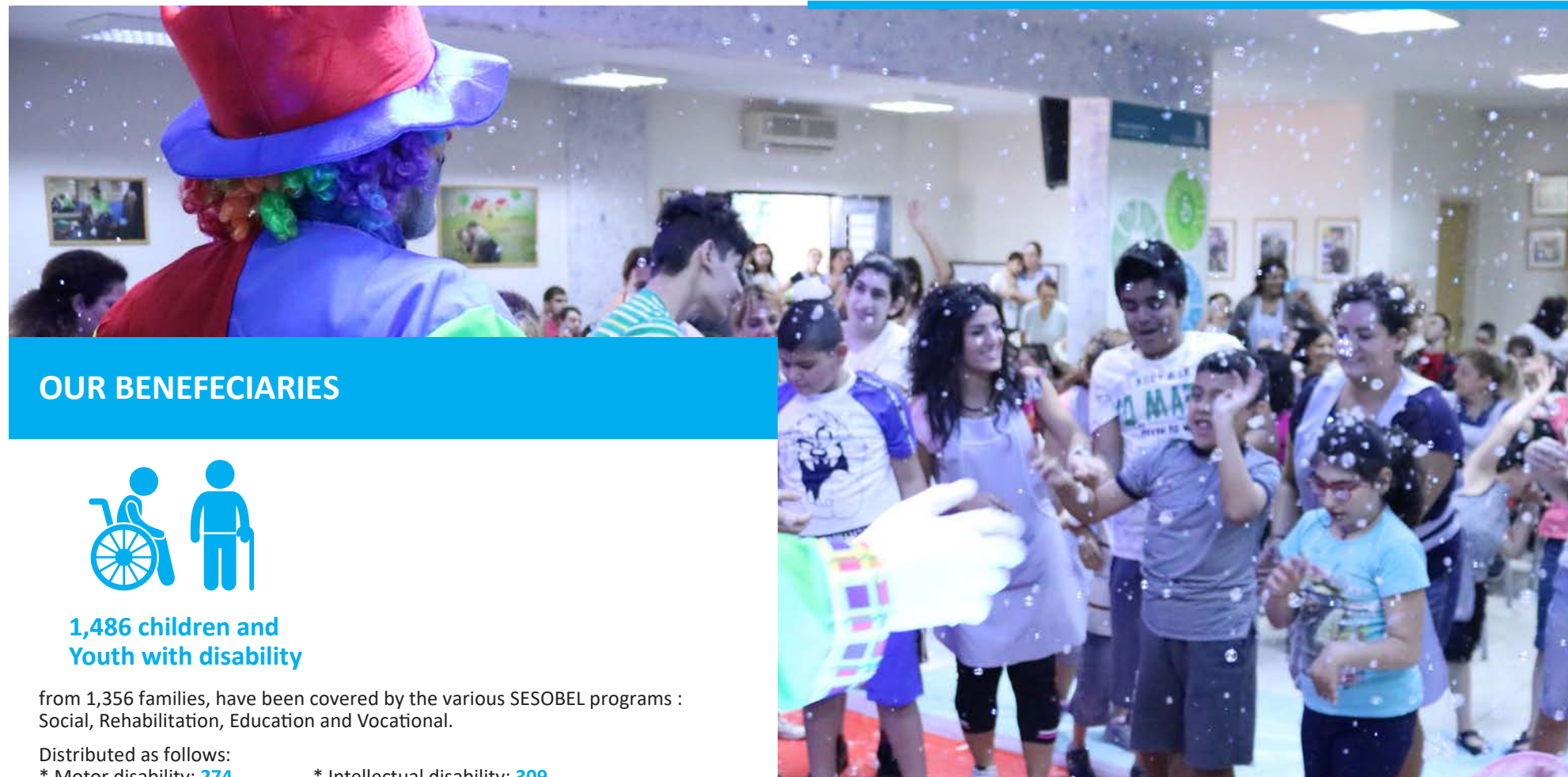
Fadia Safi
President and Chief Executive Officer

A GLOBAL APPROACH

WITH THE CHILD, THE FAMILY, AND SOCIETY

- The child: Early stimulation, educational, medical, psychological and re-education support, School inclusion, protected workshops, socialization, human and existential guidance.
- The Family: Individual and group interventions, family guidance, action with siblings, training for mothers, social support.
- The society: Conferences, seminars, awareness campaigns, lobbying, events, training center, «Children advocating children's rights» program.

