

الاتحاد اللوثيري العالمي - القدس

# LWF World Service - Jerusalem 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# Table of Contents

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Foreword:   | 1-3   |
| Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH)   | 4-19  |
| AVH Overview:   | 4     |
| Assets Based Community Development:   | 5     |
| AVH 2019 Highlights:  | 6-8   |
| AVH Radiotherapy Department Expands Services:   | 9     |
| Renovations of Pediatric Palliative Care Unit Completed:                                | 10-11 |
| Laboratory Department Develops Staff Capacities, Services:                              | 12    |
| AVH Introduces PET/CT Scan:   | 13    |
| Diabetes and Community Activities:  | 14-15 |
| A Child's Journey with Cancer, from Gaza to AVH:  | 16    |
| AVH Board of Governance:  | 17    |
| AVH Statistics:   | 18    |
| AVH Profile: Dina Nasser, AVH Chief Operating Officer<br>and Infection Prevention Team: | 19    |
| Map of LWF Jerusalem Program 2019 Activities:   | 20-21 |
| Vocational Training Program (VTP):  | 22-34 |
| VTP Overview:   | 22    |
| VTP Success Stories:  | 23-25 |
| VTP GRIT Project Offers New Opportunities for Women:                                    | 26-27 |
| VTP 2019 Graduates Employment Statistics:   | 28-31 |
| LWF Expands Training for Women and Facilitates<br>Integration into the Labor Market:    | 32    |
| Vocational Training Advisory Board:   | 32    |
| VTP Offers Short Courses in Shu'fat Camp for Youth and Women:                           | 33    |
| VTP Summer Camp and Graduation Ceremony:  | 34    |
| Visitors 2019:  | 35    |
| How to Donate to the LWF Jerusalem Program:   | 36    |
| LWF Olive Oil from the Mount of Olives:   | 37    |
| Donors 2019:  | 38    |
| Jerusalem Program Financial Data:   | 39    |
| LWF Jerusalem Program Senior Staff:   | 40    |



THE  
LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION

World Service

member of **actalliance**

## FOREWORD



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

The year 2019 for the LWF Jerusalem program was marked with many accomplishments, but also with challenges. Many of the challenges were of a political nature and having an impact on the entire Palestinian people. Israeli parliamentary elections were held twice in 2019 without Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu or his opponent Benny Gantz being able to form a government. This prolonged, year-long political stalemate paralyzed the Government of Israel and led to an aggressive election campaign.

Under the auspices of the US American government and over the course of three election campaigns, PM Netanyahu had taken steps to formally annex parts of the West Bank and sever Palestinian neighborhoods from Jerusalem. The

breaking news in September was the declaration by the Israeli Prime Minister that he would annex the Jordan Valley if he would be re-elected, and that the Trump peace plan would facilitate more annexation. As was confirmed upon the release of the Middle East plan on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the US Administration does not oppose the unilateral annexation of parts of the West Bank. Such annexations were highly unlikely just a year ago.

The announcement in September 2019 resulted in an international outcry. Palestinians were hardly surprised by the Israeli actions and saw through the barely hidden intentions of the PM and right-wing groups. These steps were followed by US recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights and by the statement of the US



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that settlements are not inconsistent with international law.

While these announcements did not affect the LWF Jerusalem Program directly, they did have an impact on the general mood of Palestinians and added to the resignation of some and aggression of others. Other political developments had a direct impact on the LWF Jerusalem program. Most notably, the Palestinian Authority decided in the beginning of 2019 to refuse to receive tax revenues from Israel from which payments to families of security prisoners and “martyrs” were deducted. This caused a major financial crisis that affected all sectors of services to Palestinians, including the health sector. Augusta Victoria Hospital was severely affected by this.

The US Administration’s cuts in humanitarian funding for the West Bank and Gaza added to the financial crisis. The US cuts meant a loss for the second year in a row of 25 million USD that had been designated for the members of the East Jerusalem Hospitals Network. The hospital had to struggle with a cash flow crisis and, at one point, was not able

to carry on with regular operations and services to patients needed to be curtailed. The cash flow crisis continued unabated until the first report appeared and the dire situation of the hospital became public. The response in donations and support from the Palestinian community in East Jerusalem and from the West Bank was unprecedented and a sign that LWF’s Augusta Victoria Hospital is a trusted institution in East Jerusalem and has nationwide recognition and relevance, due in no small measure to the efforts of AVH CEO Walid Nammour. An ethics committee was established to decide about the distributions of the donations to needy patients.

At the same time, many positive things happened at LWF Jerusalem and were highlights in 2019. Augusta Victoria Hospital was **re-accredited by the Joint Commission International**, which works to improve patient safety and international health care. This is a very important seal of quality and AVH is proud to be the only Palestinian hospital accredited by JCI. Another 2019 highlight was the **activation of a PET/CT**, acquired and installed in 2018 thanks to Bread for the World (BfdW – Germany) and the kind



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

support of the Federal Government of Germany and the Islamic Development Bank. A positron emission tomography (PET) scan is an imaging test that helps reveal and detect disease before it shows up on other imaging tests and is a great asset to the operations of AVH. Another highlight was the **opening of the new pediatric palliative medicine unit** supported by the Government of Norway, by Norwegian Church Aid, and DanChurchAid. Also, as part of this project, a multicolored and inclusive playground, the only playground in Palestine for children with special needs, will be opened in spring 2020.

After more than seven years of tireless efforts, LWF/AVH obtained the building license for the proposed **Elder Care and Palliative Medicine Institute/ECPMI** and the LWF signed a Memorandum of

Understanding with UNWRA confirming UNRWA as the implementing partner of the project. These are great steps forward for AVH in its work to address one of the most pressing health needs in East Jerusalem. The construction of the ECPMI, with the kind support of the Islamic Development Bank and other partners, will start in 2020.

On behalf of the LWF Jerusalem Program, I would like to express our gratitude to **Pauliina Parhiala**, who concluded her service as LWF Representative in Jerusalem in early 2019, and to **Lennart Hernander**, who served as Interim LWF Representative for several months in 2019. They are deeply appreciated for their leadership, their commitment to upholding the rights of Palestinians, and their advocacy for justice and peace.



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

**Sieglinde Weinbrenner** began her position as Representative for the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Jerusalem Program on Friday, 2 August 2019. She replaces Interim Representative Lennart Hernander, who returned to Sweden following his tenure in Jerusalem.

**Weinbrenner** has ties to LWF and Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) that date back to 1999 when she was the Middle East desk officer for the Protestant Development Service, which later merged with Bread for the World, Germany. She holds a master's degree in anthropology, has a background in human rights and is a nurse by profession. She brings a lifelong interest and engagement with Israel and Palestine and a profound commitment to support the realization of human rights for all.



# Augusta Victoria Hospital



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Located in the heart of Al Quds/Jerusalem, at the top of the Mount of Olives, Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) is a program of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) World Service. The hospital was established in partnership with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees as a major medical facility to care for Palestinian refugees following the 1948 conflict.

AVH is the leading healthcare facility for the treatment of patients with cancer within the Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem. During the last two decades, AVH has focused on staff capacity-building and on the utilization of cutting edge technologies in order to provide the best possible care for its patients.

AVH offers various forms of cancer treatment, including hemato-oncology, radiation therapy, advanced hormonal and chemotherapy, and bone marrow transplantation. The hospital uses Positron Emission Tomography – Computed Tomography, or PET/CT, in order to detect the early onset of disease and to evaluate how a patient is responding to treatment. The hospital offers vital medical services and also plays a leading role in the development of a Palestinian healthcare system centered around the patient in a comprehensive and intensive manner.

Licensed for 171 beds, AVH is the second-largest hospital in East Jerusalem and the sole specialized-care hospital in the West Bank and Gaza for oncology. The majority of its patients are referred by the Palestinian Ministry of Health (PMoH).

In 2019, more than 450 employees worked day and night to provide unprecedented medical services with the highest international health standards. Augusta Victoria Hospital was certified according to ISO standards and was the first hospital in East Jerusalem and the Palestinian territories to be accredited by the Joint Commission International (JCI) for the quality of services it provides and the safety of patients. AVH was JCI accredited in 2013 and re-accredited in 2016 and 2019.

AVH has become the leader in cancer care in the Palestinian territories. It provides a full range of treatment including surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy for cancer patients.

In order to complete the continuum of care, the hospital also adopted a strategy to reach the local community through community programs, including the Mammography and Diabetes mobile clinics.



# Assets Based Community Development (ABCD)

During the last quarter of 2019, Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) found itself building a model for community mobilization that became known as ABCD, Assets Based Community Development. This spontaneous mobilization was the response of the Palestinian community to the serious cash-flow financial crisis that faced the hospital due to the Palestinian Authority's delays in paying its bills for the patients it referred to AVH. For many, ABCD was a phenomenon where unsolicited fundraising, solely driven by the community throughout the West Bank including East Jerusalem, brought in more than five million Shekels, the approximate equivalent of US\$ 1.5 million. This is an attestation to how highly the Palestinian community values the hospital and its services.

This unsolicited fund-raising has numerous constructive and optimistic dimensions. It was indeed so beautiful to see how Palestinians from all walks of life were mobilized to come to the rescue of the hospital and respond to the challenges the staff faced. One could observe that the community came together not to talk about the threats, but rather to exhibit the values and strengths that are inherent and deeply rooted within the fabric that makes up Palestinian society. Those who acted in support of AVH did so with confidence and clearly exhibited increasing control over their lives and destinies. They proved by any measure that they have the ability to influence decisions at all levels of the society.



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

All-in-all, it was a great and satisfying organizational learning experience for all of us here at Augusta Victoria Hospital. We are thankful for being part of this community-driven mobilization and for how it contributed to our sense of pride and empowerment. We are grateful for sustainable, community-driven development that is based on community leadership and collaboration and the full involvement of local citizens and organizations.



