



# ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020





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# Editorial

Dear Sponsors, collaborators, donors, volunteers, media and friends,

The economic and financial crisis that the country has been going through since the beginning of 2019 had many repercussions.

The lack of liquidity, the collapse of the banking system and the devaluation of the Lebanese pound led to thousands of bankrupt businesses, 40% unemployment, and 50% of people living below the poverty line as reported by the World Bank in February 2020.

This crisis has mainly affected the civic sector and SESOBEL. A severe drop in funding forced us to close at the end of June 2019.

We reopened only **3 days a week** in September following the promise of the Ministry of Social Affairs to settle its commitments and thanks to donations from our friends and some organizations.

This measure has allowed us to reduce our operating costs by paying **50%** of the salaries and miscellaneous fees, and to avoid incurring new debts that we are unable to honor.

The Ministry of Social Affairs only settled part of its dues to the associations in December 2019, by making two transfers relating to the first and second quarters of 2019. The third was settled in February 2020 and the date of settlement for the fourth quarter remains unknown. The contracts for 2020 have not been renewed yet.

Meanwhile, we have intensified our fundraising campaigns, especially after October 17, after a month of riots and demonstrations, in order to support our children and their families who urgently need food batches, diapers or medicines...

We also established a crisis unit to respond to urgent needs that the parents were unable to meet.

## THEN, THE PANDEMIC OF COVID-19 OCCURRED.

At this point, our greatest fear was to spare our children, their parents and our team members from all forms of contamination. Training and awareness sessions have been set up to explain how the virus works, how to take the necessary measures and precautions to protect themselves, and to raise awareness of the purpose and usefulness of confinement, especially that after the decision of the Ministry of Education & Higher Education - MEHE to close the schools, SESOBEL has stopped welcoming the children in its premises.

## OUR CHILDREN ARE HOME... WE HAD TO TAKE ACTION....

Educators prepared learning sessions through video conference for children and youth who are following an academic program. Stimulation, body expression, awakening and sport exercises were sent to the parents to carry them out with their children at home...

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It was amazing to see the videos and photos that the parents sent after each session performed to show what their child had achieved. Volunteers also lined up, they contacted the children and their mothers to ask them how they are doing and to bring them emotional support. Social workers, nurses, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychomotor therapists and psychologists continued to provide medical follow-up, orientation, and parental guidance. They intervened whenever necessary on social and psychological levels, and provided therapies that children must do at home to avoid regression and maintain children's skills.

All team members worked from home, except a small group, which regularly came to SESOBEL to prepare food batches, diapers and medicines ... and to deliver them to families.

A small group of the production team, while taking all the necessary precautions and hygiene measures, did not want to let pass the Easter holidays, without producing the famous Maamouls and Easter chocolates, which were delivered on order.

This is how we were able to be present and to respond to the needs of our children and to their parents' solicitation in this particularly challenging time.

### THANK GOODNESS, WE HAVE HAD NO CONTAMINATION SO FAR...

Dear friends, this would have never been possible if you were not by our side. We are always counting on you to help us persevere! What moved us most during this period were the tears of joy, the expressions of gratitude and profound appreciations of the families. It is the greatest reward.

I am sure the same goes for you, because as Gibran Khalil Gibran puts it so well in his book The Prophet:

**"THERE ARE THOSE WHO GIVE WITH JOY, THIS JOY IS THEIR REWARD."**

Fadia Safi  
President & CEO



# Our Mission

SESOBEL's mission is centered around the child with disability within and with the help of his family, without any form of political, ethnic, or religious discrimination.

The foundations of our action are based on the human, existential, and spiritual dimensions conceived and established by Yvonne Chami, our founder.

SESOBEL seeks to improve the situation of children with disability by meeting their basic needs, ensuring the unity of their families, and working closely with them.

SESOBEL works with all parts of society to help recognize the role of the child, his value, and his right to a life with dignity.

*"This is why we believe that everyone's life, even with disability, is worth being lived as a celebration, because Love is enduring."* SESOBEL's Creed.

# Our Beneficiaries

1,324 children  
and youth with disability

from **1,208 families**, have been covered by the various SESOBEL programs :  
Social, Rehabilitation, Education and Vocational.  
Distributed as follow :







# Family Reception Service



354 new families

Reception and Interviews with 354 new families.



118 Children

Follow-up of 118 children: diagnosis, consultations, assessments, medical and rehabilitation care.



# SOCIAL SERVICE

Family is the main partner in the child's journey. For a better family life and for the child's well-being, SESOBEL's social intervention takes a holistic approach and aims to develop parenting skills, strengthen family autonomy, and raise awareness within the community.

**Beneficiaries : 81 families** of children enrolled in SESOBEL's programs.

## Group intervention :

- 1 **Family guidance (43 participants)** : foster the development of parenting skills to maintain parents' abilities, overcome difficulties, and raise awareness of different disability issues.
- 2 **Action with the siblings (44 members)** : mobilize the siblings to defend their cause, act as an agent of change in the society, acknowledge their role, and live in harmony.
- 3 **Action with the parents' committee (10 members)** : provide support networks with parents and mobilize them to become a mutual support group and advocate for SESOBEL.



# VOCATIONAL & REHABILITATION PROGRAM - VRP

**44 Youth** between the ages of 20 and 54, work at the various SESOBEL workshops.

 Sewing: **3 YOUTH**

 Educational assistant: **8 YOUTH**

 3-Hearts Lodge: **8 YOUTH**

 Kitchen: **3 YOUTH**

 Laundry: **4 YOUTH**

 Recycling: **10 YOUTH**

 Copy Center: **2 YOUTH**

 Agriculture: **10 YOUTH**

 Prepress: **5 YOUTH**

 Packaging: **10 YOUTH**

 Technical aids: **3 YOUTH**

 Land products: **10 YOUTH**

 Secretarial services: **2 YOUTH**

 Chocolate/ Biscuits: **10 YOUTH**

 Photography: **1 YOUTH**

 Stock: **1 YOUTH**

PS: One youth can work in several workshops



# MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Acts during Covid-19 confinement (March 2020-June 2020) are not accounted.

SERVICES PROVIDED: **7,222 acts**



259 Assessments



8 Surgeries



6,100 Treatments



400 Consultations



188 Technical Aids Assistance



216 Parental Guidance



51 Medical Exams

55 physicians, 35 paramedical centers, 10 hospitals, 8 universities and 110 trainees were involved in the development and implementation of the therapeutic plan of the child.



# OUTPATIENT SERVICES

Our goal is to serve more people with disability and to meet their specific needs in order to ensure a better quality of life. We collaborated with **269 THERAPISTS** of different specializations distributed in all regions of Lebanon.

**BENEFICIARIES: 1,048 children and youth**

**SERVICES PROVIDED: 47,128 acts**



32 Assessments



8 Medical Exams



47,052 Treatments



3 Consultations



33 Technical Aids Assistance





# CONTINUOUS TRAINING CENTER / RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

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

## ACTION TAKEN:

**Intra-Muros:** From July 2019 till June 2020, the training center organized **10 training modules** divided into 36 sessions for **130 participants**. The training modules were led by 6 professionals from SESOBEL and 3 Lebanese experts. The modules consisted of 9 technical trainings and 1 administrative training.

**Extra-Muros:** From July 2019 till June 2020, 23 training modules were facilitated by 7 professionals from SESOBEL, **65 people** participated and **45 hours** of teaching were assured.

**7 Interventions** in 7 seminars were given by 6 professionals of SESOBEL. 6 interventions in Lebanon (USJ, UL, USEK) and 1 abroad (Amsterdam).

**Webinars:** 2 interventions by 2 professionals.

# EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The core of our mission is to accompany each child in his difference and his particularity. Whatever the disability, we believe that every child is important and has value and a message of love to share.