OUR ACTION DURING 2016 - 2017



OUR BENEFICIARIES



1,486 children and Youth with disability

from 1,356 families, have been covered by the various SESOBEL programs : Social, Rehabilitation, Education and Vocational.

Distributed as follows:
 * Motor disability: 274 * Intellectual disability: 309
 * Autistic spectrum disorders: 83
 * Other (Learning difficulties, non-criteria): 820

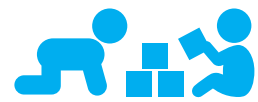
OUR PROGRAMS

FAMILY RECEPTION SERVICE



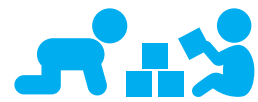
450 new families

Reception and Interviews with 450 new families.



357 Children

Orientation of 357 children to appropriate structures: Specialized structures, host programs and/or outpatient services of SESOBEL.



101 Children

Follow-up of 101 children: diagnosis, consultations, assessments, medical and rehabilitation care.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The multidisciplinary team of SESOBEL develops a tailored educational plan for each child and youth taking into account its capacities to ensure a harmonious development: Pre-school program, curriculum and extracurricular program, pre-vocational program, interdisciplinary activities, social program, workshops: sport, music, painting, computer, cooking, gardening, leisure activities....

Children in the educational programs:

- Early Stimulation: 31 children (This program supports the 3 types of disability)
- Motor Disability: 36 Children and Youth
- Intellectual Disability: 58 Children and Youth
- Polyhandicap and severe intellectual disability: 35 Children and Youth
- Autistic spectrum disorders: 43 Children and Youth

SCHOOL INCLUSION PROGRAM

The School Inclusion Program welcomed 14 children at the Jezzine Public School in southern Lebanon:

- 9 children in Partial Inclusion
- 5 children in Total Inclusion

The children follow an adapted curriculum based on the school curriculum of the State, accompanied by an academic reinforcement and a re-educative speech and psychomotor approach.



VOCATIONAL AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM - VRP

Beneficiaries

45 Youth between the ages of 20 and 51, work at the various SESOBEL workshops:

- Sewing: 4 youth
- 3Hearts Lodge: 6 youth
- Laundry: 3 youth
- Copy Center: 2 youth
- Prepress: 5 youth
- Technical aids: 2 youth
- Secretarial services: 1 youth
- Educational assistant: 2 youth
- Kitchen: 1 youth
- Recycling: 3 youth
- Agriculture: 10 youth
- Packaging: 15 youth
- Land products: 9 youth

PS: They can work in several workshops



MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

services provided: 20,467 acts



983 Assessments



20 Surgeries



17,002 Treatments



1,015 Consultations



654 Technical Aids Assistance



655 Parental Guidance



138 Medical Exams

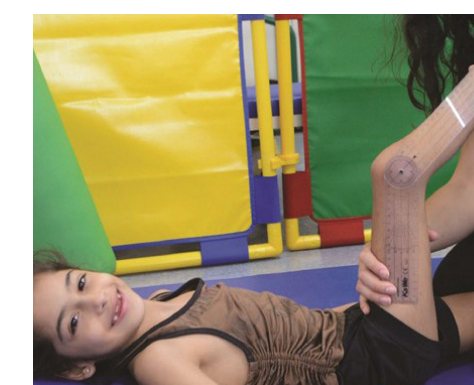
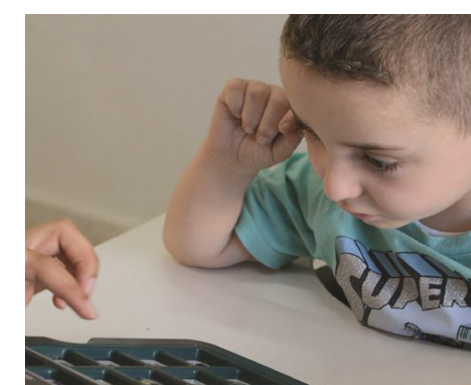
56 physicians, 30 paramedical centers, 10 hospitals, and 6 universities were involved in the development and implementation of the therapeutic plan of the child.