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019



Photo by Mark Brown / LWF



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

The Augusta Victoria Hospital is proud to participate in worldwide diabetes awareness day activities. AVH's participation in the marathon helped to raise awareness regarding the AVH mobile diabetes clinic and the diabetes center located on the AVH Mount of Olives campus.

Dr. Ahmad Al-Amleh, Chief Resident Doctor at Augusta Victoria Hospital, was awarded the title, "Employee of the Year 2018", for his hard work and dedication to the hospital and to the patients served by AVH.



Photo by AVH team / LWF



Inspired by the global movement of the World Health Organization (WHO), Augusta Victoria Hospital celebrated on Sunday, May 5, 2019, the "Hand Hygiene Day." AVH organized various activities involving staff, patients, and their relatives, in order to promote effective hand hygiene and to emphasize the important role hand hygiene plays in the prevention of diseases.



Photo by AVH team / LWF





Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF



### A significant achievement for AVH!

Based on the findings of the Triennial Hospital survey of 14 to 18 April 2019 and the Decision Rules of Joint Commission International (JCI), Augusta Victoria Hospital once again has been granted the status of ACCREDITED.

“This is a prestigious acknowledgment and brings AVH to the forefront in meeting international standards”, declared AVH Chief Executive Officer, Walid V. Nammour. He added that, “for the third consecutive time, AVH has proven its commitment to high standards of quality of care and patient safety”.

JCI provides international health care accreditation services to hospitals around the world.



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

The Joint Commission International (JCI) is one of the world’s leading nonprofit patient safety organizations. JCI seeks a world where every patient receives the highest quality of care possible.

The most visible way this goal is pursued is through the accreditation program. To that end, JCI regularly publishes a demanding set of standards that represent the most current thinking in patient safety and quality improvement. Health care organizations that are capable of meeting these standards must undergo a comprehensive and rigorous on-site survey conducted by JCI in order to achieve accreditation. Once accredited, organizations must continue to meet the standards and are regularly assessed through periodic re-survey. JCI is completely independent from the organizations that are accredited.



Photo by Ben Gray / LWF

The AVH “Persistence School” commencement ceremony was held on Wednesday May 22, 2019. The Persistence School is a school situated in the hospital that provides access to the regular general educational curriculum for students of all ages being treated for cancer or those having kidney dialysis at Augusta Victoria Hospital on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem.



Photo by Ben Gray / LWF



Photo by Ben Gray / LWF



Photo by AVH team

In recognition of the wonderful and incredible achievements of women at Augusta Victoria Hospital, the hospital observed International Women’s Day with an all-woman lunch and festivities. Ms. Badiah Bajjali, Assistant CEO, talked about the important role women play in the delivery of quality services at AVH and distributed gifts to all the women in celebration of their contributions.



Photo by United in Humanity

United in Humanity planned a Christmas party for the kids and families of Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem on December 21, 2019. Most of the kids are from Gaza and Hebron and come from very poor families and environments. They are fighting cancer and kidney disease, so the AVH staff wanted to be able to bring these kids some happiness and help them forget about their disease and treatment process. The party included a Santa, a kids wish list, presents, and dinner for the families.

On September 25, 2019, AVH celebrated World Pharmacist Day! At Augusta Victoria Hospital the pharmacists are active members of an interdisciplinary patient care team, responsible for overseeing the optimal, safest and most cost-effective medication therapy management to improve overall patient care.



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

# AVH Radiotherapy Department Expands Services

Augusta Victoria Hospital increased the capabilities of its Radiotherapy Department in 2019 with the launch of a new medical linear accelerator, an **Elekta Synergy**. This new machine, which replaces the **Siemens** machine that started the AVH radiation therapy program in August of 2005, is used to treat an average of 65 patients per day in the course of two shifts between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm. About 70% of these cases are treated using advanced radiation therapy technologies, including Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT), On Board Imaging (OBI), and Cone Beam CT Scanning (CBCT).

In 2018, AVH installed and began using an **Elekta Versa HD**, Elekta's most advanced machine capable of providing Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT). SBRT is a cancer treatment that minimizes damage to healthy tissue while delivering extremely precise and intense doses of radiation to cancerous cells. The availability now of the Elekta Synergy machine means that hospital staff can use the Elekta Versa HD machine to treat more patients needing SBRT.

The introduction of the Elekta Synergy machine has also enhanced the overall quality of the services provided by the AVH Radiotherapy

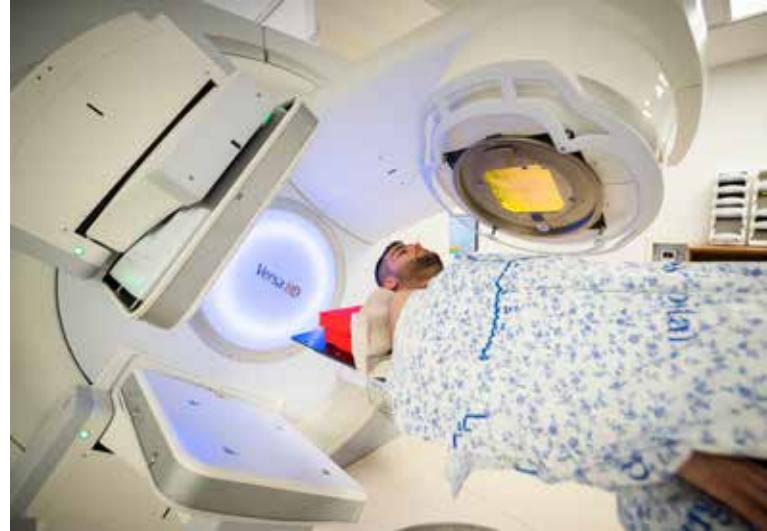


Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Department by decreasing the time to treatment initiations and daily treatment.

With the additions of the Elekta Synergy and the Elekta Versa HD machines over the last two years, along with the **Varian Trilogy** medical linear accelerator which came into service in 2011, AVH is able to provide the most sophisticated radiation treatments and handle an increasingly higher volume of patients.

Augusta Victoria Hospital honored **Ms. Anwaar Irfa'iyeh** for serving as an alternate mother for a nine-month baby boy from Gaza who was operated on in a hospital in Hebron where the Israeli authorities did not allow his mother to accompany him. Great job **Anwaar!**



Photo by Atta Jabr



# Renovations of Pediatric Palliative Care Unit Completed



On November 20, 2019, Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) inaugurated the newly renovated Pediatric Palliative Care Ward. The renovations were completed with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Norwegian Representative Office to the Palestinian Authority and from the Islamic Development Bank.

The urgent need to expand and improve AVH's pediatric palliative care services was identified by the AVH medical team based on the continuous need for such services and increasing number of pediatric patients. Palliative care is a comprehensive approach to treating the physical, psychosocial and spiritual needs of patients and their families facing life-limiting illnesses and requires a multidisciplinary group of caregivers that includes physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains, child life specialists, pharmacists, and physical/occupational therapists. Optimizing the quality of medical care at the end of life for children

is an important healthcare goal.

The AVH model of pediatric palliative care includes curative and supportive care with attention to physical, psychosocial, and spiritual concerns and also involves giving support to the family, such as teaching family members practical guidelines for care and pain relief. Support begins when the patient enters the hospital and the illness is diagnosed, and continues regardless of the nature or extent of the medical treatment.

The new facility will allow the medical team to deliver a more family-centered approach to child care and facilitate the family's vital role in the decision-making process for the sick child. This unit will serve as a more private venue for the multidisciplinary team to support the child and the family and improve communication regarding care, pain relief, and treatment goals.

Photo by Atta Jabr



Photo by Atta Jabr



The inauguration of the newly renovated Pediatric Palliative Ward at Augusta Victoria Hospital was made possible by the support of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Norwegian Representative Office to the Palestinian Authority and the Islamic Development Bank.



# Laboratory Department Develops Staff Capacities, Services

## A. Platelets Apheresis:

AVH's commitment to providing its patients with the best possible services led in 2019 to an increased investment in the laboratory team in order to build knowledge and expertise in performing single donor platelets apheresis.

Platelets are the blood components that allow blood to clot, thus preventing bleeding. Exposure to chemotherapy and radiation treatments can damage a patient's blood cells, their platelets in particular. This can increase a patient's risk of bleeding. A transfusion of platelets helps address such problems.

Platelets can be prepared from multiple donors and later pooled together before administration to the patient. These are referred to as random donor platelet concentrates. Usually a patient would need six units of platelets that are collected from six donors. One drawback of random donor platelets is that the concentrates contain some white and red blood cells that might complicate patient management.

In order to provide the best medical service, AVH opted to provide patients with single donor platelets. Single donor platelets offer several advantages over random donor concentrates. Most importantly, the patient will be exposed to the blood of one donor, the platelets will have reduced white blood cells and red blood cells in the product, and there is a tenfold lower risk of bacterial contamination.

During the year 2019, the laboratory team performed 300 single donor apheresis sessions, from which 571 single donor units were obtained. These units were given to our patients with no platelets transfusion reactions.

## B. Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Lab Team:

AVH strategically invested in building its BMT human resource capacities and unit infrastructure in 2019. AVH built the capacities and crossed trained its laboratory employees on all aspects of lab BMT services, which included stem cells (CD34) apheresis, CD34 enumeration by flow cytometry, CD34 cryopreservation and processing. This training was under the supervision of Professor Nabil Hajaj, a world renowned expert in laboratory BMT services.

The BMT laboratory team rose to the occasion and helped the hospital BMT service to have three rounds of successful BMT sessions. The state-of-the-art infrastructure of the BMT lab allowed the hospital hematologist to order CD43 cells collection and freezing in the liquid nitrogen storage facility for later infusion sessions. AVH will no doubt be the BMT flagship of Palestine in the years to come.



