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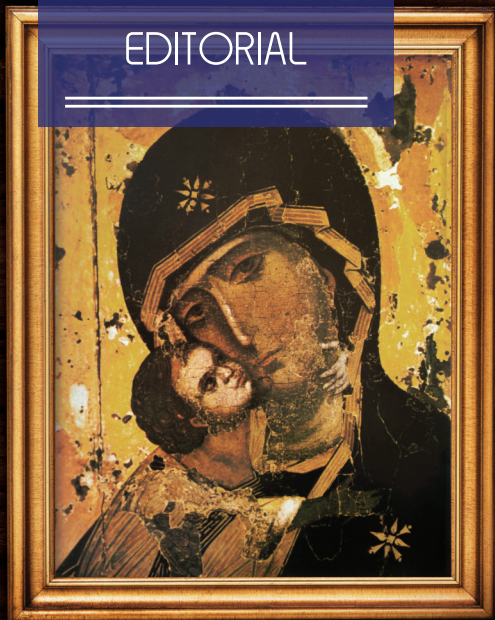
Activities Report
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EDITORIAL



2021 - 2022

“Don’t be afraid...

I’m always

with you...

Because I Love You”




DON'T BE AFRAID...

I'M ALWAYS WITH YOU... BECAUSE I LOVE YOU

What does the Bible say about fear?

The Bible refers to two specific types of fear. The first type is useful and should be encouraged. The second type is harmful and must be overcome. The first type is the fear of God. This type of fear does not necessarily mean feeling terrified. It is a kind of reverence for God. A respect for his authority and glory. It is also due respect for his anger as well. In other words, the fear of God means the complete realization of who God is, and this comes from the way of knowing God and knowing His attributes.

The fear of the Lord brings with it many blessings and benefits. It is the head of wisdom and leads to correct understanding (Psalm 111:10). Only fools hate wisdom and discipline (Proverbs 1:7). Moreover, the fear of the Lord leads to life, comfort, peace and contentment (Proverbs 19:23). It is the source of life (Proverbs 14:27) and it provides us with security and safety (Proverbs 14:26).



The second kind of fear mentioned in the Bible is completely unhelpful. This is the “spirit of fear” mentioned in 2 Timothy 1:7, “For God has not given us the spirit of failure, but the spirit of power, love, and soundness.” The spirit of fear and cowardice does not come from God.

However, sometimes we feel fear and this “spirit of fear” overcomes us, and in order to overcome it we must trust and love God completely. «There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear is torment for him.

But he who fears has not been made perfect in love» (John 4: 18). No one is perfect. God knows this. That is why he gives us a lot of encouragement against fear throughout the Bible. From the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelation, God reminds us not to be afraid.

For example, Isaiah 41:10 encourages us, «Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not lose heart, for I am your God. I have always supported you and helped you».

Sometimes we fear the future and what it might hold for us but Jesus reminds us that God cares about the birds of the sky, so he sure does care much more about the needs of His children! «Do not be afraid. You are better than many sparrows» (Matthew 10:31).

These simple verses cover many types of fear. God tells us not to be afraid of loneliness, or of weakness, or of having no one to hear us, or of a lack of material necessities. This directive continues throughout the Bible and covers various aspects of the «spirit of fear.»

The psalmist writes in Psalm 56:11, «In God I have put my trust, I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?» This is a wonderful testimony to the power of reliance on God. No matter what happens, the psalmist will still trust in God because he knows and understands how powerful God is.

The key to overcoming fear, then, is complete trust in God. Relying on God means refusing to give in to fear. It means turning to God even in the darkest of times, with the confidence that He can fix all things. This confidence comes from knowing that God is good. As Job said in the midst of the most difficult trials recorded in the Bible: “Behold, he is killing me. I wait for nothing” (i.e.: even if he kills me, my trust in him will remain) (Job 13:15).

When we learn to trust in God, we will no longer be afraid of what is in front of us. We will be like the psalmist who confidently said: “And all that trust in you shall rejoice forever. Forever they shall shout, and you shall overshadow them.” (Psalm 5:11).

Elie Tawk

AN EXCEPTIONAL RETURN TO SCHOOL

Back to school! Eyes shining with joy, smiles reflecting love in hearts! The welcoming of our children is very warm. Under the annual theme «The wonders of whispers in the world of tales», each child was greeted by the hero of the tale chosen by his unit:

– At the early intervention unit, «The Three Little Pigs» and the whispers of courage.