To implement this mission, educational programs adopt a comprehensive, specialized, interdisciplinary and individualized approach, taking into account each child's pace, needs and abilities. This approach is primarily based on the sensory-motor stimulation program, the preschool and school program, the functional learning program, sports, music and artistic activities while enjoying events and outings.

Together, we build relationships with children in a climate of mutual respect, trust and love.

## Children in the educational programs:

The educational programs welcome children and youth with disability aged 18 months to 20 years. Five units regroup them according to their age and needs.

## EARLY STIMULATION

This program supports all types of disability. It provides a safe and fulfilling background for harmonious development.

24  
Children

## MOTOR DISABILITY

They are divided into groups according to their age and needs, and they follow an adapted program that matches their abilities.

35  
Children & Youth

## INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

They are divided into groups according to their age and needs, and they follow an adaptive program that matches their abilities.

56  
Children & Youth

## POLYHANDICAP AND SEVERE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

It offers them a sensory-motor-stimulation program, maintaining their capacities & promoting discovery of their physical & social environment.

34  
Children & Youth

## AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

it provides a quiet environment that enhances communication.

43  
Children & Youth



# SCHOOL INCLUSION PROGRAM

The School Inclusion Program, pioneer program in Lebanon since 2006 in collaboration with MEHE, welcomed **12 CHILDREN** at the Jezzine Public School in southern Lebanon:

< **8 children** in Partial Inclusion

**4 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. The overall goal is to ensure a healthy development of the child in an inclusive context by working with families, schools and the environment.

Responding to the skills of each child, the activities were varied: personal autonomy, adapted didactics, socialization, expression activities, and human & spiritual animation.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

## MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

- 1 Designing a clear window mask for therapists and people of hard-hearing community but also for everyone to enjoy.
- 2 Launching the music-therapy.
- 3 Equipping the Therapy & Development rooms at the new autism center of SESOBEL with 12 cameras and a system for viewing, recording and analyzing therapy sessions.
- 4 Collaborating with Vision Rehabilitation Center and Ms. Sylvie Salamé (Orthoptist) for a joint assessment of neuro-visual disorders and implementing a new therapeutic intervention.

## SOCIAL SERVICE

Under the patronage of his Excellency the Minister of Social Affairs Doctor Richard Kouyoumjiyan, SESOBEL launched the second edition of its book: «Lebanese establishments serving people with disabilities - What to know to better guide». This took place on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at the USJ Medical Sciences Campus.

This booklet was made possible thanks to the cooperation of Saint Joseph University, specifically the vice rector Father Michel Sheuer and the head of the psychiatry service of the Hôtel Dieu de France, Dr. Sami Richa and his team as well as the establishments at the service of children with disability in Lebanon.

# PANORAMA OF OUR ACTIVITIES

## FIVE ROLE MODELS

This year, our education department chose to live on a daily basis by the values and morals of 5 international role models :

**Pope Francis** of Argentina , **Dr. Jamil Zgheib** of Lebanon, **Henri Dunant** of Switzerland - Founder of the Red Cross, **Pope Jean-Paul II** of Poland and **Temple Grandin** of the US - the most know entrepreneurial autistic woman.

## BACK TO WORK

After few months at home, our youth at **SESOBEL Kfarhouna** protected workshop are back to work full of energy and enthusiasm!

## THREE-HEARTS LODGE

The 3-Hearts Lodge enhances the continuity of SESOBEL's mission by :

- 1 Promoting professional inclusion and social integration of our youth with disability, by ensuring them dignified work which reinforces their autonomy and self-confidence.
- 2 Promoting awareness and information about SESOBEL's programs.
- 3 Contributing funds cover specific needs of SESOBEL's children.

The 3-hearts lodge welcomes you to stay during your business trip, family vacation, or weekend "get away" in the warm family-friendly environment.