Photo by BMT Team / LWF

Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT) was revived at Augusta Victoria Hospital in July 2019, with three autologous transplants performed in one week. The term "auto" means "self", where stem cells are removed from the patient before he / she receives high-dose chemotherapy or radiation treatment. The stem cells are stored in a freezer. After high-dose chemotherapy or radiation treatments, the patient's own stem cells are put back in his / her body to make normal blood cells.

# AVH Introduces PET CT Scan, Advances Hospital's Diagnostic Capabilities

As the main and only cancer center serving Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, Augusta Victoria Hospital decided to take another strategic leap forward. In coordination with the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Health (PA MoH), AVH added PET/CT Scan to its basket of cancer care services covered in the contract between AVH and the PA MoH.

Positron Emission Tomography – Computed Tomography (PET/CT) is a medical imaging technique using a device which combines a CT scan and a PET scan into one to give more detailed information about, for example, a patient's cancer. A CT scan takes a series of X-rays from all around the body and uses a computer to put them together. A PET scan uses a very small amount of radioactive drug to show how body tissues are working and help evaluate the human organ and tissue functions. By identifying body changes at the cellular level, PET may detect the early onset of disease before it is evident on other imaging tests.

The PET/CT helps to:

- Diagnose and detect cancer.
- Determine whether a cancer has spread in the body.
- Show the difference between scar tissue and active cancer tissue.
- Assess the effectiveness of a treatment plan, such as cancer therapy.
- Show how well the treatment is working and determine if a cancer has returned after treatment.
- Determine blood flow to the heart muscle.
- Determine the effects of a heart attack, or myocardial infarction on areas of the heart.
- Identify areas of the heart muscle that would benefit from a procedure such as angioplasty or coronary artery bypass surgery (in combination with a myocardial perfusion scan).
- Evaluate brain abnormalities, such as tumors, memory disorders, seizures and other central nervous system disorders.
- Map normal human brain and heart function.

AVH has identified this service as a priority since no other Palestinian hospitals currently offer it and because the costs for PA MoH referrals to Israeli hospitals are very high for this service. (Until now, each year the PA MoH has referred approximately 1520 adult patients and 20 pediatric patients from the West Bank and Gaza to Israeli Hospitals for the PET/CT procedure.) Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem is the only Palestinian health facility that has obtained from the Israeli authorities the license to procure and operate a PET/CT.

Since the introduction of the PET/CT at AVH in May 2019, an average of 163 PET/CT scans have been performed every month (151 for adults and 12 for pediatric).

## Official inauguration of PET-CT at Augusta Victoria Hospital

Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF



AVH is offering another ray of hope for cancer patients from the Palestinian territories, thanks to a new diagnostic machine. Cancer patients will now benefit from modern diagnosis of the disease following the installation of a new PET/CT at AVH.

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)-run hospital received the new scanner through financing by the German government and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB). It was officially inaugurated during a ceremony attended by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany in Ramallah, Mr Christian Clages, IsDB special advisor, Mr Hani Abu Diab, AVH Chief Executive Officer, Mr Walid V. Nammour, and the LWF Representative in Jerusalem, Mr Lennart Hernander.

Ms Anne Caroline Tveoy, LWF Regional Program Coordinator, said, “the new equipment enables the AVH to continue providing high quality and life-saving care to the millions of Palestinians served by the hospital. This helps AVH continue being a ray of hope for Palestinian cancer patients.”



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF



# Diabetes and Community Programs: Review of 2019 Activities



Photo by Mammography Team / LWF

**A**ugusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) established unique community-based diabetes and breast cancer screening programs to address the huge national need for high quality and comprehensive programs within the Palestinian healthcare system. The programs embody the values, ethics and the moral commitments of AVH/LWF regarding the rights of the poor and oppressed people/communities. Access to high quality, affordable, and dignified healthcare is a basic human right. The programs promote the role of AVH as one of the main central providers of care to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. The AVH approach demonstrates the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the model, helps to disseminate ideas, and promotes rolling out the model to other centers within the Palestinian health care system. The model serves as an evidence-base successful program for the national health care system reform.

The Diabetes Care Center at AVH was established in 2003 to face the accelerating prevalence of diabetes and its complications and to create a model that can be replicated by the national healthcare system. The center implements the approach of the Diabetes Comprehensive Care

Model (DCCM) that could serve as an alternative to the biomedical “physician-centered” care approach prevailing in Palestine. DCCM involves modification of the existing treatment procedures and a unification of best practices into a protocol and a holistic approach to diabetes care focusing on the whole person and takes into consideration and is oriented to the local context of the Palestinian healthcare system. The success of the model can be observed through the positive impacts on people and national healthcare system, despite all challenges. AVH implementation partners include the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Health (MoH), UNRWA, and other national NGOs. The AVH diabetes center has been recognized internationally by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) as an “IDF Center of Excellence in Diabetes Care” and “IDF Center of Education.” AVH also signed a cooperation agreement with one of the best centers in Europe: the Steno Diabetes Center in Denmark.

In 2019, 1,008 diabetes patients (48% females, 10.5% children) referred from all over the country managed and followed up at the AVH diabetes center with a total of 4,020 specialized



Photo by Mammography Team / LWF



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

consultation visits. Out of these visits, there were 497 visits to our specialized diabetic foot clinic. There were 67 patients treated with advanced foot ulcers and 36 of the ulcers were completely healed. The rest will continue their follow-up and management as per protocols. No amputations were done to any of our patients in 2019. 400 diabetes patients were screened for Diabetic Retinopathy (DR). 39% of them showed DR changes in the retina and were referred to specialized eye centers for immediate management to save their sight. MoH and UNRWA front-line professionals will continue their training and receive advanced training on DCCM protocols that were started at the mobile clinics. They completed 128 training visits to the center.

107 diabetes patients were newly discovered during the awareness and screening campaigns carried out in the community and at the time of national celebrations of the World Diabetes Day. 112 front-line professionals were trained on the DCCM through the on-job capacity-building program implemented by the AVH team. As part of the national diabetes project, AVH established three model centers in Tulkarem, Bir Nabala and Qalqilia within MoH and UNRWA systems, in addition to the early-established model centers in the West Bank and Gaza where there is the necessary equipment and training has been completed. Model clinics act as referral centers within the national healthcare system and in the community settings. In addition, another five intermediate clinics were strengthened to provide diabetes care and screening.

The Mobile Diabetes Clinic performed 232 visits to our partner clinics in the MoH, UNRWA and NGOs. 6,663 persons (64% females) directly benefited from the education, awareness, screening and the comprehensive diabetes care services provided by the mobile clinic. 1,929 diabetes patients were screened for DR, and 993 patients were screened for diabetic foot complications. 262 patients with diabetic foot ulcers were managed and/or referred to more specialized centers established by the MoH and UNRWA or to the AVH diabetes center for advanced management.

The Mobile Mammography Clinic reached 6,923 women and female students during 2019. 4,394 of them trained on how to perform breast self-exam and 1,892 women had performed mammography screening at our mobile clinic. 663 (35%) screenings showed abnormalities in results and referred for further investigations. The nurse navigator at the mobile clinic followed-up with women and facilitated the process to do further investigations and management. 13 breast cancer cases were discovered and started treatment.

Photo by Diabetes Team / LWF



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

AVH's Mobile Mammography Unit and Mobile Diabetes Unit were present at Al-Istiqlal University in Jericho for three days carrying out screening, awareness building, educational activities, and treatment for students and employees.



# A child's journey with cancer, from the Gaza Strip to Augusta Victoria Hospital



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

Jana, a three-year-old born in Gaza, was diagnosed in 2019 with cancer. Her fight against cancer has been difficult in itself. But Jana and her family also had to struggle against the Israeli occupation in order to ensure access to the specialized medical treatment that was needed and to have her mother by her side throughout her journey.

Jana waited five months to receive a permit to exit the Gaza Strip so that she could reach the vital treatment provided by Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH), a center of excellence for cancer care on the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem. Her permit had been denied and delayed due to security concerns. Finally, together with her mother, Jana received a permit to exit Gaza and travel to AVH.

Jana and her mother faced many challenges along the way. But Jana's mother was determined and did not stop applying for a permit, despite the repeated denials and delays: "I am Jana's mother. I should have priority to accompany my daughter for such significant treatment. In any case, my daughter is a small child and she would be distressed to be away from me for this amount of time."

Cancer is unlike any other disease. Its treatment is extremely harsh, both physically and psychologically, especially for a child. Family separation during treatment must be avoided due to the devastating emotional and physical repercussions on cancer patients. Depression and a slower healing process are added burdens for patients separated from loved ones.

Hundreds of children like Jana in the Gaza Strip continue to face barriers to exercising their right to health. Their anxiety dramatically increases when they learn that they will receive Israeli-issued permits to travel to health facilities in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, but that their parents will not be permitted to accompany them.

Therefore, LWF insists that:

- All children diagnosed with cancer should be treated immediately, without life-threatening delays.
- All children diagnosed with cancer should get permits for an initial period of one year for active treatment and appropriate follow up, after which an assessment would be done on a case by case basis.
- All children referred for medical treatment outside Gaza should be accompanied by at least one parent.



