

Ahli Arab Hospital

Title: Psychosocial Support for Gazan Children**The problem description:**

According to OCHA Humanitarian Needs Overview (2017), around 3,000 are in need of Structured Psychosocial Services including life skills program and around 11,000 children are in need of child protection case management.

According to TDH study, 2018 in cooperation with Child Protection Working Group, physical violence against children are common across the Gaza Strip. It also increases in the prevalence of sexual violence against children and child labor. Moreover, 90% of respondents' identified psychosocial distress among children as a main child protection concerns in the Gaza Strip with stress being manifested.

Children study manifestations are as follows:

85% of children showed aggressive behaviors

76% of children showed bed-wetting

73% of children showed unusual crying and screaming

72% of children showed violence against younger children

69% of children showed unwillingness to go to school

61% of children showed disrespectful behavior in family

60% of children having nightmare and not being able to sleep

57% of children showed sadness.

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50% of children showed behaviors to avoid others.

These stress manifestation *were correlated* with some factors like electricity cut, lack of food, armed conflict and separation from family as follows:

86% of children stress was correlated with electricity cut/ lack of energy sources

75% of children stress was correlated with lack of food

65% of children stress was correlated with armed conflict

64% of children stress was correlated with lack of shelter

52% of children stress was correlated with separation from family.

Root causes were seen as economic, social and political deterioration in the Gaza Strip. ECHO describes Gaza as a protracted crisis in a de-developed area. For **example 54% of Gazans** are under poverty line in comparison with 13% of West Bank residents (PCBS, 2018).

Gaza is under blockade so, vast majority can't leave Gaza. Unemployment rate is 43% according to the World Bank, 2018 and 80% of people depends on food aid. More than 50,000 Palestinian Authority Employees have had 50% cut in their salaries for the second year as most of them have bank loans which impacted on market purchasing power and having high numbers of prisoners who are not able to meet the financial demands.

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OCHA May, 2018 has addressed the extreme need to mental health services and psychosocial (MHPSS) related to the recent violence in the Great Mach of Return which increased deaths rates, physical injuries and disabilities and manifest as psychosocial problems in apportion of the Gazans especially children as TDH study showed. In addition OCHA April 2018 indicated that 210,000 people suffer from some form of mental or psychological disorder. Psychosocial support is not part of the government and MOH work as it is being the responsibility of the civil society. Therefore, AAH wants to target 650 children and 250 of their caregivers based on AAH capacity and experience in the sector.

Outcomes & Project Design:

Outcome 1: Psychosocial well- being of the targeted children are improved

Output 1.1: AAH psychosocial team capacity are built on PFA approach and

Activity 1.1.1: Capacity Building training for AAH psychosocial team especially the Psychosocial First Aid approach (PFA) for 5 days

- Draft training TOR & agenda
- Coordinate with AAH for training place inside AAH
- Preparing stationery, agenda and training package
- Conduct training
- Documentation through photos and attendance sheet

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- Evaluation
- Training report

Output 1.2: 650 Children with Psychosocial problems are detected**Activity 1.1.2: Detection phase for 650 children along three month using Psychosocial First Aid Methodology (PFA)**

First Aid Approach will be used for 3 months to detect children with psychosocial problems for age group between 6-14 years as groups will be divided based on age mainly.

The approach components are as follows:

- Having safe and friendly environment for children activities inside AAH & Community Based Organization (CBOs)
- Use storytelling, edutainment activities and other detection psychosocial tools to detect certain behaviors
- Distribute the 650 children into groups
- Children will have 3-4 sessions per the first phase for detection purpose including open day as a recreation.
- Children will be under observation along the sessions to detect behaviors like withdrawal behavior, aggressive behavior, and others according to the detection checklist.

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- Each child will have a case file; follow up record and other examination tools in case it was recommended by the team like ADHD detection questionnaire.
- Open days with meals will be offered once per the first phase for all.

Output 1.3: 130 children have received mental health support

Activity 1.1.3: 130 children will receive mental health support for 8 month through mental health intervention approach

- Groups will be formed based on the result of stage 1
- Individual & group therapy will be conducted for 20% of the first phase which will be around 130 children
- The groups & individual therapy activities will be conducted as each group will have 18 sessions

Outcome 2: Psychosocial well- being of the children caregivers are improved

Output 2.1: 130 caregivers have received mental support through body and mind therapy approach

Activity: 2.1.1

130 caregivers will have group therapy through body and mind medicine as each group will have

- 10-12 sessions about self-care, children behavioral problems in order to be able to get empowered and support children better.

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- The assumption is that when caregivers can manage their self-care better, they will be more able to support their children

Reporting:

- Daily report by team to the supervisor based on an agreed form
- Weekly report by team to the supervisor based on an agreed form
- Monthly report by the supervisor to the AAH general director based on an agreed form

Track Record & Achievements at AAH:

AAH is an active civil society organization at the local and international level and respond to humanitarian needs and crises wherever needed and within capacities. AAH is the oldest hospital in the Gaza Strip and it is known as a surgical hospital; however, it has 9 year experience in psychosocial support projects with children mainly after the escalation of December, 2008. Therefore, AAH believes that AAH and PAMA has mutual values and believes.

Psychosocial Track record of AAH and achieved results before:

Usually AAH target 800 children and their caregivers on annual base; nevertheless, the targeted numbers increase based on availability of fund and in case of escalation and need as the number increases

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Workplan													
Activity description	Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Training of the Psychosocial team including TOR preparation, training conduction, evaluation and report writing.	2019/2020	x	x										
Phase one : Starting the detection phase for the 650 children			x	x	x								
Open days in phase one			x	x	x								
Phase two: Children therapy						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Women body and mind sessions						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Open days							x		x		x		x
Monitoring		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Evaluation							x						x
Reporting		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Video making		x											

P.O. BOX 72

PALESTINE –GAZA

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غزة - Gaza

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فلسطين – غزة

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