



White Hearts Association for Children with Down Syndrome

Idlib – Syria

1. Institutional Identity & Evolution

The White Hearts Association for Children with Down Syndrome is a specialized non-profit organization based in Idlib, Syria, dedicated to providing comprehensive educational, therapeutic, and psychosocial services for children with Down syndrome.

The initiative was originally established in 2020 as a community-based center responding to the urgent need for specialized services in a fragile and underserved context. Over time, the center expanded its scope, structure, and service capacity, leading to its formal registration as an official association in 2025, while maintaining its operational identity as a specialized center known locally as “White Hearts Center.”

This evolution reflects a transition from a grassroots initiative into a structured institutional actor committed to long-term service delivery, inclusion, and child development.

2. Mandate & Purpose

The Association is mandated to support children with Down syndrome through structured interventions that promote their developmental, educational, and social well-being.

It works to ensure that children with Down syndrome have equitable access to essential services, while strengthening the role of families and caregivers in the rehabilitation and learning process.

The Association operates on a rights-based and child-centered approach, grounded in the belief that every child has the right to develop their full potential within a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment.

3. Vision

A society where children with Down syndrome and persons with disabilities are fully included, respected, and empowered, and where equality, dignity, and participation are embedded in all aspects of community life.

4. Mission

To enhance the quality of life of children with Down syndrome by providing access to integrated educational, therapeutic, and psychosocial services, while promoting awareness, inclusion, and community engagement around disability rights.

5. Core Strategic Focus Areas

The Association’s work is structured around the following pillars:

- **Early Intervention & Rehabilitation Services**
Providing individualized educational and therapeutic programs tailored to each child's needs.
- **Inclusive Education & Development**
Supporting learning, communication, and life skills development to enhance independence.
- **Psychosocial Support & Family Empowerment**
Strengthening the capacity of families and caregivers to support their children effectively.
- **Social Inclusion & Community Engagement**
Promoting integration of children with Down syndrome into community and educational settings.

6. Service Delivery Model

The Association implements a center-based, multidisciplinary service model that integrates:

- Educational rehabilitation programs
- Speech and communication therapy
- Physiotherapy and motor development support
- Psychosocial support services
- Structured recreational and learning activities
- Inclusion-oriented group activities with peers

All services are designed based on individualized assessments to ensure that each child receives tailored support aligned with their developmental needs.

7. Target Beneficiaries

The Association serves and engages the following groups:

- Children with Down syndrome (approximately 100 children served and targeted)
- Families and primary caregivers
- Local educational and community stakeholders
- Children without disabilities participating in inclusion programs

8. Organizational Development Context

Despite operating in a challenging and resource-constrained environment, the Association has maintained continuous service delivery and progressively strengthened its institutional capacity.

The organization continues to evolve its internal systems, service quality, and operational structure to ensure sustainability, improved outcomes, and expanded access for children in need.

9. Closing Statement

The White Hearts Association remains committed to building an inclusive and supportive environment where children with Down syndrome can learn, develop, and actively participate in society.

Through its structured programs and evolving institutional capacity, the Association continues to contribute to improving the quality of life and long-term prospects of children and families in Idlib and surrounding communities.

Project: Supporting 100 Children with Down Syndrome in Syria

Our Journey of Resilience

Over the past five years, the Center has continued serving children despite significant financial and operational challenges. Its continuity has been made possible through:

- Volunteer efforts and community engagement.
- Strategic partnerships with local and international organizations.
- Ongoing fundraising initiatives and donor outreach.
- Individual contributions from supporters and friends of the Center.
- Careful management of available resources to ensure uninterrupted services.

This commitment has allowed the Center to maintain essential programs and continue supporting children and families even during periods of severe funding shortages.

Why This Project Matters

Children with Down syndrome require consistent and long-term support to develop communication, learning, social, and daily living skills.

Without access to specialized services, many children face increased isolation, limited educational opportunities, and reduced chances of meaningful participation in their communities.

For many enrolled children and their families, White Hearts Center represents a safe and supportive environment where they can access services specifically designed to meet their developmental needs.

What the Project Will Support

The project “**Supporting 100 Children with Down Syndrome in Syria**” seeks to sustain and strengthen integrated services for children and their families, including:

- Educational and learning support.
- Speech and communication therapy.
- Physiotherapy and motor development services.
- Psychosocial support.
- Life skills and independence training.
- Recreational and creative activities.
- Community and inclusion-focused programs.

Expected Impact

Through this project, approximately **100 children with Down syndrome** will continue to benefit from a safe, inclusive, and child-friendly environment that supports their growth and development.