## The Lutheran World Federation **Augusta Victoria Hospital Board of Governance**

(as of Dec. 31, 2019)

**Mr. Karin Achtelstetter**

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

**The Rev. Said Ailabouni \*\*\***

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Bishop Ibrahim Azar (AVH Board Chair)**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

**Ms. Erika Brundin \*\*\***

Church of Sweden

**The Rev. Dr. Wyvetta Bullock \*\***

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Rep. Lois Capps \*\***

Former Representative for California's 24th District

At Large Member of AVH Board

**Dr. Anne Dørum**

Mount of Olives Foundation, Oslo

**Ms. Lennart Herlander \*/\*\***

(Ex-officio Member)

Representative, LWF Jerusalem Program

**Ms. Maria Immonen**

(Ex-officio Member)

Director, LWF World Service

**Ms. Gunvor Kronman (AVH Board Vice Chair)**

The Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre

**Mr. Georg Kulenkampff**

Kaiserin Auguste Victoria – Stiftung

**Propst Joachim Lenz \*\*\***

Kaiserin Augusta Victoria - Stiftung

**Dr. Torben Mogensen**

DanChurchAid

**Ms. Pauliina Parhiala \*\***

(Ex-officio Member)

Representative, LWF Jerusalem Program

**Propst Wolfgang Schmidt \*\***

Kaiserin Augusta Victoria - Stiftung

**Archbishop Anders Wejryd \*\***

Church of Sweden

**Ms. Sieglinde Weinbrenner \***

(Ex-officio Member)

Representative, LWF Jerusalem Program

\*Joined the AVH Board in 2019

\*\*Completed service on the AVH Board in 2019

\*\*\*Joined the AVH Board in 2020

### LWF Staff:

**Ms. Badiah Bajjali**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Augusta Victoria Hospital

**Mr. Alex Kuttab**

Chief Financial Officer, Augusta Victoria Hospital

**Mr. Walid Nammour**

Chief Executive Officer, Augusta Victoria Hospital

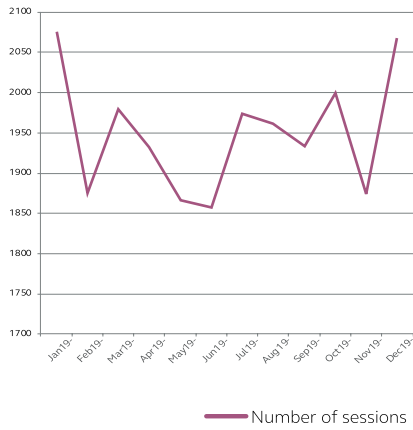
**Ms. Caroline Tveoy**

Regional Program Coordinator,  
Middle East and North Africa  
LWF World Service

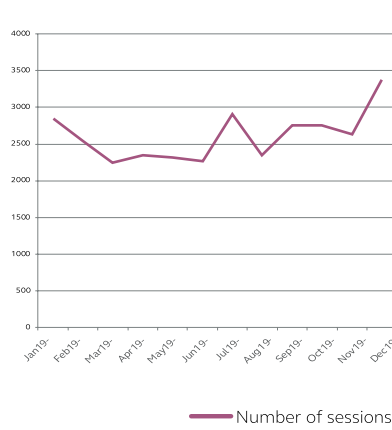


# AVH STATISTICS 2019

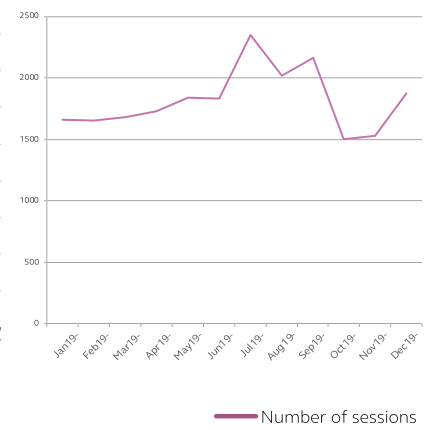
**Dialysis Sessions Per Month**



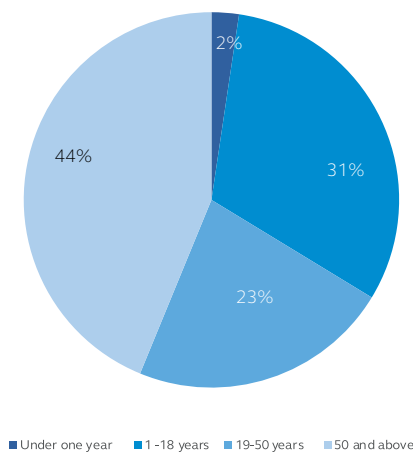
**Radiation Therapy Sessions Per Month**



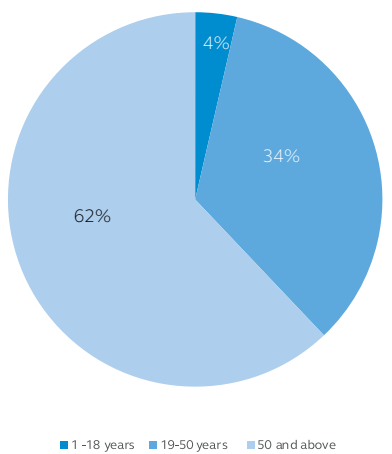
**Chemotherapy Sessions Per Month**



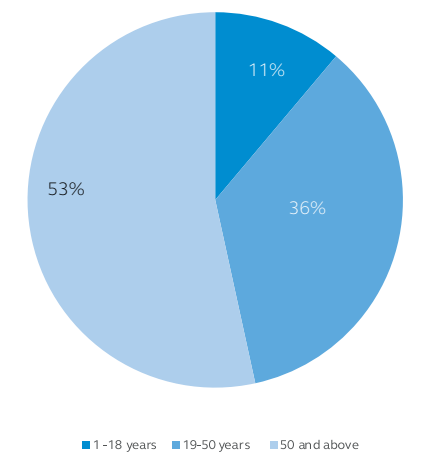
**Dialysis Sessions Per Age**



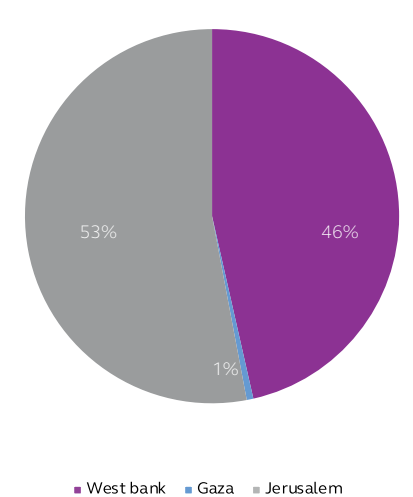
**Radiation Therapy Per Age**



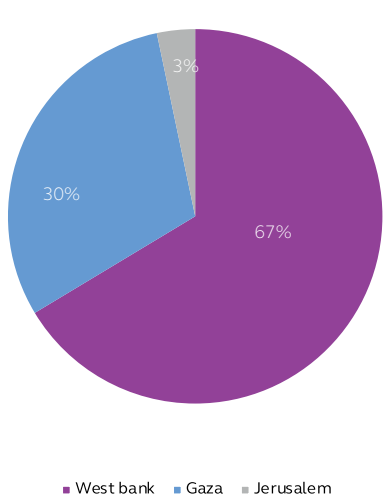
**Chemotherapy Sessions Per Age**



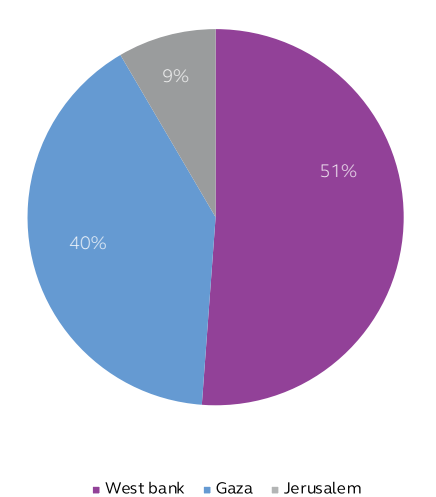
**Dialysis Sessions Per Region**



**Radiation Therapy Per Region**



**Chemotherapy Sessions Per Region**



# Dina Nasser, AVH Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Dina Nasser joined Augusta Victoria Hospital as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) in April 2019. Ms. Nasser, RN MPH, is a Palestinian public health nurse with a post-graduate specialization in operating room nursing. Ms. Nasser is specialized in infection prevention and helped to put hand hygiene and hygiene protocols in place at AVH, an accomplishment made all the more important due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Her work in the Palestinian health system also led to the development of national protocols and guidelines for infection prevention that have been endorsed by the Ministry of Health. At AVH she is involved in supporting the vision of AVH toward achieving patient care with dignity, safety and quality.

Ms. Nasser's connection with AVH goes back more than 10 years when she was a health advisor working with Juzoor and facilitating the building of the infection prevention program at AVH. She played a leadership role on the team that was working to ensure sustainability and alignment with international standards required for the International Joint Commission accreditation.

Ms. Nasser, born in Jerusalem, has been involved in capacity building of health professionals in emergency training and continues to serve as



Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF

the national faculty in Palestine for the Basic Life Support (BLS) course offered by the American Heart Association. In 2018, Ms. Nasser led the AVH missions to Gaza, liaising effectively with stakeholders and the WHO in responding to the needs identified to support the care for injured Gazan youth. With her 30 years of clinical expertise and her leadership skills she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to AVH.

## Infectious Diseases Unit

The infectious diseases unit provides crucial services to AVH. The unit gives clear guidelines on the prescription of all antibiotics in order to decrease the development of resistance, establishes guidelines for infection prevention also at the national level, and is in charge of the vaccination plan for the health workers. In addition, the unit took all necessary measures to contain the spread of COVID19 throughout this pandemic in 2020. The unit is led by the infectious disease's specialist, three infection prevention and control officers, and a clinical pharmacist.