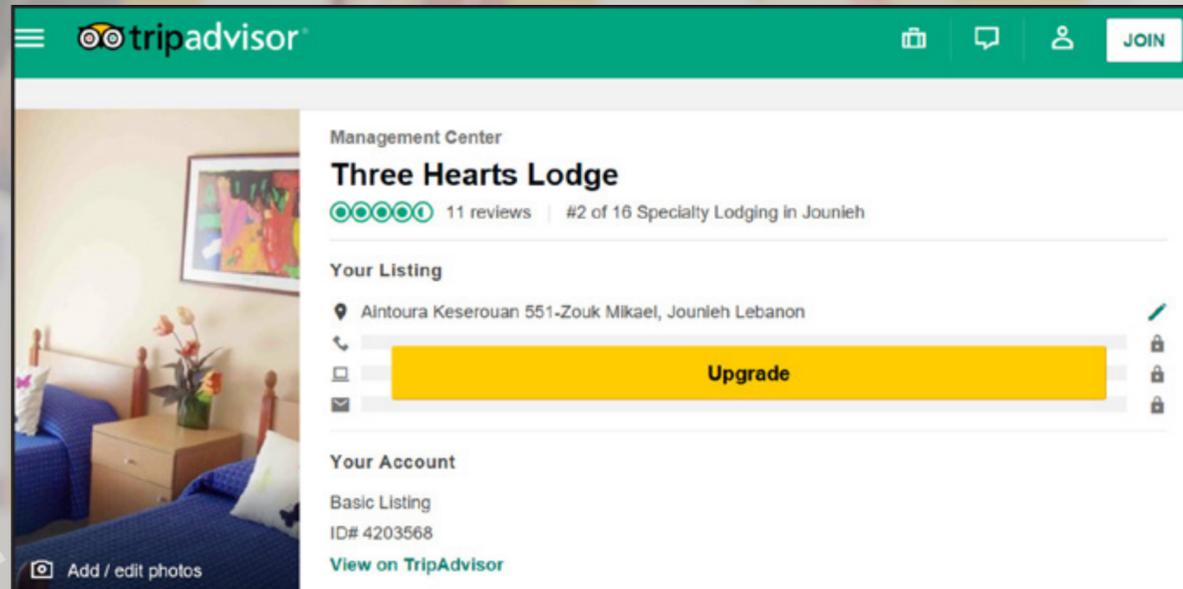




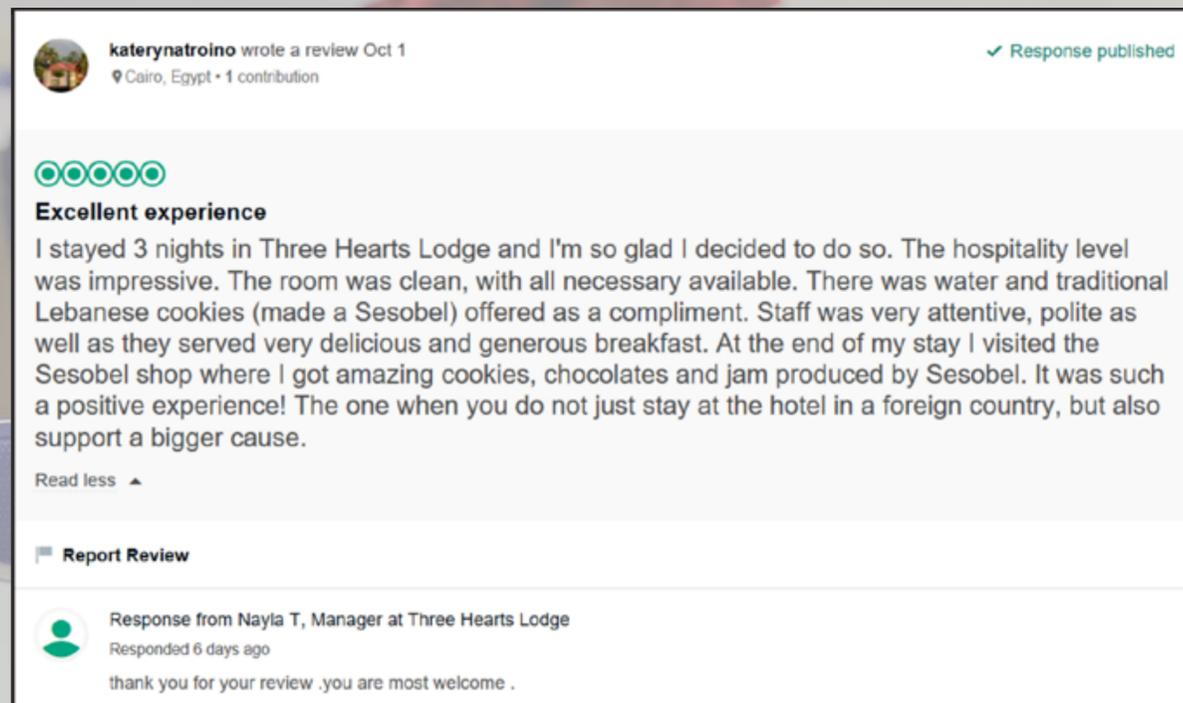
SESOBEL Kfarhouna

Back to School

**BOOK YOUR ROOM AT THE THREE-HEARTS LODGE :**  
Booking.com - tripadvisor.com - 3heartlodge@sesobel.org



The screenshot shows the TripAdvisor Management Center interface for 'Three Hearts Lodge'. It includes a navigation bar with the TripAdvisor logo and a 'JOIN' button. The main content area features a 'Management Center' header, the lodge name 'Three Hearts Lodge', and a rating of 4.5 stars based on 11 reviews. Below this, there is a 'Your Listing' section with the address 'Aintoura Keserouan 551-Zouk Mikael, Jounieh Lebanon' and an 'Upgrade' button. A 'Your Account' section shows the listing type as 'Basic Listing' with ID# 4203568 and a 'View on TripAdvisor' link.



The screenshot displays a TripAdvisor review from 'katerynatroino' dated October 1st, from Cairo, Egypt. The review is a 5-star rating and is titled 'Excellent experience'. The text of the review describes a 3-night stay, praising the cleanliness, traditional Lebanese cookies, attentive staff, and delicious breakfast. It also mentions a visit to the Sesobel shop for cookies, chocolates, and jam. A 'Response published' checkmark is visible. Below the review, there is a 'Report Review' button and a response from 'Nayla T, Manager at Three Hearts Lodge' dated 6 days ago, which says 'thank you for your review .you are most welcome .'. A 'Read less' link is also present.



## FOOD SAFETY & BASIC FOOD HYGIENE

Our youth at the 3-hearts lodge followed a training in food safety & basic food hygiene with Boecker.

A certificate was given to each one of them for their remarkable work and efforts.

## SIBLINGS SUMMER CAMP

On July 25th, the siblings summer camp took place in Faytroun-Mount Lebanon where they gathered under the theme : **"let's dream together"**.

Each one discovered himself and his dreams through targeted workshops and exercises animated by our lovely team. Siblings went back home, knowing their important roles in their families especially in assisting their brother/sister with disability.

## CONGRATS SARA!

The general assembly 2019 of "Les Guides du Liban" was very special : A new achievement, a great step forward within our Lebanese society, especially for Les Guildes du Liban, SESOBEL and its Tournesol group.

**Sara Khalife**, a youth with disability at the Tournesol unit at SESOBEL (Joint Group with Les Guildes du Liban) was appointed **Chief Assistant** of her group.

**It was indeed a big surprise!**

A memorable and touching moment drove everyone to stand up and applaud this achievement!

Whoever knows Sara, knows her dream : **Today, it came true!**

## VOLUNTEER' S DAY

On December 5th, the International volunteer's day, we celebrated the engagement of our dedicated volunteers. Your valuable support made all the difference!





Siblings Summer Camp

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

Independence day was celebrated in prayers. The children sent a heartfelt message to the world: **Please pray for Lebanon , for hope and for a better future.**



# CHRISTMAS AT SESOBEL



## TRIBUTE

The episcopal commission honored SESOBEL and its mission towards children and youth with disability and their families on January 5th, 2020 in Bkerke.

## THANK YOU

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, sponsors, collaborators, volunteers, media and friends, SESOBEL has been able to ensure the needs of our children and youth with disability and their families.

We would also like to thank you dear members of Partage – France, Terre de vie - France, Australian friends of SESOBEL – AuFS , American friends of SESOBEL – AFS, Les Amis de SESOBEL-France, and fondation LCF, for all the love and dedication that you showed for our cause. May your life be always full of blessings and hope.

Thank you for believing in our  
Mission!

Together, we are stronger

# VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for visiting our organization and for hosting us in yours and mostly thank you for believing in our mission.

36 VISITS

309 VISITORS

15 OUTREACH

Despite the On/Off operating schedule this year and the instability that it caused on the overall action of our team, our volunteers continued to demonstrate their commitment to SESOBEL's mission and did all what was possible to bring in additional help through different possible means.

128 local and  
international volunteers

managed to cover **212 required acts** in this difficult year and never lacked the opportunity to support our children and their families. We still believe and grow in faith that humanity is and will always be the foundation of our organization.

**BECOME A VOLUNTEER AND JOIN OUR FAMILY!**

[volunteers@sesobel.org](mailto:volunteers@sesobel.org)

## A TESTIMONY FROM THE HEART

### SESOBEL JOURNEY

One year ago, when I was leaving my safe life in Dubai for the new country (Lebanon) and unknown journey, I could not imagine it would unfold this mysterious way.

Working in a business world for the most of my life, having a tight work schedule for most of the time, I could only dream of social meaningful work or volunteering for an organization with a real purpose.

So when in Lebanon, I have been invited by my sister in law, Daisy, to join SESOBEL, I took it as a sign for a new purposeful future.

### JOKER-VOLUNTEER

For most of the time in SESOBEL I am an easily rotated volunteer who even got nickname of joker for my ability and desire to be useful for the organization.

In Decoration Department, for example, the leading Team (Mirna, Rita, Helcy) along with volunteers and our SESOBEL youth creating beautiful gift baskets for any possible holiday and special family occasion as the birth of a new child, wedding or graduation... Work requires a sense of taste, patience and skills. After more than 100 handmade bows on a decorative baby-girls' shoe I think I could do it now with closed eyes.

My sewing skills came in hand in SESOBEL's atelier. With Rita, Katty, Noha I found myself sewing towels, packing freshly created table clothes and bath robes.

The most unusual for me was to help in Chocolate & Biscuits department (because of my strong belief that I am helpless in kitchen and lacking cooking skills). However, the professional team of SESOBEL sweets production made me believe the opposite. Many of SESOBEL's graduated kids found work here and became very handy in the process of baking tasty cookies and melting in mouth chocolate.

Donation department possibly is my favourite. People and companies around the country supporting SESOBEL's mission by donating money, clothes, food and toys. Sometimes it could be a small plastic bag with overgrown children clothes carefully folded, books and toys from one family. Other times boxes from social caring companies. To receive it and redirect to those who need with care and gratitude is a really responsible work to do. I met Micha who is the leading power of this department, I discovered her personal story of a cancer survivor, and I fell in love with her wholehearted approach of giving and receiving.

## STORIES OF THE WARRIORS

Kids here could have special needs and disabilities but they are no different from other kids.

Mia for example – 12 years old girl with musculoskeletal disorder has an absolutely teenager attraction to the fashion clothes. Her everyday outfit is detailed and well thought. She can easily express herself in two languages French & Arabic, and every time shyly apologising to me in English: “Sorry, I don’t speak English.”

Rafael (14-15 years student) has absolutely a brilliant mind set, questioning everything, finding answers, digging deep into subjects. It was a big discovery when we first spoke about world religions and their effects on social development and cultural differences. One day during one of our usual conversations he surprised me speaking facts of Rasputin’s life (Rasputin - a Russian mystic and self-proclaimed holy man who befriended the family of Emperor Nicholas II, the last monarch of Russia).