The objectives of the units of the medical and rehabilitation program for the year 2016-2017 have been defined according to the needs of our children and youth with disability, while taking into consideration the singularity of each beneficiary in its multidisciplinary care.

- Medical Unit: 497 children and youth
- Physiotherapy Unit: 340 children and youth
- Respiratory Unit: 112 children and youth
- Occupational Therapy Unit: 193 children and youth
- Speech Therapy unit: 301 children and youth
- Psychomotor Therapy Unit: 219 children and youth
- Psychology Unit: 158 children and youth
- Technical Aids Assistance Unit: 281 children and youth

Innovation



- Introduction into the physiotherapy unit of a new internationally recognized assessment that targets precisely the quality of muscle tone in children, allowing better orientation.
- Participation of SESOBEL's occupational therapy unit in the implementation of a pediatric module at the Institute of Occupational Therapy at Saint Joseph University.
- Regrouping of all food assessments validated internationally.
- Implementation of specialized protocols done by our speech therapists taking into account the age and disabilities of the children.
- Development of a speech-language software in Arabic, by the speech therapists at SESOBEL in order to make the rehabilitation of oral language accessible.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Our concern is to ensure, together with the family, a safe future for the child with disability; the disability should not be a reason to snatch him from his environment

Beneficiaries : 56 families of children enrolled in SESOBEL's programs.

Action taken :

- Family guidance to enhance parenting skills and prevent problems with children and siblings.
- Action with the siblings to live in coherence with their brother or sister with disability and act as a player of change in society.
- Action with the kernel of parents to defend their cause and support each other.
- Mediation training for parents in order to maintain family harmony and help them find solutions to their problems.



OUTPATIENT SERVICES

Our goal is to serve more people with disabilities and to meet their specific needs in order to ensure a better quality of life.

Beneficiaries: 1,172 children and youth

services provided: 59,041 acts



65 Assessments



1 Surgery



58,941 treatments



16 consultations



14 Technical Aids Assistance



4 medical exams

The outpatient services collaborated with 355 therapists of different specializations: speech therapists, psychomotor therapists, psychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, orthopedagogues ... distributed in all regions of Lebanon.

CONTINUOUS TRAINING CENTER

Our mission is to promote the quality of care for people with disabilities, allowing them a better integration into their family and social environment.

Action taken:

Intra-Muros: From July 2016 till June 2017, the training center organized 34 training modules divided into 148 sessions for 319 participants. The training modules were led by 19 professionals from SESOBEL, 5 foreign experts, 4 Lebanese people and 4 AUB groups-28 people (American University of Beirut). The modules consisted of 25 technical trainings and 9 administrative trainings.

Extra-Muros: In July 2016, SESOBEL was asked by USJ (St. Joseph University) to teach psychomotor therapy for students coming from the University of Damascus. The training module was held by 1 professional from SESOBEL. 34 people participated and 78 hours of teaching were provided.

8 Interventions in seminars and congresses in France, Egypt, and Holland.

PANORAMA OF OUR ACTIVITIES



SUMMER PROGRAM

JUNE 21st - JULY 22nd, 2017

The summer program included educational, sports and artistic activities, outings for discovery and fun... And adapted workshops that meet the needs and abilities of our children and youth with disability, so they can spend pleasant holidays.



SIBLINGS SUMMER CAMP

As it is the case at the end of each year, we organized a camp for siblings that brought together 27 girls and boys around the theme «to immerse the eye in oneself».

We thank our friends who made this camp very pleasant:

Diver Johnny Nohra, at Al Mina Resort, who taught the kids how to use the diving equipment.

Ms. Farah Fawaz (Team Building): Music Workshops.

THANK YOU DEAR FAITHFUL FRIENDS



A ceremony honoring 20 people from our support committees, board of directors and general assembly was held on September 15, 2017 at SESOBEL premises. It was an opportunity to express our deep appreciation for their continuous contributions and for their 40 years of faith in our mission.

BACK TO SCHOOL

The joy of reunion



OUR CHILDREN ARE GOING AROUND THE WORLD!