Tahreer Taha



Rami Zaghari

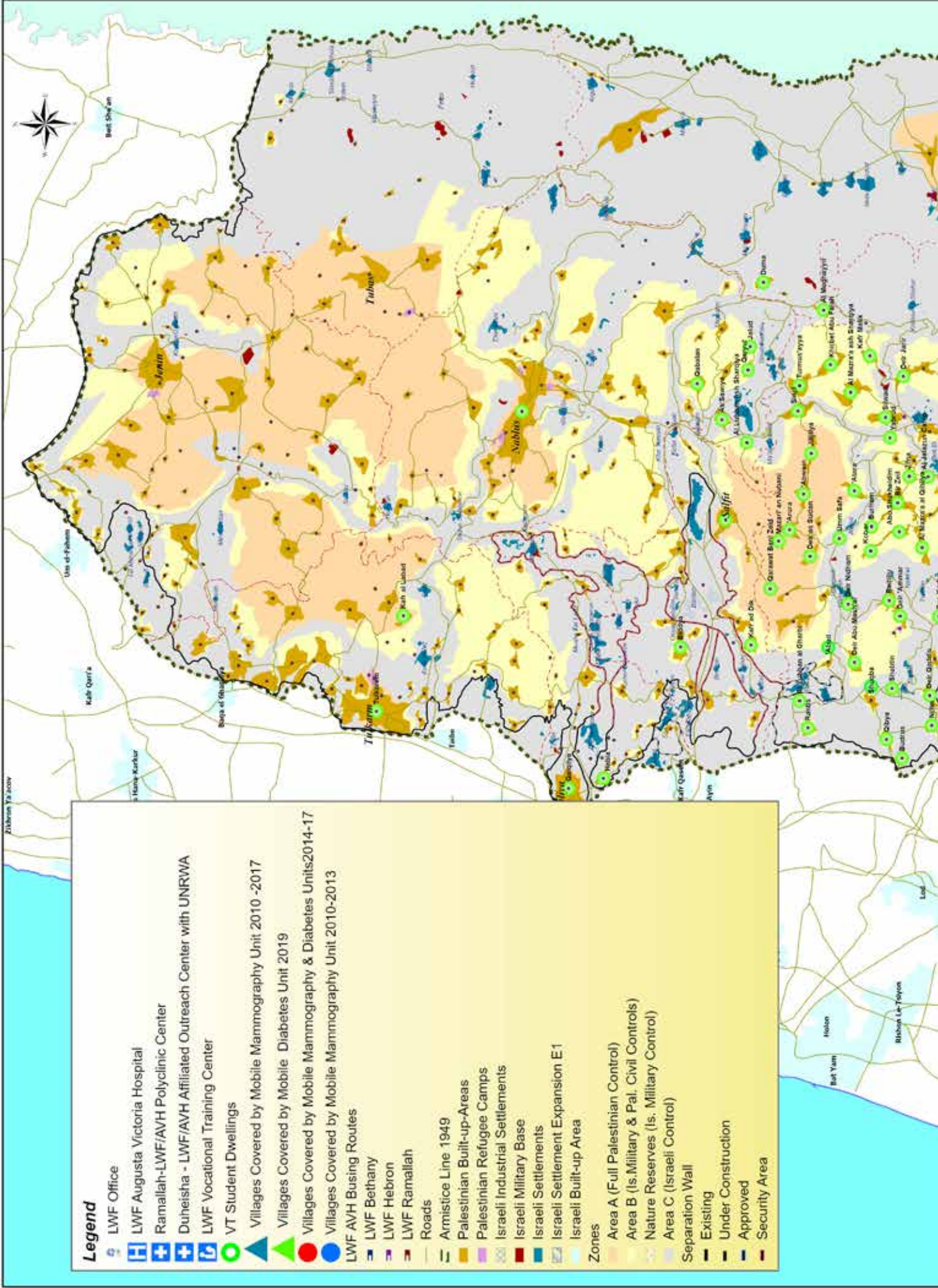


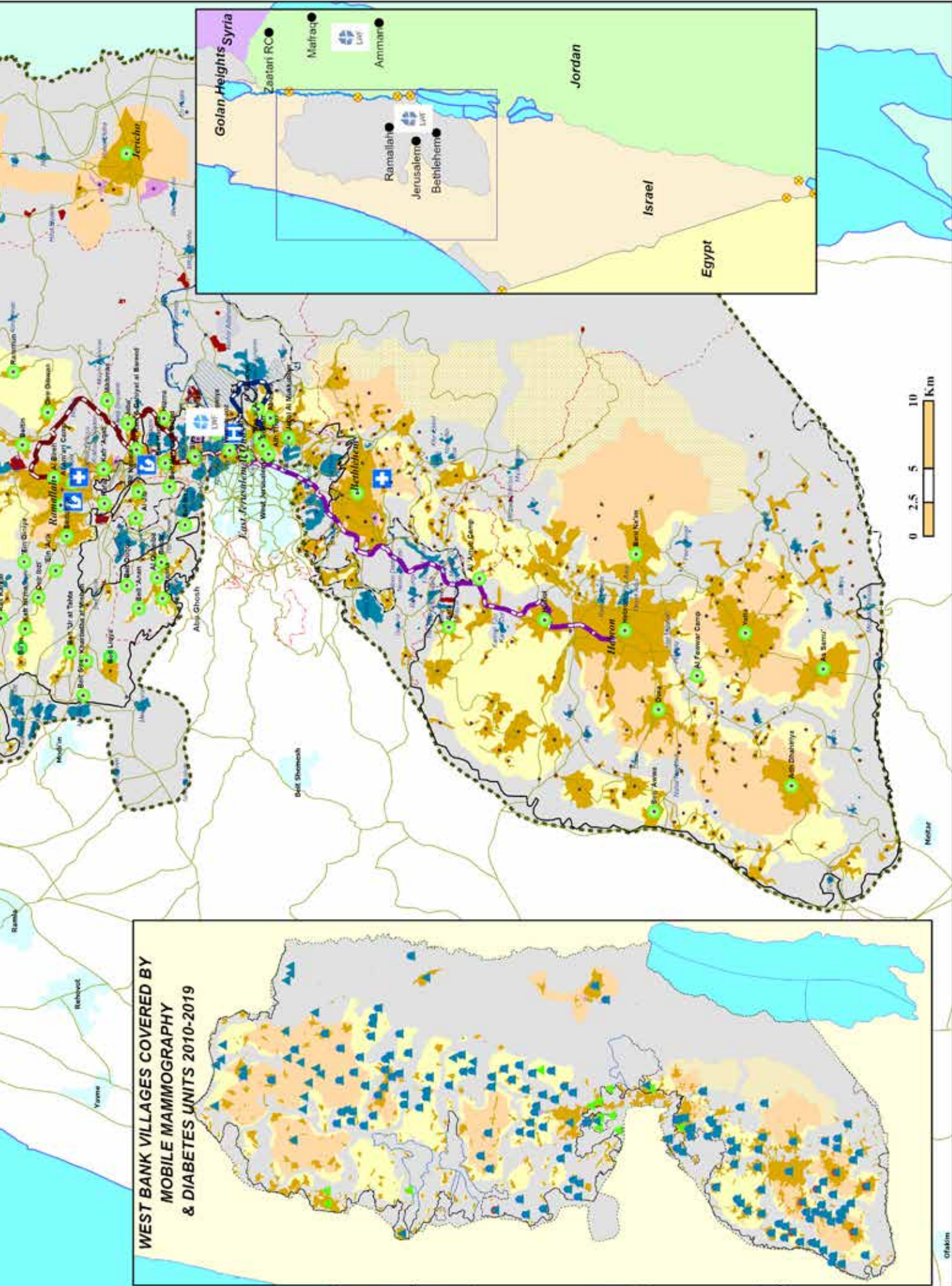
Dr. Ali Sabateen



Hammam Rjoup

# LWF JERUSALEM PROGRAM ACTIVITIES 2019





**WEST BANK VILLAGES COVERED BY  
MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY  
& DIABETES UNITS 2010-2019**



# Vocational Training Program

## Empowering Youth, Building Civil Society

The Vocational Training Program (VTP), a longstanding project of the LWF Jerusalem Program, has provided vocational training to Palestinian youth since 1949. The VTP, which began on the grounds of Augusta Victoria Hospital, originally offered young men a three-year training program in carpentry and metalwork. In 1964, the VTP moved from the LWF Mount of Olives campus to a new and larger facility in Beit Hanina, a northern neighborhood of Jerusalem, where it continues to operate today.

In 2000, the VTC became a co-ed institution and began training women in the profession of telecommunications. Since then, nearly 1000 women have graduated from the VTP.

In 2004, construction of the Israeli-built separation barrier between the West Bank and Jerusalem began. This prevented access to the VTC in Beit Hanina for many students coming from the West Bank so the VTP immediately addressed this issue by expanding the program. In the fall of 2004, a new training center (VTCR) was added in the industrial zone of the West Bank city of Ramallah. The VTCR began offering numerous vocations, including carpentry, auto-mechanics, aluminum work, and electronics. The LWF established the VTCR with a focus on the concepts of apprentice training and satellite outreach to small and isolated villages.

The program is continually searching for ways to increase the outreach to women. In 2012, the VTP opened three new departments: catering and craftwork departments at the VTC and a vocational secretary department at a branch of the VTCR in downtown Ramallah.

### LWF VTP by the Numbers in 2019

- In 2019, from January to December, 815 trainees, 640 males and 175 females, received training through the LWF Vocational Training Program
- 214 trainees (159 males and 55 females) graduated from the program in June 2019
- 83 two-year program trainees (78 males and 5 females) started their second-year training at the VTC in Beit Hanina
- 117 two-year program trainees (114 males and 3 females) started their first-year training at the

### VTC in Beit Hanina

- 21 one-year program trainees (3 males and 18 females) started their training at the VTC in Beit Hanina
- 81 one-year program trainees (56 males and 25 females) started their training at the VTCR in Ramallah
- 38 male trainees started their study in the Tenth Grade Class.
- 261 trainees (192 males and 69 females) participated in a short course or upgrade course offered by the VTP
- 2,175 students (1,456 males and 719 females) benefited from career guidance services provided by the VTP
- Students training year-round in the VTP can choose from ten courses of study: aluminum work, auto-electronics, auto-mechanics, carpentry, catering, craftwork, metalwork, plumbing and central heating, telecommunications, and vocational secretary skills



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Female youth attending the one-year catering course. She may later work as a chef in a hotel or restaurant, a profession that is still dominated by men.