Elvis with whom we have very short and understandable, only for both of us, conversation (due to Language difficulties) trying to look as grown up man, serious and independent. On my “Kifak?” (How are you?), formally: “Mnih” (Good, okey), after shortly: “Barra” (Outside, on open air) and he will guide us to the play ground moving independently on his automatic wheelchair ahead of me.

The sweetest Johnny (5-6 years kid) who by my personal creation “likes to eat makarrony” will make a good laugh on my joke and after some time will wholeheartedly reply to me: “Inte kele makarrony” (You eat makkarony).

As many kids here as I experience to meet, there is a special story to tell about each one of them. And no story is simple, some are breath taking, some are heart-breaking, but for all of them it’s a journey, the way of Light warriors (as Paulo Coelho may say) who are everyday fighting the difficulties of life. And I am happy to be with them on this journey and to bring as much light as I can.

Raisat Musaeva  
Joker – Volunteer at SESOBEL

# SELF-SUSTAINING ACTIVITIES

SESOBEL organized **10 self-sustaining activities** thanks to the efforts of all our support committees and the Marketing team.

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

## 1 Annual Gala Dinner.

### 9 Christmas Exhibitions in Lebanon & abroad:

- Reform Social and Grill – Dubai
- L'Atelier des Arts - Abu Dhabi
- Saifi Charity Fair
- The Coffee Room - Gemayzeh
- Boutique SESOBEL - Dbayeh
- Cryptes St Joseph – USJ - Achrafieh
- Volver Transtours - Achrafieh
- Villa Sursock - Achrafieh
- Stand at ABC Dbayeh

A special thanks to all SESOBEL's committees (Ladies, Youth, Parents, Volunteers, General Assembly & Board members) for their commitment and involvement throughout the years, especially during our current difficult situation!

***Your support makes the whole difference!***

SESOBEL thanks all the special initiatives of individuals, companies, establishments, foundations, and media.

***Your precious support helped us persevere throughout this difficult year.***

**SHOP WITH US VIA WHATSAPP**

00961 71 067580





The Coffee Room



Sursock



Reform - Dubai



Boutique Dbayyeh



Volver



Reform - Dubai

# COVID-19 ACTION COURSE



# THE JOURNEY OF A MOM

I gathered my children and explained the situation:  
We must be confined at home: no school, ... no playground,... no walks...  
The first two weeks passed smoothly.  
The third week I saw a lot of sadness and anguish in the eyes of Maxime.  
I asked him, "*What is wrong my sweetheart? What is bothering you?*"  
He could not explain what he felt.  
I asked him, "*Do you want to go to SESOBEL?*"  
He raised his head and looked at me.  
I took him there.  
When he saw the sign of SESOBEL, the rosary and the Blessed Virgin,  
his face lit up and he smiled.  
Maxime knew that SESOBEL is still here, and like him,  
none of his friends is coming over.  
Since then, we come here every day.  
Maxime sees SESOBEL and I see the smiling face of my son.  
After this visit, the rest of the day passes peacefully at home.  
See you soon!

Ghada Henoud  
Maxime's mom





# SOCIAL DEPARTMENT

In the midst of the coronavirus crisis, in which all of humanity is confined, where states of emergency are decreed to protect humans from contamination, we at SESOBEL adapted to the context and persevered in our mission towards our children and their families.

## A- OUR CURRENT SITUATION

From **253 FAMILIES** that are welcomed at the regular programs, we have:

- 1** **237 FAMILIES** with economic difficulties, serious medical problems and/or psychiatric illness.
- 2** **25 FATHERS** retired, sick or deceased.
- 3** **6 COUPLES** separated or divorced, where the responsibility of the children falls on a single parent.

In addition to all these problems, there is the economic crisis that started the revolution last October and then the Covid-19 pandemic later on mid-March.

**96 NEW PARENTS** found themselves unemployed or earning half salary.

## B- THE SURVEY

Objectives :

- 1** To assess the current situation of all families.
- 2** To identify the different needs of the child, siblings, and parents.
- 3** To support families in this crisis.

Results:

The results showed that the families need most:

-  **Food and hygiene products**
-  **Diapers for children and youth**
-  **Medication for parents**
-  **Psychological follow-up for children, parents, and siblings**
-  **Financial help to cover debts such as the remaining schooling of the siblings**
-  **Unpaid bills like credit cards, rent, etc.**
-  **Other needs such as clothing, house equipment, etc.**

## C- TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS

### **INDIVIDUAL INTERVENTION:**

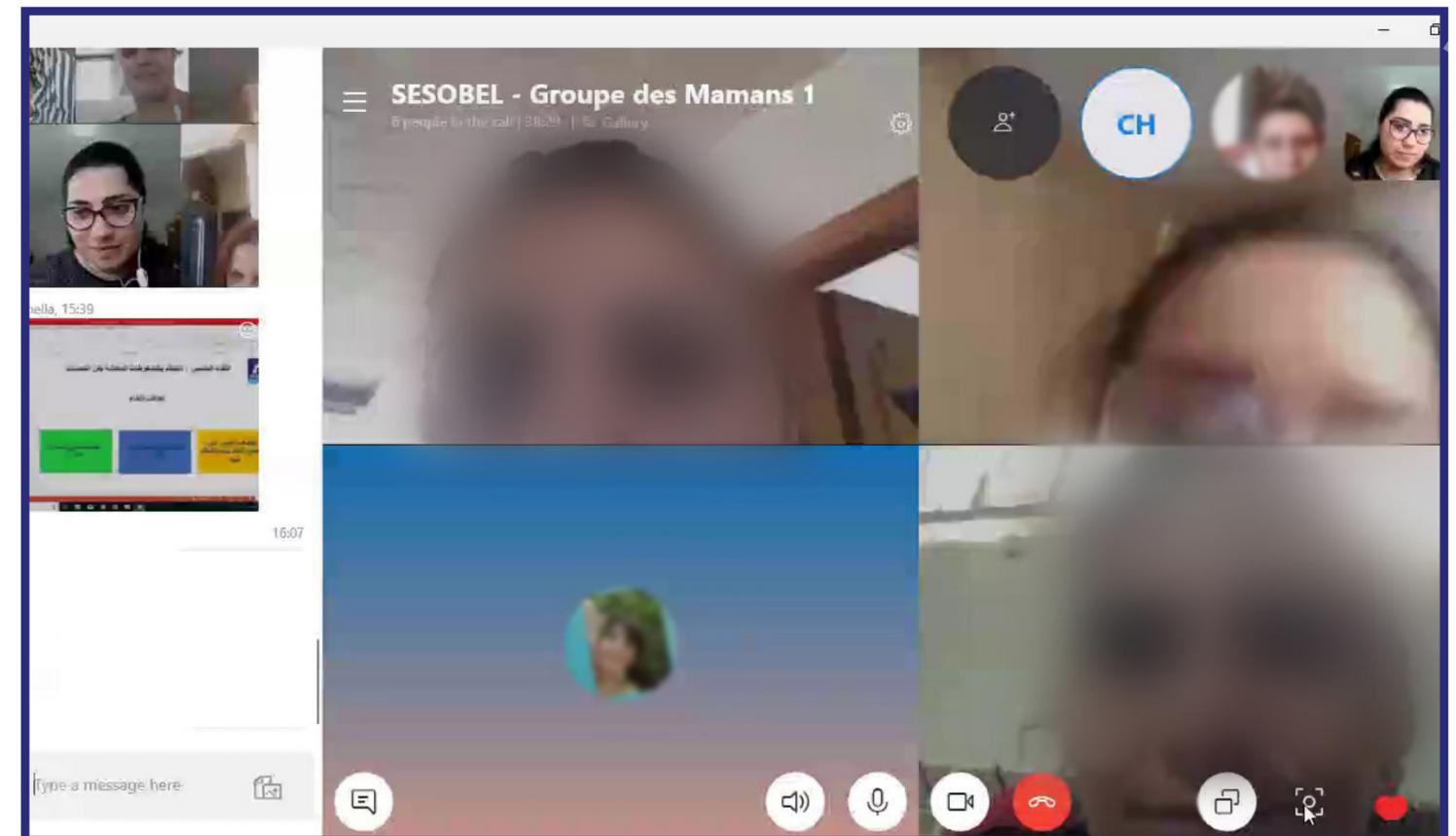
#### Objectives :

-  To listen to families.
-  To collect their needs.
-  To support them.