The theme of the educational programs for 2016-2017 was «Around the World». Research has been made by each pedagogical unit on a country: its language, its customs, its climate, its characteristics, in order to enrich knowledge of our children and youth. The countries selected this year were Armenia, Andorra, England, India, and Mexico.

FOR A BETTER SOCIETY!



During the seminar organized at the United Nations Agency for Refugees (UNHCR), Elie Tawk, representing SESOBEL, expressed his point of view about discrimination against different people:

«We all suffer from how the society looks at us!»

He ended his speech with a call for respect for others, regardless of their difference, because everyone has a role in the community:

Together we can complete each other to build a better society!

OPENING TO NEW HORIZONS!



Our youth at the vocational Workshop, The Three-Hearts lodge, started new projects with enthusiasm!

For this year they are more involved in hospitality by providing buffet and coffee during a seminar organized by the association NUID. Our youth also provide table service to all visitors who are staying in our lodge at SESOBEL.

Note that our youth have undergone intensive training given by Mr. Baptiste Sourice, a professional in the field of hospitality who came from France as a volunteer to help them improve their skills.

Opened in 2012, the «Three-Hearts Lodge» allows our youth to receive training in a safe environment, with the aim of giving them all the skills to succeed in their social and professional integration. It is not a field of experimentation, however, we put all our efforts to ensure the service is impeccable, in order to honor our guests and gain their trust.

SESOBEL is located in Ain el Rihani in Kesrouan. A village near the sea and 29 km away from Beirut airport. We offer air-conditioned rooms with maid service and a Lebanese breakfast.

A program for tourists can be made upon request.



FOR YOUR RESERVATIONS:

- SESOBEL: 3heartslodge@sesobel.org
- Website: www.sesobel.org
- www.booking.com
- www.tripadvisor.com



TESTIMONIAL OF A VISITOR ON TRIPADVISOR:

The hotel is very well placed in a quiet and cool location, 10 minutes from Jounieh.

The staff is very attentive, full of good advice and at your service to facilitate your stay. The rooms are perfect and the breakfast is ample. This trip was a real treat!

I recommend without hesitation!