– At the poly-handicap and severe intellectual disability unit, «Beauty and the Beast» and the whispers of love.



– At the motor disability unit, «The Little Prince» and the whispers of hope.



– At the intellectual disability unit, «Kung Fu Panda» and the whispers of perseverance.



– At Autistic Spectrum Disorder unit «The Lion King» and the whispers of joy.



On this day, various corners are set up at the entrance of the buildings to provide our children with a festive atmosphere spreading joy, especially with the «Animated Giant» team who are committed each year to making our return to school quite special.

Welcome our dear ones!

Educational Department

SPECIAL TIMES WITH SPRINGFIELD 90 DEGREES TEAM

A big thank you to the «Springfield – 90 degrees» team. They invited us, children and staff, to spend a special entertaining day in a warm and caring family atmosphere.

The reception was special, the smiles drawn on all faces. They were ready to support us at any moment. We did not feel they were strangers.

The entertainment program was varied, from praying with the priest to music, songs, and the magic show that took our breath away.

Our children danced, sang, and interacted with the magician «Dany». They were happy and shared a good meal with friends in a calm atmosphere. At the end, we took pictures with the sea in the background.

The «Springfield 90 degrees» team did more than entertainment. Striving to change for the better, they provided paint supplies for the Intellectual Disability Unit, to freshen up the place.

On behalf of our children with disability,
a big thank you.

Educational Department



HAND IN HAND

Rafqa and Braiden arrive in the morning at the same time, bid farewell to Mom and Dad, hold each other hand in hand, and head to class with enthusiasm and joy.

Early intervention unit



WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW HOW CHRISTA MARIA EXPRESSES HER JOY?

In general, a person expresses joy by speaking, laughing or applauding.

We will tell you how Christa Maria expressed her great joy when she arrived on the first day to SESOBEL and met friends and teachers after a long absence.

She was very happy, shouting with a loud voice. Her eyes were shining and

as if speaking to you. Her hands were up in the air.

It seemed as if she wanted to hug you and draw you to her heart.

Motor Disability Unit



HELLO

On my first week at SESOBEL this year, I would like to introduce myself to you.

My name is Marvin. I am 3 years old. I love to play with my friends, listen to songs and stories, and participate in activities, especially coloring.

I express my needs with my eyes and with as many words as I can : “I, my dear, I want...”

My smile never leaves my face.

Early intervention unit



AUTUMN

After winter comes spring, after spring comes summer, after summer comes autumn, and there goes all the year. Our pictures explain how our children live in the autumn season through different activities.

ASD Unit



A SCHOOL IN GIVING

Tony is a loving and generous young man. After a long absence, he greeted his friends with a broad smile that you can see in his eyes, despite the mask that hides his face. He took out a box of biscuits from his pocket, divided it into four equal parts, and gave it to his classmates.

Our youth are a school that teaches us every day a new lesson on the paths of life.

Intellectual Disability Unit



SCHOOL INCLUSION

varied activities. We sang together, played, danced, and prayed that this year would be good for everyone.

WHAT A SWEET RETURN!

SESOBEL Jezzine

I spent a long period of time working with my friends online. We used to meet, learn, do speech therapy and psychomotor sessions from home...

When we were able to go to SESOBEL, every student came alone, got his sessions and went back home in order to avoid gatherings.

Now it's time to go back.

It's time for us to meet again. The teachers welcomed us with special and



VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM - VRP

JUST CAME BACK

After suffering for two years at home from anxiety due to the Corona pandemic, I returned to work, the same work, but with more passion, enthusiasm, vitality and maturity in thinking. I felt a difference... Why?

Because I returned to the institution that taught me, made me grow, changed me, loved me and believed in my abilities. SESOBEL gave me a chance to develop my energy and know myself. It taught me patience and the ability to live happily despite all difficulties.

No words can express my enthusiasm to return. SESOBEL cares about all the details of my life, and does not neglect any aspect whether physical pain or psychological fatigue.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all who believed in us so that we could return to the institution.

Charbel Sayegh



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD - ANNUAL DAY

This year, «Partage» Foundation in France wanted to participate in the event in a different way. They asked each institution to choose a human right, write about it, and describe it in their own way.