# VTP Success Stories

## ‘Mutual benefit, and social responsibility’

LWF vocational training centers give Palestinian youth new opportunities



Osama Sonqrut (Al-Ram)

Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

17-year-old student Osama Sonqrut, from Al-Ram, practices the use of a grinding tool, as a class is underway in Metal Work at the vocational training center in Beit Hanina.

Rana Jihad Qoud (from Abu Oash)



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Rana Jihad Qoud works at an insurance company after completing her studies at the LWF Vocational Training Center in Ramallah, where she trained to be a vocational secretary.

Meet 21-year-old Rana Jihad Qoud from Abu Qash—a Palestinian town not far from Ramallah in the northern West Bank. Rana is one of many young Palestinians who have been given a second chance through the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

When Rana finished high school, she did so without passing the national exam, meaning she could not go on to university. Instead, she stayed home for two years, helping to care for her younger siblings and her father, who at the time was waiting for a kidney transplant.

Rana graduated from the LWF’s Vocational Training Center in Ramallah in 2019 and today she works as administrative secretary at an insurance company in Ramallah.

She says it was through her mother that she knew a few graduates from the vocational training center, and decided to give it a try after her father’s health situation had improved.

Arriving at the center was not easy, she says, as some of her classmates said she might not make it through, as she had not passed her national exams at high school.

But by studying hard, and with the support from training center staff, Rana found her way. When the time came for the three-month apprenticeship included in her study program to end, the company she had served told her they would get in touch as soon as they had a vacancy. A few months later, a slot opened up in the car insurance department where she now serves.

“When I applied for the job, I even competed with some people with university degrees, but because the company knew me from my time here as an apprentice, I got the job,” Rana says.

### Increasing women’s participation

On an annual basis, the LWF training centers in Beit Hanina and Ramallah train some 800 Palestinian students, spanning the areas of carpentry, metal work, plumbing, ceramics, vocational secretary, auto-electrics, mechanics, telecommunications and catering, as well as short-term courses and theoretical classes from 10th grade up.

And while the centers have a strong track record in helping young Palestinians find new work opportunities, challenges remain in helping to bring about equal participation in society and work-life in particular.

“Palestinian youth, mainly females, suffer high unemployment rates, very low participation rates, and high poverty rates,” explains Yousef Shalian, LWF director of the Vocational Training Program.

Shalian, also a graduate of the training center in Beit Hanina more than two decades ago, has seen the development of the centers and the role they can play in contributing to Palestinian society.

And moving forward, the gender aspect is a particular focus for the VTP. Among approximately 800 students annually, around 150 are female. Vocational Training is not often considered as a viable option for women, as it is associated with male-dominated professions in a context where traditional gender roles prevail. The LWF Jerusalem Program has sought to change such perceptions through community outreach and awareness-raising activities in communities throughout East Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Ma'mon Salaimeh (from Jerusalem)



Photo by Anwar Khatib / LWF

Ma'mon Salamieh is a 22 year old Palestinian youth from Jerusalem. He had to give up his job as a car mechanic due to health reasons and participated in a one-year catering course. Directly after his graduation he was employed in the well-known Ambassador Hotel, where he completed his apprenticeship training.

Ameer Babeesh



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Trainer Ameer Babeesh shows his catering trainees how to cook shrimp at the vocational training center in Beit Hanina. Catering is one of the programs currently hosting both male and female trainees.

Through a new five-year Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Technical and Vocational Education and Training (GRIT) project funded by the Government of Canada, through Global Affairs Canada the Canadian Lutheran World relief, the LWF is setting out to work with institutions across the West Bank and Jerusalem to find new routes to employment for females.

“Studies show the 72 % of Palestinian women are unemployed,” says Suhad Kasbari, LWF GRIT project manager.

“During this project, we will try to enhance the perception of the communities... to encourage their daughters, their sisters, the females to engage in Technical and Vocational Training,” Kasbari says.

“All statistics show how important vocational training is,” Shalian says. “For the new project, we are conducting market assessments to try to identify new fields of work for females. We will continue to do training in traditional fields where women would like to enroll, but we have to also think about non-traditional fields. We would love to see women enrolled in carpentry, or electronics, or IT training, for example.”

## Jihad Albaba (from Am’ari Camp)



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Na'el Shareef (left) and Jihad Albaba (right) work in the shop in Ramallah.

One who has found her way in an otherwise male-dominated profession is 29-year-old Jihad Albaba, from the Am’ari Camp.

A recent graduate of Telecommunications from the training center in Ramallah, she works today in a small shop in Ramallah.

Having worked for a time as a hairdresser and in a kindergarten, Jihad decided that she wanted to find a profession for herself. So she was encouraged to apply to the LWF vocational training center.

“I did not want to be a vocational secretary,” she says, “so I applied for Telecommunications, as I already had the tendency at home to be the one to fix our electronics when they were broken.”

Following an apprenticeship towards the end of her study program, she has joined a team of three people

selling, maintaining, and updating software for phones in Ramallah.

Na'el Shareef, the owner of the shop, has worked in the field for more than 20 years. “I opened this shop four years ago, and I worked with the vocational training center right away,” he says. “Working with the training center as an employer, both benefit.”

“Trainees should train in the market, so they get the right skills to work and so that we as employers can let the training center know what they need to teach,” Shareef says.

“But this is also a social responsibility. When I trained, I trained in the market. Now, I need to give others this opportunity,” he concludes.

Written by Albin Hillert



## **VTP** LWF's GRIT Project Offers New Opportunities for Women



February 2020, Ramallah, Palestine: 29-year-old Jihad Albaba, from the Am'ari Camp, works in a small shop in Ramallah, after graduating from studies in Telecommunication at the Lutheran World Federation vocational training centre in Ramallah. Here, she works on fixing the wifi function of a mobile phone.

Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

Palestinian society is a young society and so it is particularly important that the educational system is designed to meet the varying needs of its youth. Sixty per cent of high school graduates complete high school with test scores too low for getting into university. The youth who don't go on to university have few alternatives and often feel neglected by the educational system.

After 10th grade, Palestinian students could choose the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) track for grades 11-12, but few do because the TVET track continues to

be stigmatized as a “second-rate” educational option for students that lack the academic skills to succeed in a university setting, despite the fact that TVET can provide excellent employment options in a market saturated with university graduates. Additionally, TVET is not generally considered as a viable option for women, as it is associated with male-dominated professions in a context where traditional gender roles prevail. The LWF Jerusalem Program will seek to change such perceptions through community outreach and awareness-raising activities in communities throughout East Jerusalem and the West Bank.

TVET institutes themselves need to become more gender-responsive and inclusive. The LWF wants to facilitate change through the “GRIT” project: Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the West Bank. GRIT is a new project that started in October 2019 and will end in 2024, funded by the Government of Canada, through Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and in partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). The LWF Jerusalem Program will provide training and awareness-raising at the institute level to challenge negative perspectives and behaviours relating to gender. Through the identification of new courses and vocations that are market-relevant and decent, the LWF Jerusalem Program will help women and girls find gainful employment.

The project aims to improve the learning conditions and the workplace experiences for females in order to encourage their engagement and participation in the labor force. GRIT also promotes policy changes to ensure that more women are included in the different sectors by improving gender-responsiveness and inclusion. The GRIT project will focus on:

17,250 women and girls and their families to be given opportunities to learn more about TVET in order to increase knowledge and reduce social and cultural barriers regarding women in TVET; 2,240 women and girls age 15+, including women living with disabilities, to benefit from improved access to TVET and from gender responsive and inclusive measures introduced at participating TVET institutes; 257 new training spaces for women to be created in short and long duration programs; 1143 women and girls age 15+, including women with disabilities, to be directly trained and supported through the project; and 1000 TVET stakeholders to participate in knowledge sharing and capacity building in order to provide better service to women, including women with disabilities.



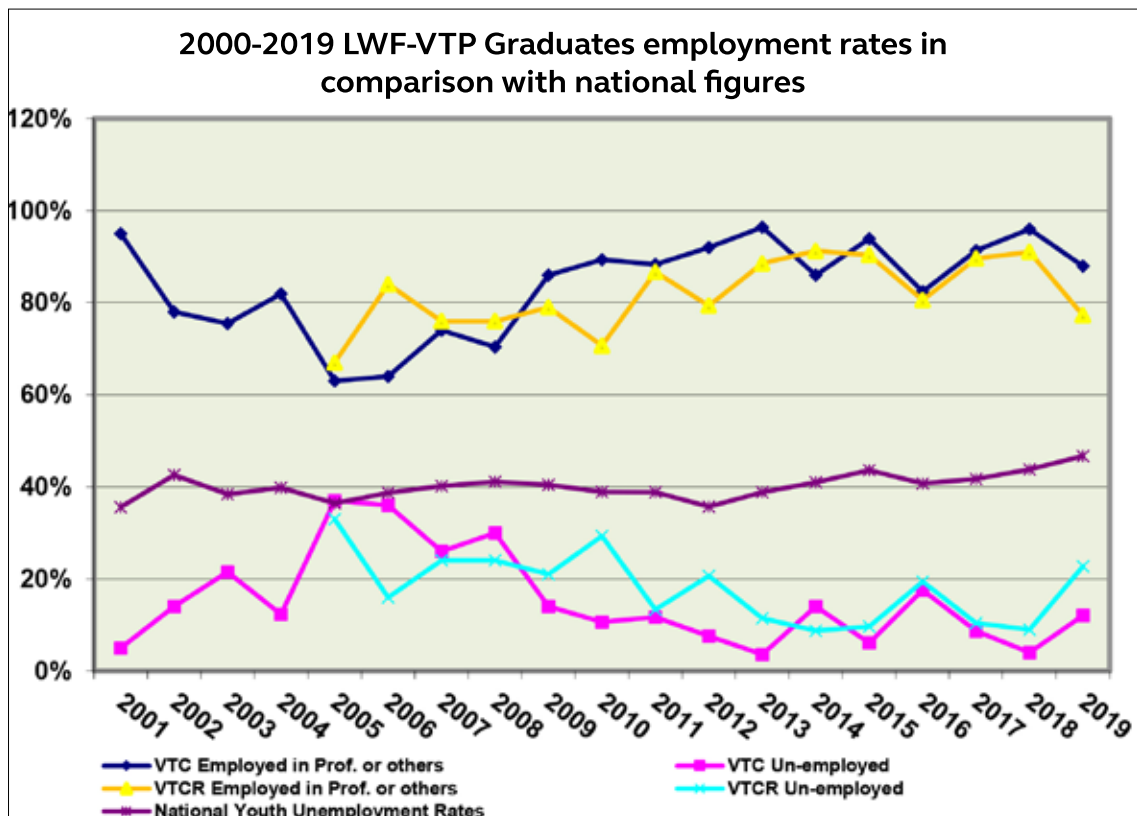
# LWF VTP 2019 Graduates Employment Statistics