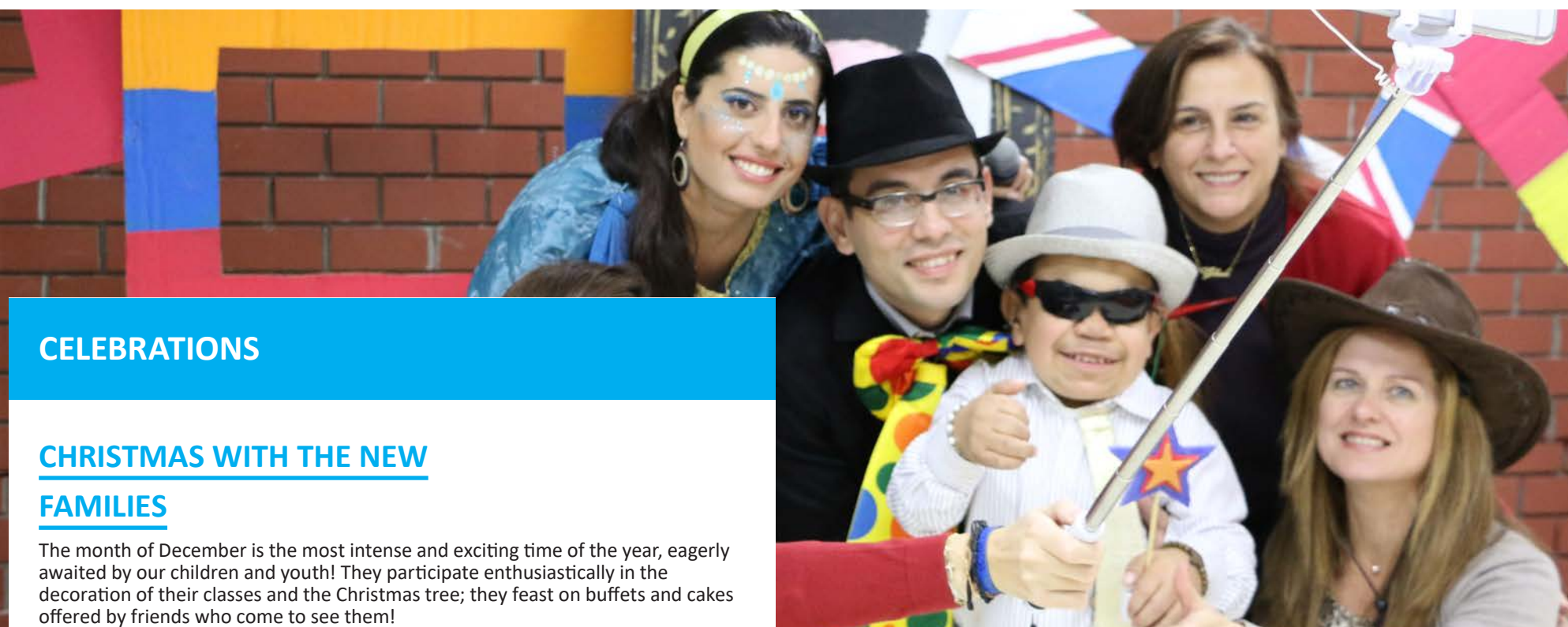
BEIRUT MARATHON



A group of 455 people from our children and youth with disability with their siblings, work team, volunteers, and friends participated, on November 13, 2016, at the Beirut Marathon and ran for the cause of SESOBEL.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Independence Day was special this year, in the presence of Colonel Elie Fikani representing the President of the Republic, General Michel Aoun, accompanied by the Lebanese Army Music Band.



CELEBRATIONS

CHRISTMAS WITH THE NEW FAMILIES

The month of December is the most intense and exciting time of the year, eagerly awaited by our children and youth! They participate enthusiastically in the decoration of their classes and the Christmas tree; they feast on buffets and cakes offered by friends who come to see them!

Every year, on Christmas, the Family Reception Service organizes a party for the new families. The team of Mini-Studio animated the day with the support of the therapists of the medical and rehabilitation program and the social department team. The day began with a small meeting during which Mrs. Safi, President & CEO, presented the mission of SESOBEL and emphasized the importance of partnership with families, while wishing everyone a Merry Christmas. At the end of the day the children and their brothers and sisters received gifts from Santa Claus.



COMICS: A NEW PROJECT AT THE PRE-PRESS WORKSHOP

For this year, our youth at the prepress workshop have made every effort to design and produce comic books about the problems and difficulties they encounter in their everyday lives; but also to raise awareness in our society about the disability cause. 3 issues have been published in the L'Orient-Le Jour, Junior.

PROCEDURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINORS

As part of the follow-up project for the protection of minors, the Lebanese School of Social Education - ELFS / USJ in collaboration with SESOBEL, UNICEF, the Ministry of Social Affairs and all the NGOs that deal with children, have launched in January 2017, a book entitled «Unified operational procedures for the protection of minors in Lebanon». This book contains practical tools and methods of application. Next year's project will be structured to issue operational procedures oriented towards the protection of youth with special needs. This work will be done in particular with the Ministry of Social Affairs and NGOs for children. SESOBEL will organize the meetings to ensure the follow-up, the active participation of the actors, and the completion of this project.

FROM DREAM TO REALITY!