Elissa Harik, who participated from SESOBEL, chose and expressed: «It is my right to learn.»

«Every day, life teaches us new things. We can see things from afar or come close to them and see the details. If we look to the flower through the glasses, we see it more clearly, we see details and learn everything about it. Diving into the heart of details is a science. It is a general culture about all what surrounds us.

Everyone has the right to learn and open up to the world through culture and technology. It is my right to learn to overcome difficulties and make my dreams come true. Only then, I feel that I have achieved myself and that I am an active member of society”.

Elissa Harik

EXPO PHOTOS

Le 1^{er} événement PARTAGE RISE



DROIT À L'ÉDUCATION



SESOBEL - LIBAN
ELISSA

WE LOVE YOU, SESOBEL

- We are happy at SESOBEL. We want to stay here no matter what happens.
- We are fortunate, despite this difficult crisis, to be able to come to SESOBEL.
- We love you so much. Thanks to you, we have returned. We will never forget your love, sacrifice, and support. We pray and ask the Lord to give you health, strength, patience and hope.
- We hope that conditions in Lebanon will improve and we will meet again with all our friends, especially those who are unable to come.

This is how VRP youth expressed their feelings the first day.

The educators, Nada and Elie, added: «We are very happy to welcome our youth again. This gives us hope and a push to go on. We love you guys».



FIGHTING AND AVOIDING FIRE

Because fire is a danger in any factory, the team at the production workshop in Kfarhouna, underwent a training course entitled Firefighting and Avoiding Fire. It was conducted by a specialized team from the Red Cross – Saida branch, and included training on how to use firefighters and their types. The training covered also the various and appropriate clothing to protect ourselves from fire. We learned what causes fire and the methods of extinguishing it.

Thank you to the Red Cross who contributed to this awareness.

Randa Abdel Nour
VRP – Kfarhouna



SUPPORT AND SOCIALIZATION PROGRAM - SSP

OUR YOUTH ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS AND HEARTS

Even in summer, we kept in touch with them.

How?

Through a call, a visit, a punctual accompaniment for young men and boys, the preparation of a group work, or a video directed to complete what we have started.

They told us, through photos, how they spent their summer: a walk with family, visiting relatives, a cup of coffee on the balcony, a trip, a day at the sea...

We will let these sweet pictures tell you more about their summer.

SSP team



SOCIAL ACCOMPANIMENT

RESUMPTION OF FACE- TO-FACE WORK WITH THE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Sanitary restrictions have been decreased by the Lebanese state to allow children and youth with disability to be accommodated in institutional settings.

The choice is to resume life in an institution on an alternating basis in order to survive with the pandemic and the socio-economic conditions in the country. Parents say they are at their wit's end after more than 2 years of schooling at home.

A great overload is noticed especially among mothers who take care of their children and youth at home.

This gradual return caused tears of joy among the parents.

TESTIMONY OF A MOM

2 years have passed and Roy can finally return to his favorite place, where everyone accepts him as he is, where he can finally find his friends who are like him, his friends and the team who love him and with whom he has the best moments.

It is true that at home we are always close to him, we take care of him, but he always wanted to return to SESOBEL.

He was uncomfortable, he missed everyone, he couldn't understand why he had to stay home, why he and his friends were deprived of regular physiotherapy, regular medical and paramedical treatment.

He was stressed and depressed. We felt guilty that we couldn't find for him a country that respects him, a country that gives him everything he needs... Fortunately, SESOBEL has opened its doors again ... Finally, we can see the smile on his face.

From now on, everything will be fine... Well, I hope so.

Lili Kasparian – Roy's mother



CONGRATULATIONS LUNA

The International Day of Persons with Special Needs in Egypt, «Day of Challenge», takes place in the first week of December every year.

In order to raise awareness of their rights, the Lebanese artist Ragheb Alama launched the song «I am able» and filmed it with the child Luna Zughuib in the intellectual disability unit of SESOBEL.

It was a new and sweet experience for the little girl, Luna, to test her abilities and express her needs in her own way. The artist Ragheb expressed that the meanings of humanity are embodied in people with special needs. They are the highest meanings of humanity.

Congratulations Luna!



PARENTS COMMITTEE

Meetings with committee members are held weekly this year. The objective of these meetings is to support SESOBEL in welcoming a greater number of children and youth to the educational program because families are having difficulty paying the cost of transportation due to the increasing in gasoline prices.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT?