The project will help:

- Maintain uninterrupted access to specialized services.
- Strengthen children's independence and life skills.
- Improve social participation and community inclusion.
- Support families and caregivers.
- Preserve and strengthen a specialized service model that has been serving children since 2020.

Funding Requirement

To sustain these services and ensure their continued delivery throughout the project period, financial support is required to cover personnel, operational expenses, program activities, and essential educational and therapeutic resources.

A detailed budget breakdown is provided in the following section.

Project: Supporting 100 Children with Down Syndrome in Syria

Budget Summary

The proposed budget reflects the annual operational requirements necessary to sustain and deliver integrated educational, therapeutic, and psychosocial services for children with Down syndrome through White Hearts Center.

The budget is designed to support the continued operation of the Center and ensure uninterrupted access to essential services for approximately 100 children with Down syndrome and their families. Funding will cover qualified personnel, operational and facility costs, educational and therapeutic activities, specialized equipment, and program-related support services necessary to maintain a safe, inclusive, and child-centered learning environment.

Budget Overview

Category	Amount (USD)
Personnel and Human Resources	\$72,360
Operating Costs	\$26,040
Program Activities and Direct Project Costs	\$29,900
Equipment and Supplies	\$12,000
Total Budget	\$140,300

This budget represents the resources required to maintain and strengthen the Center's comprehensive service model, which combines education, rehabilitation, therapy, psychosocial support, family engagement, and inclusion-focused activities for children with Down syndrome.

a. BUDGET BREAKDOWN:

Item	Qty	Unit of Measure	No. of Units	Unit Cost \$	Budget (\$)	Notes
Personnel and Human Resources						
Executive Director	1	Month	12	\$ 900.00	\$ 10,800.00	
Program Manager	1	Month	12	\$ 800.00	\$ 9,600.00	
Project Coordinator	1	Month	12	\$ 700.00	\$ 8,400.00	
M&E Consultant (Part Time)	1	Month	12	\$ 250.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Media Officer	1	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00	
Procurement and Logistics Coordinator	1	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00	
Accountant	1	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00	
Physiotherapist	1	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00	
Psychotherapist	1	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00	
Speech Therapist	1	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00	
Teachers	4	Month	12	\$ 300.00	\$ 14,400.00	
Vocational Coaches (Part Time)	1	Day	144	\$ 15.00	\$ 2,160.00	Artisans will be contracted in daily basis to train children in crafts according to their wishes.
Cleaning Services Employee	1	Month	12	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,400.00	
					\$ 72,360.00	
Operating Cost						

Office Rental	1	Month	12	\$ 600.00	\$ 7,200.00	
Phone and Internet	1	month	12	\$ 70.00	\$ 840.00	
Transportation	1	Month	12	\$ 700.00	\$ 8,400.00	The <i>Center</i> owns a bus for transporting children in Idlib city. The project needs to allocate funds for additional transportation costs for children from other areas.
Visibility and Printings	1	Month	12	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,400.00	
Office Refreshment	1	Month	12	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Clean Water	1	Month	12	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,800.00	
Hygiene Items	1	Month	12	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,800.00	
Stationery	1	Month	12	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,400.00	
					\$ 26,040.00	

Other Direct Project Cost - Activities

Nutritious Daily Meals for Enrolled Children	1	Month	12	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	The number of days per month is determined by the prices.
Recreational and Artistic Activities	1	Activity	12	\$ 400.00	\$ 4,800.00	Raw Materials, Stationery, Tickets, Gifts
Field Visits to The Schools	1	Visits	12	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Training Program	1	Training	3	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	Includes Trainer Fees, Printing and Hospitality.
Meetings with Parents and Families	1	Meeting	12	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,400.00	Includes Hospitality and Printed Materials
Awareness Workshops	1	Workshop	10	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,000.00	Includes Hospitality and Printed Materials
Meetings with Stakeholders	1	Meeting	5	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,000.00	Includes Hospitality and Printed Materials
Cooperative Activities and Events	1	Event	2	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Includes Hall Rental, Stationery, Hospitality, and Printed materials.
					\$ 29,900.00	

Equipment and Supplies

Physical Therapy Devices	1	Tools equipment	1	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Finger extension training tool - Weight set Balance Bench - Trampoline - Kids' Treadmill - Silicone Balls - Balance Board
Vocational Training Class	1	Tools equipment	1	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	Based on need assessment and children desires.
Sensor Room	1	Tools equipment	1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Visual and audio products - Interactive wall panels - Motion and balance devices - Control devices
Printer	1	Device	1	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	The current printer is worn out and damaged.
Camera	1	Device	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	Tripod- Flash - External camera battery - Camera Lens- Camera Memory Cards - Camera
					\$ 12,000.00	

TOTAL

\$ 140,300.00