Analysis by: Dr Randa Hilal, LWF-VT Consultant

This article will present the LWF VTP 2019 Graduates Employment Statistics as per different VTP centers (the VTC in Jerusalem and the VTCR in Ramallah) generally, as per vocation, as per gender, and as per supported services provided, where each will be presented in a separate section, although findings indicate interrelations between the different variables. Findings are based on an annual Graduates' Tracer study conducted systematically within six-months to one year of graduation.

The LWF VTP 2019 employment rates<sup>1</sup> remained above 80% for the last ten years, while it dropped below 90% compared to the last two years' figures. The LWF-VTP employment rates remained higher than youth employment rates in Palestine. Overall, 82.6% of all VTP graduates are employed or self-employed within six months of graduation (88% of VTC graduates and 77.3% of VTCR graduates) in comparison to the 53.3% employment rate among all youth of the same age in Palestine.

The Labor Force Participation Rates (LFPR) -- the percent of all persons actively engaged in work or in seeking work -- reached 89.2% (89.26% at VTC and 89.19% at VTCR) among VTP graduates, compared to 33.2% of Palestine's youth in the same age group<sup>2</sup>.



The high rates over the last ten years are largely achieved due to an increased link between training and the local market, achieved through adopting the apprenticeship system in the VTC in the year 2009 following the successful experience of the VTCR. 2012 marked the first group of graduates from all professions to be placed in an apprenticeship. Contributing to the high employment rates among graduates is the adoption

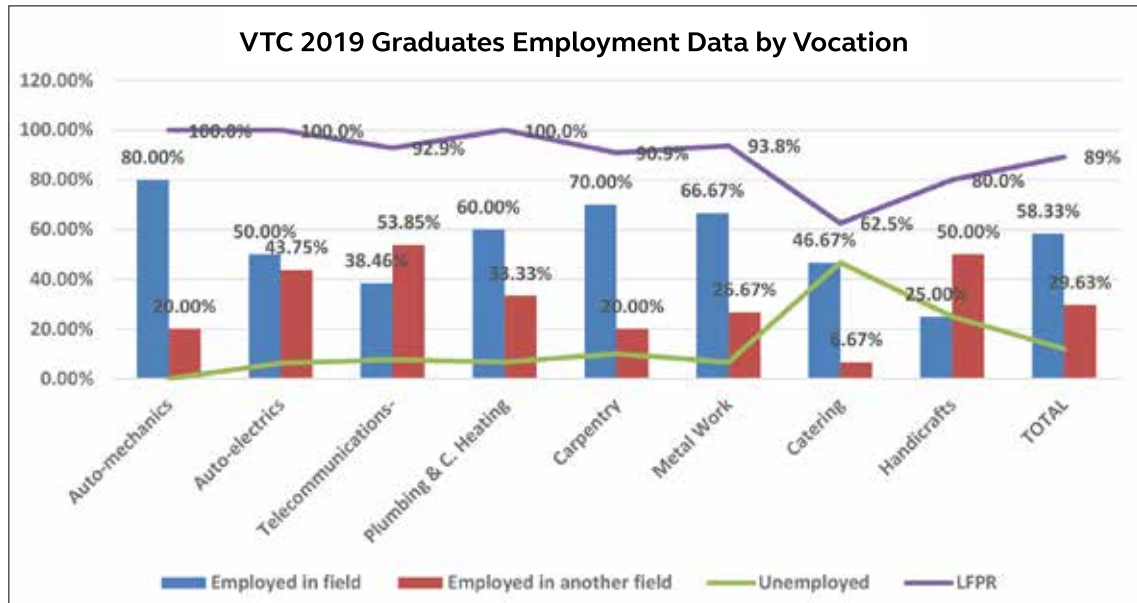
1. 90% of VTP graduates (195 graduates) filled the survey (91% of VTC graduates (74 graduates) and 89% of VTCR graduates (121 graduates))

2. Source for national figure is the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), Labour Force Survey, Annual Report 2019

of an apprenticeship training scheme. In addition to the above, the VTC graduate employment rates have increased after the year 2016, an effect that was clearly attributed to the graduates systemized support and follow-up through the addition of staff members during the last three years<sup>3</sup> and engaging with graduates' support projects. The effect of support is illustrated in the section that follows employment by vocation statistics.

**Employment Statistics by Vocation:**

Employment rates by profession were gender-specific, whereas employment rates for vocations accessed by females (Telecommunications in VTC and VTCR, Vocational Secretary in VTCR, catering and handicrafts in VTC) scored lower rates than male only professions (remaining professions in both). Graphs below indicate the VTC Graduates' employment per vocation for 2019.



The following highest employment rates in professions taught was found to be in auto-mechanics, carpentry, metal work and plumbing linked with services and construction sectors. Rates this year for certain vocation was increased due to the support graduates received, in specific for carpentry, auto-mechanics and handicrafts for females<sup>4</sup>. In comparison to last year; Auto-electrics as well as telecommunications were dropped, both were supported then.

It has to be noted that 13% are continuing their education, most of them are doing so while working, 58.3% of the employed graduates are working in their taught vocation.

Similar to the VTC, the VTCR graduate employment rates in profession taught were affected by gender first and secondly with the support provided and employment in the same place of training before graduation. The highest rates of employment in professions taught for the VTCR graduates were for Aluminum and Auto-Mechanics, while female graduates from Vocational Secretary and telecommunications had lowest employment rates and LFPR, as the graph below illustrates.

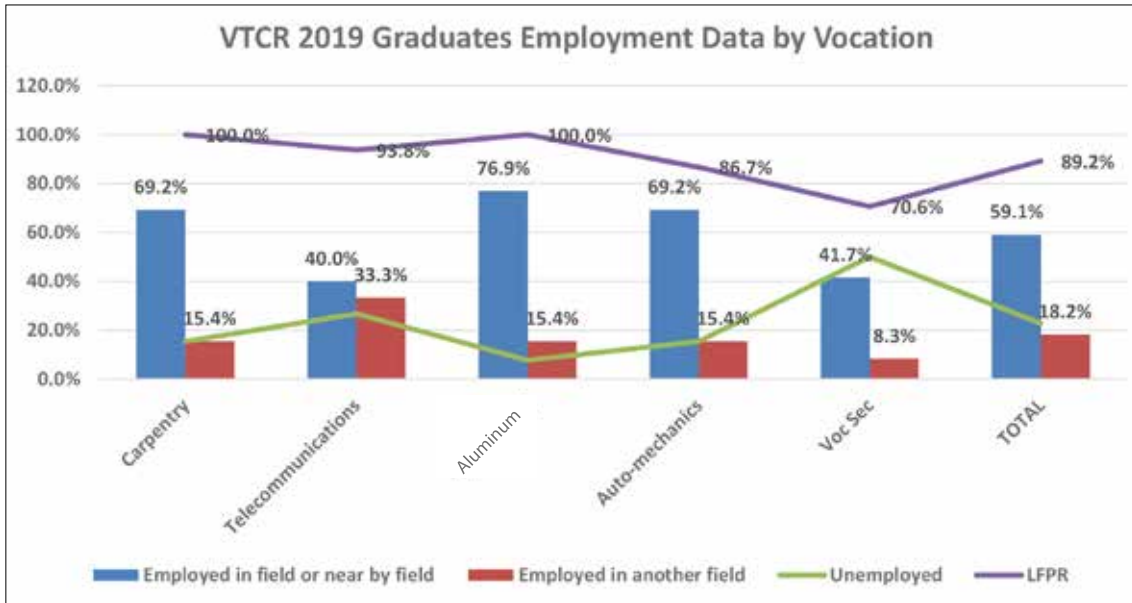
It was recorded that most of the graduates who are not employed in professions taught were either employed in family business or have left the profession for better pay, indicating further need for graduates' support, as well as guidance and counseling for potential and fresh graduates.

**The effect of graduates' support upon employment rates:**

Graduates support is provided by staff of the VTP, accelerated through a graduate unit and supported by various projects, the effect during 2017 was apparent, while the support here has dropped due to lower

3. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) funded a project for Human Rights Awareness and Graduate support. The new staff started their work on October 1st, 2016

4. Supported through "financial support to start their own self-employment": Initiative to start their own self-employment is supporting graduates to start their own business, or self-employment opportunities through equipment support and training on how to start their own business, COOPI EU Project in East Jerusalem has provided support for 2016 handicraft graduates, and graduates from different departments in 2017, 2018 and 2019.



support from donors, 3 donors<sup>5</sup> were engaged in 2017, 1 donor in 2018, and none in 2019<sup>6</sup>. The new women empowerment in TVET project will provide the required support during the coming years.