During the past two years, self-financing activities have stopped and the percentage of donations have decreased, affected by the port explosion of August 4, 2020, the Corona pandemic, the devaluation of lebanese currency and the economic collapse.

The Production and Marketing Department took it upon itself to secure a sustainable and stable income for the continuation of the association by developing the sale of products made in our workshops, especially after our five permanent exhibitions were closed due to the quarantine and the political security situation. In order to compete with the commercial markets, the supervisors of the department decided to improve and develop our work on social media networks and platforms.

For SESOBEL's 45th anniversary, one of our main collaborators suggested offering and covering the expenses of an advertising company that undertook to re-brand our products and show their quality in competitive commercial markets.

The new drawings for this brand were created and there was «THE GOOD FAMILY».

As GOOD stands for good people, good mission, good products and the goods,...

The word FAMILY also means the united family that SESOBEL is keen on its existence and its bond. Hence the new slogan: “THE GOOD FAMILY”



In April, preparations for this campaign began by filming goods and workshops, manufacturing new ecofriendly boxes and packaging, preparing a small propaganda film for online platforms,...

In May, the campaign was launched on social media, especially on the Instagram page (sesobel.shop), which was characterized by the interaction of some Influencers on it and the presentation of our products on their accounts...

Because our goal is to secure a continuous income that supports the association’s progress and continuity, we have tried to introduce our products abroad. We contacted some Lebanese online platforms that operate abroad and our products became available in the following countries:

Dubai – Min Baladeh

Kuwait – Lebanese Village Products

Abu Dhabi – Cedars–souq

Europe and America – Lebanese Signature

As for Lebanon, our products are available for sale on electronic platforms with home delivery: Hicart and Totters, as well as on the hotline of the new brand SESOBEL Whatsapp: (71-067580), which is fast line.

On the other hand, we have been conducting telemarketing for more than 5 years, as one of the specialized companies in Lebanon contacts friends and customers all over Lebanon to offer them to buy a special basket from our Lebanese “Mouneh”.

We are very proud of our products made in Lebanon in our humble workshops and with the help of our youth and their mothers. It is our way to support the cause of the child with disability and his family promoting their right to live with dignity and joy.

Jeanette Mattar

FLASH INFO

VISIT OF THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR ANNE GRILLO

The French Ambassador Anne Grillo met the inhabitants of Keserwan to stress on the strong ties that France maintains with them. Extensive travel in support of cooperation projects in these regions.

Her visit was focused on building the future, through support for French-speaking schools and NGOs, in particular SESOBEL.



Ambassador Anne Grillo during her visit to SESOBEL

SUPPORT ACTIVITY FROM OUR FRENCH FRIENDS

“Partage Région Nantes” organized a garage sale to support Partage’s projects in Lebanon.

There were stands where individuals sold second-hand objects, a catering stand with Maamouls. A sunny day made the success of this event.



IN HOUSE ATMOSPHERE

DO NOT BE AFRAID, DO NOT BE ALARMED, FOR GOD IS WALKING WITH US

With conviction, the first gathering of staff was prepared, after a two-year hiatus.

It took place in the outer courtyard of the main entrance to ensure everyone's safety.

The day began with a new documentary presentation that summarizes and outlines our work to serve and support the child with disability and his family. It was a confirmation that efforts will continue despite all obstacles, and our journey will not stop as long as the Almighty is walking with us.

Carmel Khoury, Administrative Director, gave the directives for this year. Fadia Safi, President and CEO, asked everyone to keep hope and maintain high confidence in «Set al-Bayt» during these difficult times. She launched the slogan for this year: «Don't be afraid... I am always with you... because I love you.»



Then Father Shukrallah Ghazal, during his sermon in the Mass, elaborated on “Do not be afraid,” which is a reassuring and encouraging promise from Jesus to the true believer in the path of his life. The main reason for us to overcome fear is to know that we are not facing alone but the Lord is always walking with us and helping us.



Our day ended with the gratification of SESOBEL's staff for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of seniority. Their testimonies were a token of thanks and gratitude for everything they experienced at SESOBEL and that allowed them to discover themselves and grow up.

We also welcomed newcomers in whom we felt the passion to succeed with a lot of love, enthusiasm, and confidence in a better tomorrow.

Dolly Greyshi