#### Results:

SESOBEL was able to :

-  Provide monthly basic medical , nutritional, and diaper needs for children and youth.
-  Direct families to private or public help resources.





## GROUP INTERVENTION:

**2 groups** : 15 AND 11 MOTHERS

**20 sessions** OF 2 HOURS EACH

### Objectives :

- 1 Allow mothers to express themselves freely on subjects that concern them.
- 2 Exchange and share their experiences, their difficulties, and sufferings.
- 3 Develop social well-being.
- 4 Improve the feeling of efficiency and motivation.
- 5 Prevent risk situations.
- 6 Share experiences, have mutual support, and learn from each other experiences.
- 7 Look for other methods of reflection and find solutions to the problems and difficulties encountered.
- 8 Encourage healthy behaviors for mothers and improve their skills in everyday life.

### Topics:

- "TOWARDS A GOOD SELF-KNOWLEDGE"
- "TOWARDS A BETTER EXPRESSION OF EMOTIONS"
- "TOWARDS TIME MANAGEMENT AND DIFFICULTIES"
- "TOWARDS A HEALTHY BEHAVIOR FOR BETTER SOCIAL WELL-BEING "
- "TOWARDS A POSITIVE PARENTHOOD"
- "TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT AND BUILDING SELF-CONFIDENCE"

### Results:

- 1 Mothers freed themselves from a heavy burden through expression and listening, which they cannot do at home.
- 2 Sessions helped them to limit parental burnout.
- 3 Close contact with the parents was established which strengthened ties and ensured better support.



# EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

During the period of confinement at home, the entire teaching team mobilized to explore new teaching methods for 192 children and youth on several levels:

## A- EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

The education team ensured that each child benefited from the learning through:

-  An individual learning program in the form of working files related to gross and fine motor skills, autonomy and didactic learning (reading, writing, maths, science, etc.)
-  **1,600 SHEETS** were designed for the children to work on.
-  **167 ONLINE SESSIONS** 2 to 3 times a week (french, arabic, science, etc.)
-  **106 ACTIVITIES** filmed by educators to explain to children via new learning concepts (science, maths, etc.)
-  Interdisciplinary activities animated online by educators and speech & language therapists in order to develop the skills of children with motor or intellectual impairment on a cognitive or communicational level.
-  Covid-19 awareness through video tutorials filmed by educators, or through reading articles or research done and discussed during online sessions.

## B- HUMAN, SOCIAL, & PSYCHOLOGICAL LEVELS

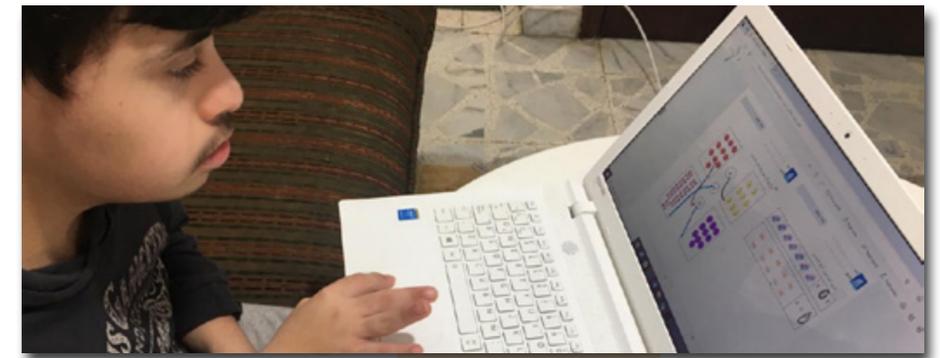
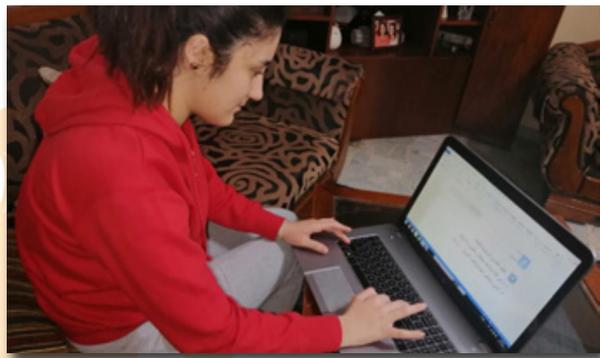
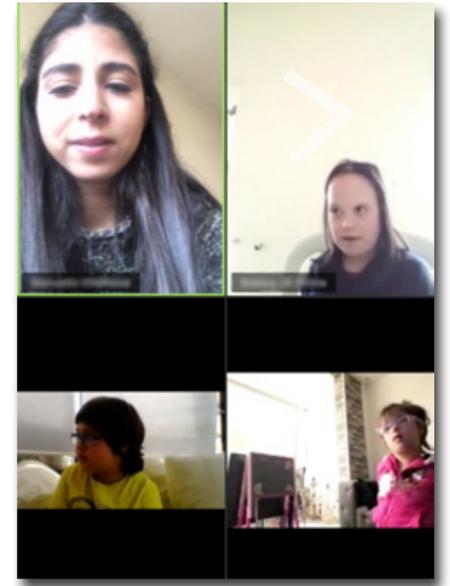
-  **200 PHONE CALLS**, and more than **50 VIDEOS** recorded and sent by WhatsApp were done by educators to check on children and ensure their psychological well-being.
-  **35 RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES** (art, physical and sports education, drawing, dancing, and painting) were animated and filmed.
-  A hotline has been set up to stay in touch with families (24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Since March 2020, we have answered all their questions through more than **5,000 VOICE CALLS AND MESSAGES**.
-  Warning signs were spotted through daily contacts such as the case of a child who reports excessive restlessness at home, a youth experiencing discomfort from confinement, a hospitalized parent and others...

At the reopening of SESOBEL since June 23rd, the reception of children at SESOBEL's premises, was carried out in a concerted and progressive manner according to very specific health protocols for **1,410 EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION SESSIONS** (at the rate of **235 SESSIONS PER WEEK**). At a first stage, the reception was **LIMITED TO 59 CHILDREN** with all the necessary preventive measures. Monitoring continues to be carried out remotely for the rest of the children and youth.

## C- MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION LEVELS

A joint work is done between the education, rehabilitation and medical teams.

*Refer to page 41*



# TESTIMONY OF A MOM

Yesterday, Kloe was very moved to see her teachers speak through these little, pleasant and simple videos. I have seen my daughter's eyes sparkle with joy.

Finally, we have a "small sample" of SESOBEL at home kept in our cell phones. All afternoon, Kloe has been going on and on playing the videos; we learned them by heart. Her attitude changed.

How do you manage to capture the attention of children even from a distance? It is a fairy tale!

She did not want to let go of the phone, she calmed down, and she had become this little obedient girl at school. It was such a pleasure! A great start! Otherwise, my daughter would have forgotten everything, not only letters and studies but social norms too! Honestly, I realized how much you put of yourselves and how much you work hard to communicate concepts and rules to our children.

Right now, Kloe is not passive anymore in front of the screen: she acts and reacts, she is working out...

Finally, I only have to tell you... Cheers and Big Thanks for all what you do and for the concern that you share with us towards our little ones.

Kloe Diab's mom





# THE SCHOOL INCLUSION PROGRAM

In order to propose education and rehabilitation activities, **132 CONTACTS** with families were carried out.