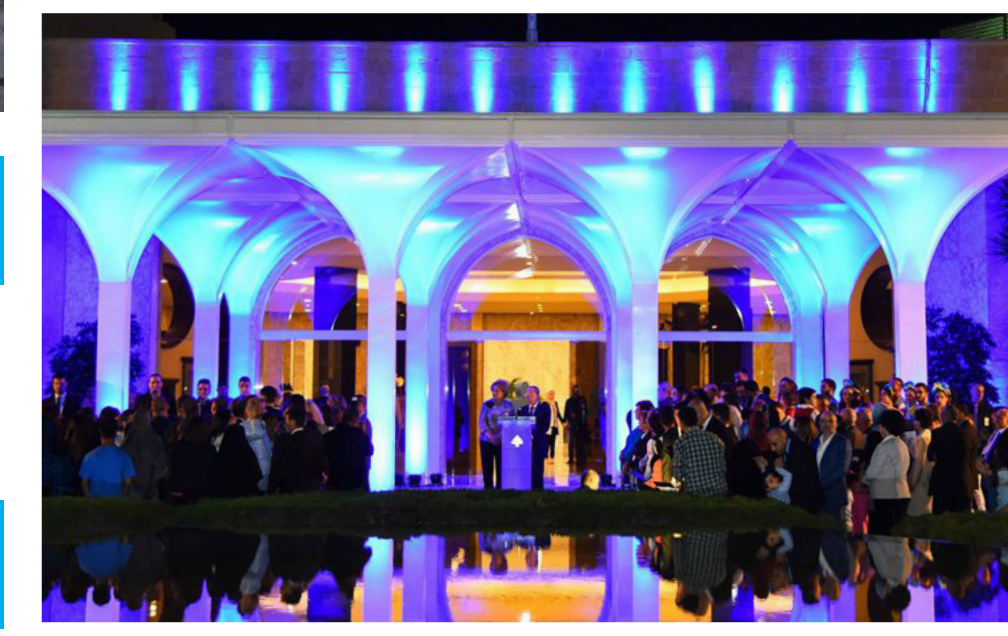
Congratulations to our young photographer Elissa, who took part in the photo competition organized by Notre Dame de Louaizé University, and won the 5th prize. Elissa has succeeded in realizing her dream of becoming a photographer thanks to the technical advice and encouragement of Mr. Souhail Semaan who has given training sessions in photography to a group of children and youth at SESOBEL.

TRIBUTE CEREMONY

On March 31st, 2017, The International Catholic Union of the Press - Lebanon organized a ceremony to honor people with disabilities, for their outstanding achievements at the «Rahbani brothers» theater- Antelias. Among those honored for their important contributions to society were Dr. Jamil Zgeib, Ms. May Khalil, Ms. Dalila Freifer, and the young Elie Tawk of SESOBEL, who impressed the audience with his testimony.

THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IN BLUE

April International Autism Month, is an opportunity to inform the public and raise awareness regarding this matter, and break down the barriers for the integration of people with autism into our society.



On this occasion, the Presidential Palace has opened its doors to NGOs working with people with autism. The youth of SESOBEL were present and appreciated the opportunity they were given to exchange with the President of the Republic, General Michel Aoun. We thank the President of the Republic of Lebanon who said that autism is a Human and National Affair, and that people with autism are an integral part of society.

WELCOME TO OUR FRENCH FRIENDS

It is with great pleasure that we received at SESOBEL, from May 11th till May 20th, 2017, a group of French friends as part of the social travels organized by «Partage» region of Nantes.

These trips helped making our mission known to a greater number of people and thus to widen the circle of friends around our children and youth.

The stay of our friends was rich in emotions and discovery. They were impressed by our mission and the complicity between our children and youth and the multidisciplinary team that supports them. They were also amazed by the beauty of our country during their sightseeing in Saïda, Baalbeck, Cedars, Byblos, Downtown...

SELF-FINANCING ACTIVITIES



Sunset Gathering

Thanks to the efforts of all our support committees and the Marketing team, SESOBEL organized thirteen self-financing activities during 2016-2017.

Proceeds contributed to cover part of the running costs of our programs:

- Gala dinner
- 2 Christmas exhibitions
- Easter Brunch
- Volunteers Committee Brunch
- Cake sale
- Sunset Gathering
- Beirut Marathon
- Sale of tickets for 2 plays
- Tombola
- Santa piggy banks
- Piggy banks in different locations



Christmas Exhibition



Gala Dinner



Gala dinner



Easter Brunch

THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN



- The founder: Mrs. Yvonne Chami
- General Assembly: 36 members
- Board of Trustees: 11 members
- President & CEO: Mrs. Fadia Safi
- Counselors: 18 persons
- Ethics Committee: 5 members
- Support Committees: 69 persons
- Trainees: 154 persons
- Volunteers: 226 persons
- Statutory Auditors: 2 cabinets
- A multidisciplinary team composed of 204 persons from different specializations: special educators, assistant educators, animators, doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, psychomotor therapists, psychologists, social workers, accountants and administrative staff.
- **And 21 remunerated youth with disability working at the Vocational and Rehabilitation Program, VRP.**

Thank You For Helping Me Grow

We Count On Your
Support

Your help is vital!

It allows SESOBEL cater to the needs of more than 1200 children and youth with disability, and preserve the unity of their families.

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