

Fenan Kindergarten

After the passing of her husband, Abeer Daoudiyeh chose to dedicate her life to caring for orphaned children. Her passion spurred her to create Fenan Kindergarten, an institution that serves children residing in Tafileh and nearby areas. Abeer turned to Sameeha Al Mahasneh, a colleague who had longstanding experience in the fields of teaching and management, and presented to her the project's idea. Together, they began the complex journey of securing funding.

During their search, it was brought to Abeer and Sameeha's attention that the European Union (EU) and Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) were conducting field visits to various governorates in order to educate residents across the Kingdom about the types of grants they offer. After learning of this, both women decided to attend a meeting hosted by JEDCO, in hopes of obtaining the support they needed. And so it was, after several studies and a grant application, the project was approved and was given the required funding from JEDCO and the EU in May 2013.

Abeer and Sameeha began by looking for a suitable location that would serve the largest number of residents possible, and finally found a plot of land that was ideally situated to serve four remote areas. These consisted of Bseria District, Gharandal Village, Om Sarab Village and Al Maqam area, all of which direly lacked the most basic of services.

The women allocated a portion of the grant to marketing the kindergarten by handing out flyers and brochures, as well as launching an official website. The newly established kindergarten, which features four classrooms that can accommodate up to 70 students, was a resounding success and parents were rushing to enroll their children. The kindergarten provided an array of services that were previously unavailable in the area such as daycare and academic education for students between four and five years of age, and for children suffering from learning disabilities after appointing a qualified teacher specialized in this field.

Furthermore, the kindergarten organized multiple activities geared towards benefiting the children and broadening their horizons. These included visits to the Civil Defence Directorate, Public Security Directorate and Tafileh Women's Center, in addition to various entertainment and cultural functions. The kindergarten also carries out humanitarian and volunteer activities such as hosting and providing meals to underprivileged children, and distributing goodwill parcels among youngsters from the area at its own expense.

The kindergarten has also created jobs for the area's residents, offering employment to four teachers, two drivers and a janitor. Abeer and Sameeha dream of expanding the kindergarten's operations by increasing the number of classrooms and employees, and establishing a specialized department that is dedicated to caring for children with learning disabilities.