**18 ONLINE SESSIONS** via Zoom have been developed to ensure parental guidance and explanation of new lessons.

An ongoing collaboration with the director as well as the educators of the primary public school of Jezzine was set to adapt the files, allowing our students to follow the pace of their class even with distance learning.





# THE VOCATIONAL & REHABILITATION PROGRAM - VRP

The VRP team mobilized to help **49 FAMILIES** and **50 ADULTS** with disability.

Our mission is to ensure a reassuring presence and especially to spread the smile and hope among families in their daily lives despite the difficulties and everyday burden.

## Objectives :

- 1** To ensure the family all moral, psychological, and financial support, and required prescriptions.
- 2** To provide the youth with disability a secure psychological and educational support.
- 3** To keep active the contacts, despite the distances and maintain the achievements.

## Action :



### WITH THE PARENTS :



**55 PHONE CALLS**



**115 WHATSAPP CALLS**



**11 HOME VISITS**



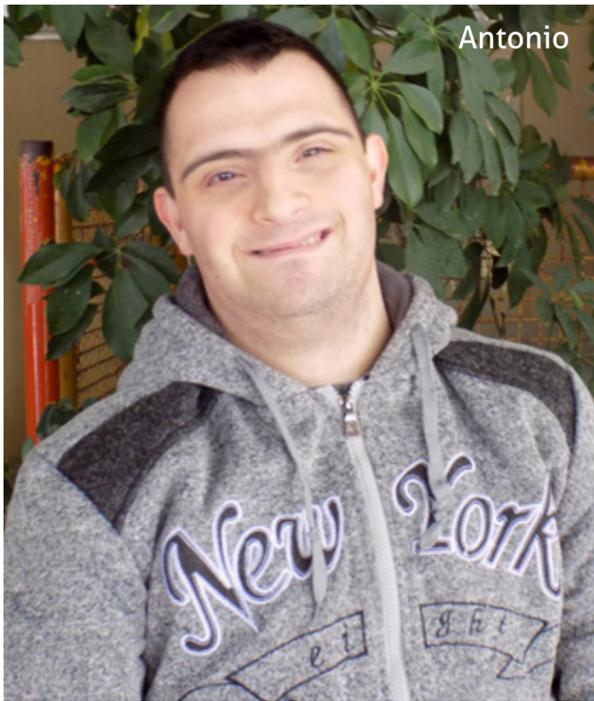
### WITH THE YOUTH:



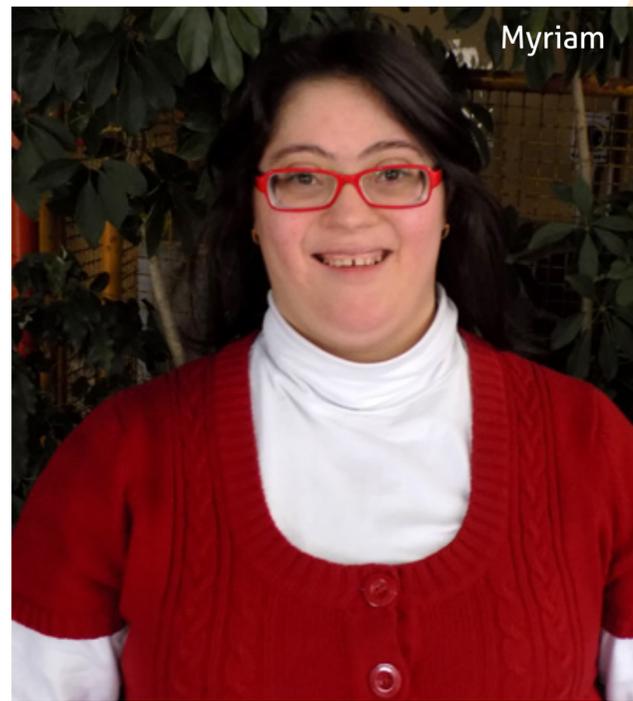
**105 WHATSAPP CALLS PER WEEK**

to maintain the skills and the learning especially for the daily routines' autonomy.

For 10 days in June, SESOBEL welcomed **10 YOUTH** daily on a rotation basis.



Antonio



Myriam



Francois



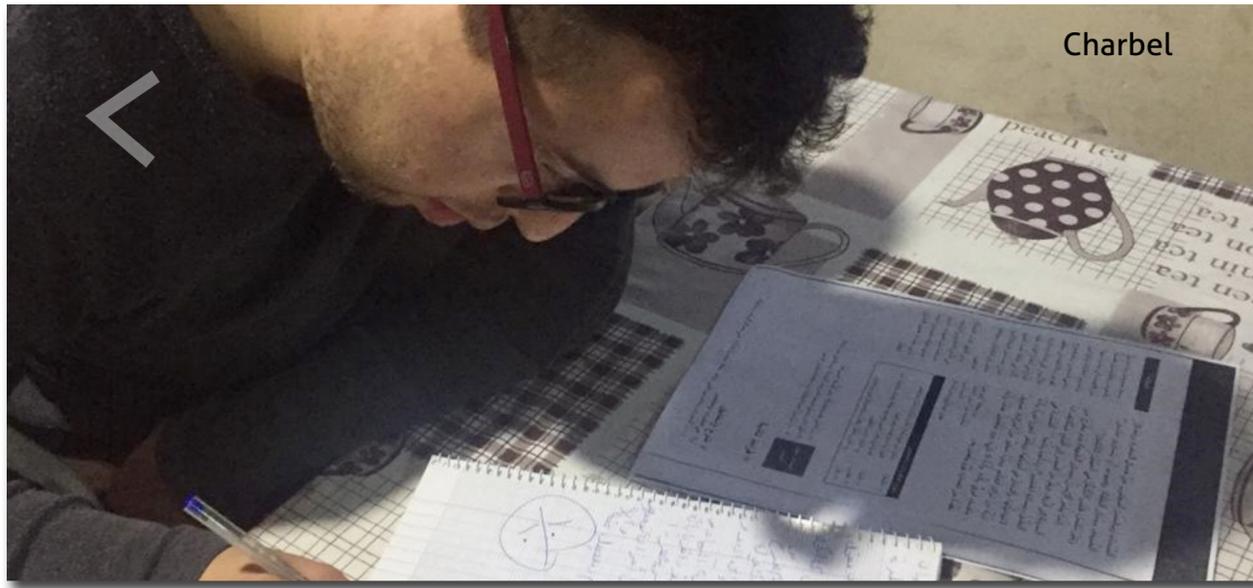
Joseph

*"In these difficult times and with my daughter's illness (sister of Joseph), you're my only help, my only hope. With you, I feel good, I express everything that I have in my heart. Thank you."*

Joseph's mom

*"I love you very much Leyla and I love SESOBEL. I pray every day for my return to school and I hope to see you all soon. I miss you very much".*

Antonio



Charbel

*"Thanks from the bottom of my heart for the support and love of SESOBEL for my family. Myriam loves you so much. She performs every educational instruction you send her. Thank you for being there for us".*

Myriam's mom

*"I miss my friends a lot and my educators too. I can't wait to go back to SESOBEL when the pandemic ends. I work a lot, and I help mom at home".*

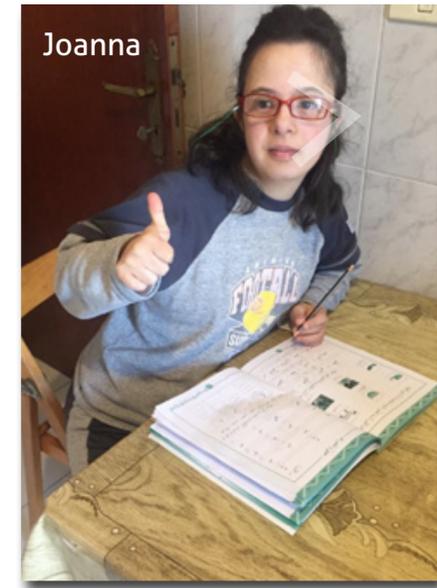
Elias



Elias



Lourdes



Joanna





# MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The units of the medical and rehabilitation program got organized to ensure continuity for the remote care at all levels :

## 1 DIAGNOSIS, ACCOMPANIMENT & REHABILITATION (D.A.R):

Guidance provided for **52 families**.

## 2 MEDICAL UNIT

- Medical monitoring of **30 children and youth**.
- Post-surgery orthopedic follow-up jointly with physiotherapists for **4 families**.
- Modification of drug treatment for **8 children**.
- Epileptic seizures: **5 children**.
- Behavioral problems: **4 children**.
- Various problems: Insomnia, teething problems, problems regarding the gastrostomy tube and knee pain: **4 children**.
- Guidance to parents for managing their own health.
- Guidance to parents for dressing bandages, adjusting the dose of medication, and properly managing their child's medical condition.
- Preparation of batches of drugs for **48 families**.

## 3 PHYSIOTHERAPY UNIT

- Rehabilitative guidance by video call for **80 families**.
- Post-surgery rehabilitation follow-up by video call for **3 families**.
- Post-surgery rehabilitation follow-up at home for **1 child**.

## 4 RESPIRATORY UNIT

- **26** rehabilitative guidance sessions by video call for **9 families**.
- **25** rehabilitative sessions at home for **6 children** with severe disability.
- Check-up of the machines at home and repairing several ones.
- Respiratory suction probes distributed to families.

## 5 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY UNIT

- Rehabilitative guidance by video call for **25 families**.
- New software installed.

## 6 SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY UNIT

- **76** rehabilitation sessions by video call for **99 children**.
- Parental guidance for **38 parents**.
- Remote sessions were prepared in collaboration with the trainees of the institute of speech & language therapy of Saint Joseph University.

## 7 PSYCHOMOTOR UNIT

- Rehabilitation by video call for **68 children**.
- Introduction of psychomotor activities in the education program for **114 children and youth**.

## 8 PSYCHOTHERAPY UNIT

- Psychological follow-up by video call for **27 youth and 26 parents**.
- Guidance sessions by video call to help parents respond to youth's questions regarding coronavirus.

## TECHNICAL AIDS UNIT

- Parental guidance for **10 families**.
- Technical aids cleaning and disinfecting information delivered via WhatsApp to parents of **70 children and youth** with restricted mobility.
- Children technical aids repaired at the center following the parents' request.



# TASTE THE LOVE, SERVE THE CAUSE

We adopt hygiene standards and certified preventions compliant with the Ministry of Health instructions and regulations and HACCP system.

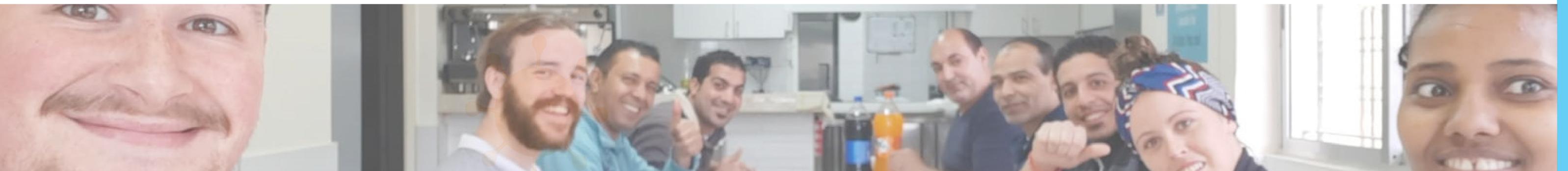
A small group was formed at the chocolate workshop. We produced a small quantity of chocolate and maamouls for our loyal customers who buy our products for their quality in addition to the support of our action. Part of these products was delivered to customers taking all measures of hygiene and protection.



# CONTAINMENT AT SESOBEL

"At the beginning of the containment, we didn't know how long this crisis could last. The embassy contacted us to find out if we wanted to return to France. Daisy and Nayla informed us that we can stay and that it is a pleasure for them that SESOBEL can continue to be alive with people who make it breathe. Faced with this important choice, we all decided to stay in Lebanon, at SESOBEL, so as not to miss a unique and rich experience. We were not alone; we lived to the rhythm of the house. We prepared the garden, and we were awakened by the noise of shopping carts and food packages prepared by a team always on the move so that everyone, all families are satisfied and contented in this difficult time. We were not alone. From time to time, we came across therapists who explained to us what they put in place for children (sheets, videos, explanations). Children and therapists were always in contact. We realized in these difficult times, that despite everything, SESOBEL is a real family: A place where the spirit of solidarity motivates everyone to participate fully to the life of the organization. We woke up every day to join Hamdi, Walid, Joseph and all the medical and rehabilitation team working with a high spirit so that everything is perfect for the reopening of the organization. We hoped it would be soon. We planed our daily time as each one of you at home. We found occupations that brought us closer. We worked out, danced, watched movies, gardened, and enjoyed meals cooked with love by the whole team who embraced us. The sun is back with hope and smiles. After the rain comes the good weather. We all hope to see you again fast and full of joy and happiness. We miss you all and we can't wait to see you again."

Lea Mendes  
French volunteer at SESOBEL



# PRAYER CHAINS...

For the Annunciation Feast and the Holy week, the staff, children, youth, families, as well as support committees' members, prayed over 24 hours for 15 minutes each on rotation basis.

These prayer chains helped each member of our family to strengthen and renew his faith.



# A CHAIN OF LOVE

**TO BE THERE FOR OTHERS, TO FACE DIFFICULTIES, TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES WITH JOY AND HOPE:**

this is our mission at SESOBEL – a touching testimony of solidarity that watches over each child or youth with disability, and every struggling family.

At the beginning of the Lebanese economic crisis and well before the Covid-19 pandemic, we stood by the families of our children whose situation is precarious.

Thanks to the generosity of our friends, donors, and contributors, food and hygiene batches have been prepared (milk, oil, pasta, sugar, starchy foods, tuna, cheese, hygiene products, masks, gloves, etc.) and distributed:

**284 food lots and hygiene products.  
48 batches of medication per month.**



# THANK YOU...

A special thanks to all those who believed in us and helped us during these difficult times!

Thank you for your donations, in-kind donations, support, initiatives, love, and care ...

We shall never forget your generosity and sincerely treasure your friendship.

# PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

35  
members  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY

09  
members  
BOARD

Mrs. Fadia  
SAFI  
President  
& CEO

15  
counselors

69  
members  
SUPPORT  
COMMITTEES

05  
members  
ETHICS  
COMMITTEE

55  
Skilled  
Doctors

110  
Trainees

128  
Volunteers

26  
Remunar-  
ated Youth

17  
Seasonal  
Workers

09  
Mothers

223  
persons  
SKILLED  
TEAM

# OUR STATISTICS

## DISABILITY CATEGORIES

20%

### MOTOR

Cerebral Palsy, Degenerative diseases, Genetic Syndrome, Diagnosis in process, Indetermined, Idiopathic Cause

20%

### INTELLECTUAL

Chromosomal Aberration, Brain malformation, Genetic Syndrome, Diagnosis in process Indetermined, Idiopathic Cause

6%

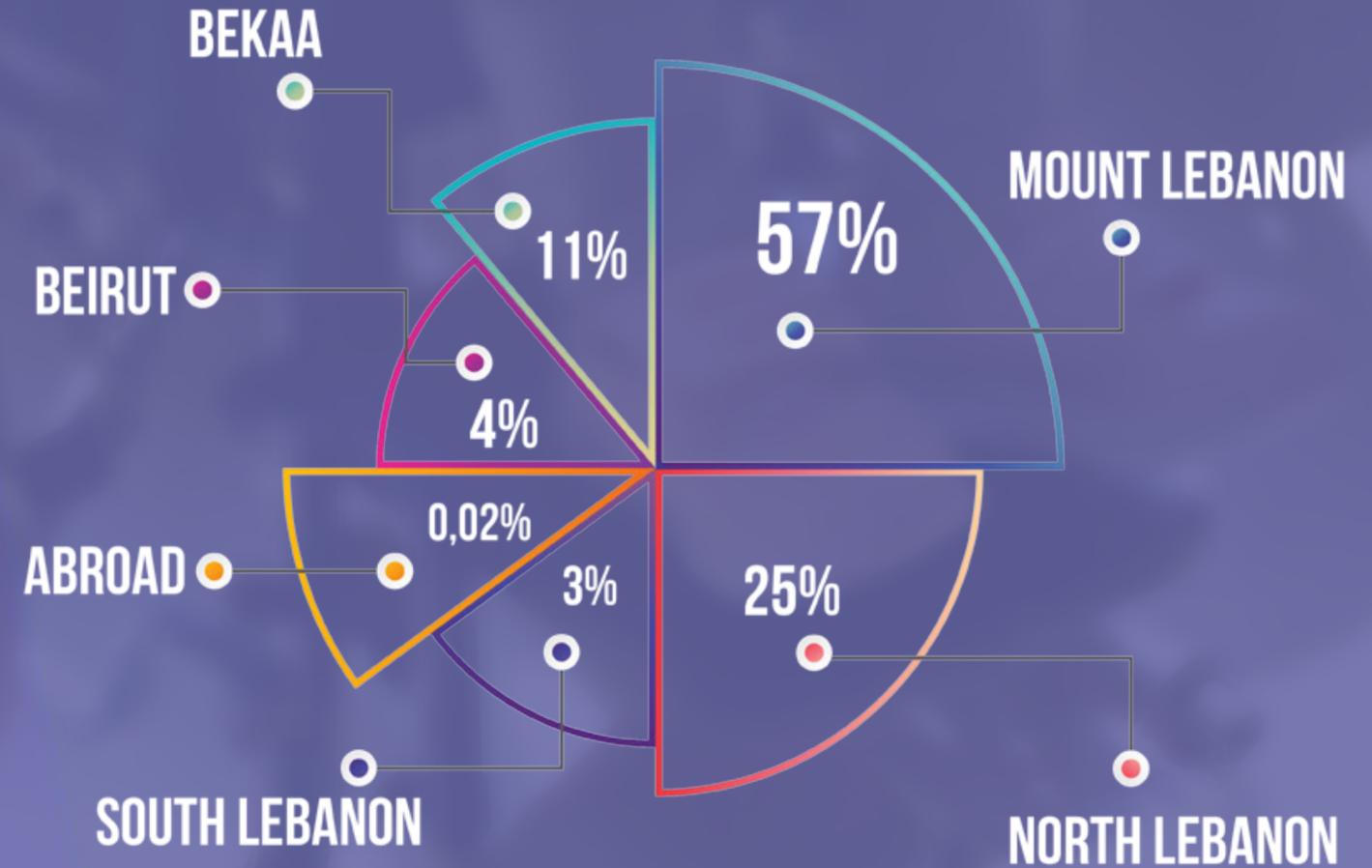
### AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Autism, Non Specified ASD, Genetic Syndrome, Diagnosis in process

54%

### OTHER

Learning Difficulties, Handicap out of criteria, N/A



35%



65%

# OUR RESOURCES

SESOBEL treasures its autonomy and is not affiliated to any religious nor political entity.

SESOBEL is engaged to abide by rigorous and transparent management practices: the finances of SESOBEL are regularly monitored by two auditing firms, the international Ernst & Young and the Cabinet Antoine Haddad-Lebanon.

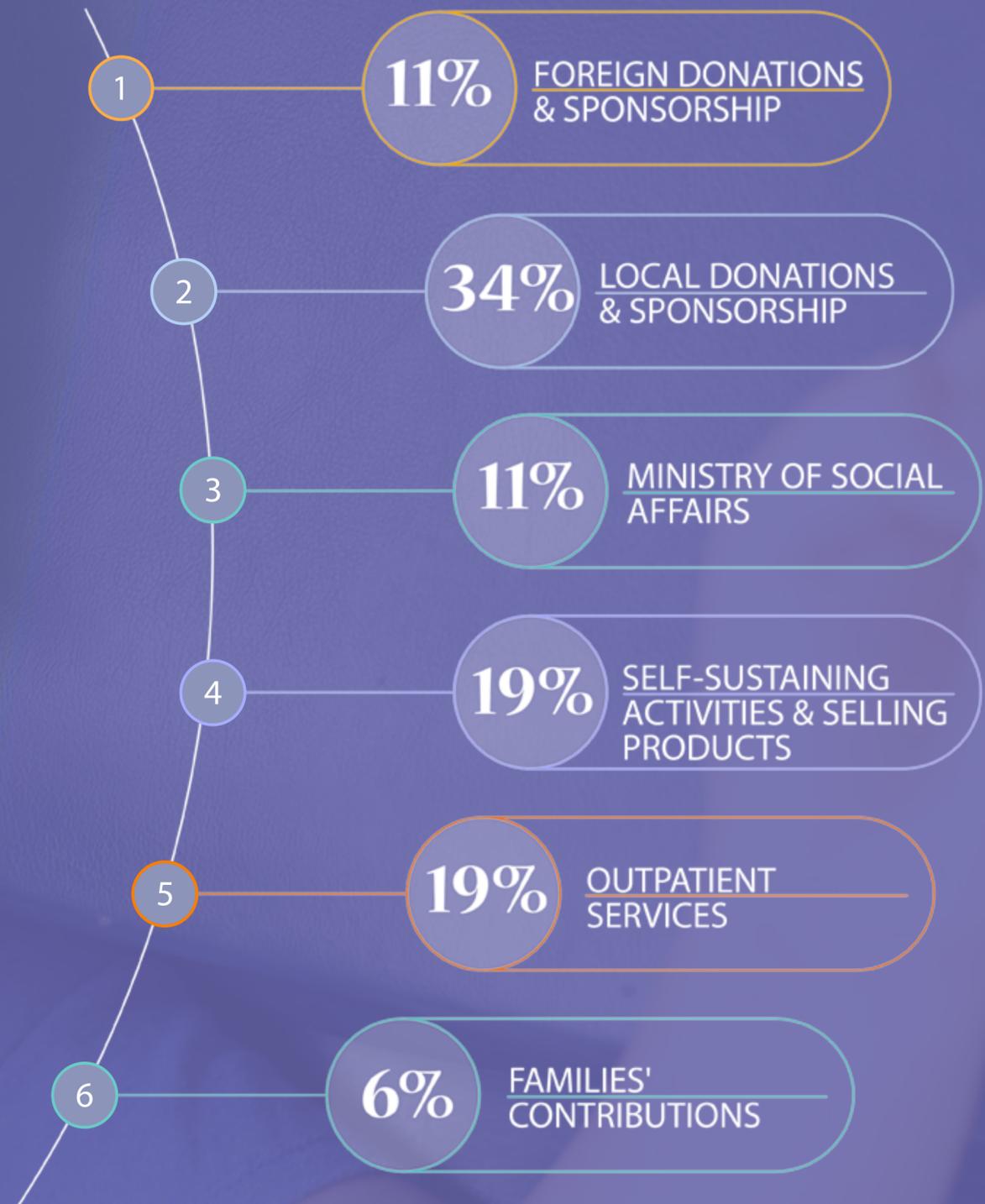
64 % of SESOBEL's funds come from self-sustaining activities and private donations.



Cabinet Antoine Haddad  
Comptabilité et Expertise

مكتب انطوان حداد  
محاسبة وتدقيق

ERNST & YOUNG





Your help is vital

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

# YOUR SUPPORT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE



Bank Audi sal - Lebanon  
Account number: 071753

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