The employed graduates in same place of training reached 23% from employed VTCR graduates, while the only handicraft graduate working in her profession in the VTC as well as one auto-mechanic graduate are working in same place of training before graduation. Moreover; 13.7% of the VTCR graduates were employed due to support of Graduates Unit. 7.4% and 5.9% of employed graduates, of the VTC and VTCR respectively, have found employment through staff and trainers' support.

There are 3 VTCR graduates from the 51 employed graduates (representing 5.9% of employed graduates) that had opened their own business, and all were supported by the VTP graduates' unit. On the other-hand there are 3 of the VTC graduates who are self-employed from the 95 employed graduates (representing 3.2% of which) were supported by the graduates' unit.

All in all, there are 13.3% of the VTC employed graduates and 25.5% of the VTCR employed graduates, that were supported by the VTP staff and the graduates' unit.

Yet, graduates has requested support services from LWF-VTP in the form of finding employment and need for support to open their own businesses, as ( 24.7% from VTC and 42% from VTCR) and (21% from VTC and 40% from VTCR) respectively requested the need for finding employment and providing support to open up their businesses. Moreover; they requested training in technology updates (16% from VTC and 55% from VTCR) and requested training in other topics as languages, computer skills and business management. Requested services are part of the graduates' support unit. The high demand for finding employment in the VTCR is related to the low pay some are getting in their employment in the West Bank and looking for a better employment pay and conditions, while for VTC it is mostly requested by males and females who are unemployed or working in other professions than their taught vocation.

#### Employment Statistics by Gender<sup>7</sup>:

VTP Employment statistics by gender indicates lower employment and participation rates for female graduates compared to male graduates, although their rates are much higher than the national rates. Female graduates have also witnessed pay-gap similar to the national figures.

Results have indicated that females were outside the labour force due to social restrictions and household duties. It was noted that supporting female graduates has a high effect on their employment and self-employment status.

5. Mercy Corps and Tamkeen has supported matching fund of graduates and potential 2017 graduates at the VTC and the VTCR

6. COOPI has supported graduates in 2017, 2018 and 2019 through training and small grants to start their self-employment through EU funded project to support TVET in Jerusalem.

7. Females were first introduced to VTC in the year 2000 and were integrated in VTCR since its beginning in 2004; both were through the non-traditional vocation of Telecommunications. The year 2012 has witnessed increased integration of females through 3 professions (Handicrafts and Catering at VTC and Vocational Secretary at VTCR). Addition was done with the support of Church of Sweden



In comparison to previous years, this year results indicated an increase of female participation rates and a drop in female employment rates, the trend reflects national trends as well.

Results shows that 70.6% of VTP female graduates are participating in the labour force (62% of the VTC and 79.2% of the VTCR), which is higher than 2018 figure of 54%. And higher than the national figure of Palestinian female youth which stood at 12.4%, and the overall female participation rate stood at 20.7%<sup>8</sup>. This indicates how the VTP succeeded in engaging female youth in the labour market.

Findings illustrate that 51% of all VTP female graduates are employed or self-employed within six months of graduation (82% of VTC female graduates and 70% of VTCR female graduates).

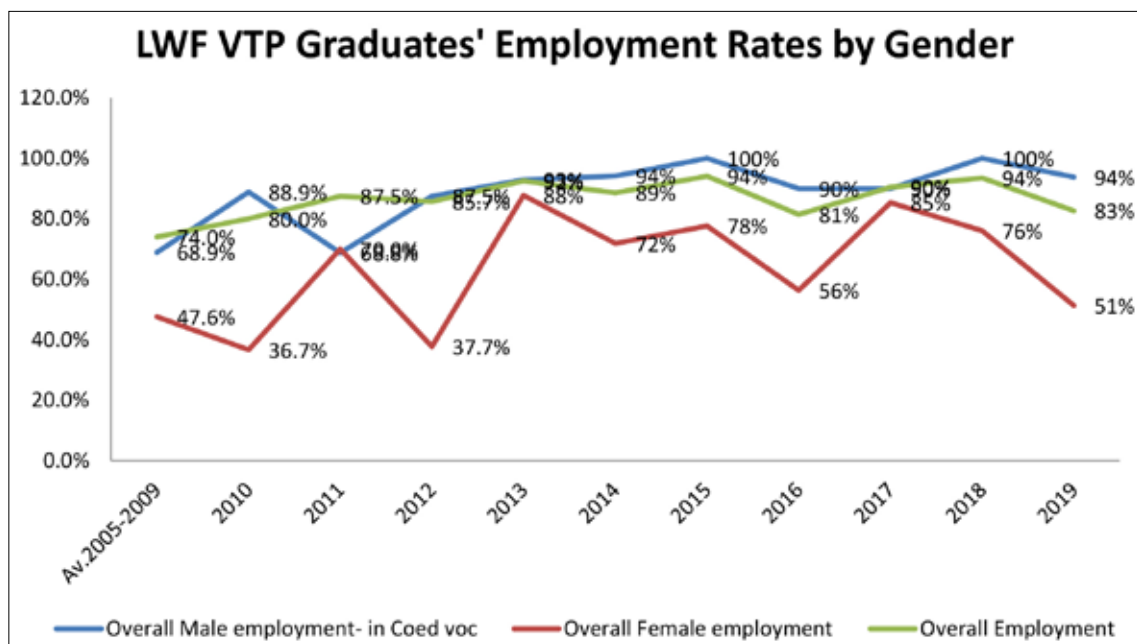
The VTP female graduates' percentage indicates 25% drop of last year figures, although it's still higher than 24.8% employment rate among all female youth of the same age in Palestine.

2019 results indicate a 42.5% gender gap in employment as shown in graph below. The drop in VTP female graduates' employment rates and the high gender gap will be addressed through special measures indicated in the new 2019-2023 VTP Strategic Plan and the new women empowerment project<sup>9</sup>.

The apprenticeship effect on employment was witnessed among female graduates, as 11% of VTC employed female graduates and 10% of those of the VTCR are employed in same place of training.

Employment rates of females were also enhanced through support provided for the graduates, as the only self-employed in Handicrafts were supported, and the only female graduates of telecommunications working in her profession were linked with the market by the VTP.

Hence, this indicates the importance of support programs for women graduates in specific and its effects on employment rates. More efforts are needed for further systemization of the support.



The earlier employment by profession graphs indicate the low rates of females working in the same vocation taught, compared to male graduates from the same vocation<sup>10</sup>, a result that indicates the need for further support and gender relevant measures in the labour market, the LWF is preparing for starting 2020.

8. Source for national figure is the PCBS, Labour Force Survey, Annual Report 2019

9. The Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in the West Bank including East Jerusalem ("GRIT") is a five-year project (2019-2024) funded by the Canadian Government through the Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) and implemented by the Lutheran World Federation Jerusalem Program (LWF Jerusalem)

10. Vocational secretary and Handicrafts at the VTCR and VTC respectively are female only courses, while Catering and telecommunications are Co-ed, this year the courses were not split by gender, as the number of females in telecom. Were only 4 and 7 in VTC and VTCR and the males in catering was only 4, which provides higher margin of error.



## LWF expands training and employment opportunities for women

Participation rates of women are low in Palestine, falling to 19.1%, and they go as low as 6.7 % and 14.3% in Jerusalem and Ramallah respectively. Unemployment is high among female youth and reaches 12.4%. Unemployment is highest among higher education female graduates, reaching 54.5%, compared to 21% for males. In contrast, participation rates and employment rates for female graduates from VET are highest compared to national figures. Yet there are limited opportunities offered for females in Vocational Education and Training (VET).

LWF has played a pioneer role in integrating females in VET. Since the year 2000, LWF made integrating females in its programs a priority and a matter of policy. LWF measures included employing a female as the director of a male-oriented LWF-Vocational Training Center (VTC) and introducing women for the first time to telecommunications in the year 2000, at the VTC and in 2004 at the VTC in Ramallah. Training opportunities for women grew throughout the years by adding new market relevant vocations and including promotional strategies. Currently, female students constitute 25% of the student body, and are also integrated into short courses and outreach courses. Female teachers and trainers now constitute around 20% of the teacher and trainer faculty.

Training of women enabled their integration into the labour market at a higher rate than other female youth and provided females with higher employment opportunities and relevant skills to carry out work according to their aspirations. LWF has added measures to support females in employment, including matching students with job opportunities and support for self-employment and entrepreneurship, with the support of various partners and donors. The percentage of female graduates' participation and employment rates are present in the graduates' statistics part of the annual report. In 2019, the LWF, with the help of CLWR, has started a project (GRIT) to enhance female participation in VET (see article on page 26 of this annual report). The LWF has integrated its gender-responsive policies within its various strategic plans, and devised related measures, interventions and projects accordingly.

1. Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), Labour Force Survey, Annual Report 2019

## The Lutheran World Federation Vocational Training Advisory Board

(as of December 31, 2019)

**The Rev. Said Ailabouni \*\*\***  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**The Rev. Dr. Wyvetta Bullock (VTAB Chairperson) \*\***  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Mr. Mads Frilander \***  
DanChurchAid and Norwegian Church Aid

**Dr. Charlie Haddad**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

**Ms. Lisa Henry \*\***  
DanChurchAid and Norwegian Church Aid

**Ms. Lennart Herlander (Ex-officio) \*/\*\***  
Representative | LWF Jerusalem Program

**Ms. Jessica Lindberg-Dik (VTAB Chairperson) \***  
Church of Sweden

**Ms. Patricia Maruschak \*\***  
Canadian Lutheran World Relief

**Ms. Maryanne Mutch \*\*\***  
Canadian Lutheran World Relief

**Ms. Pauliina Parhiala (Ex-officio) \*\***  
Representative | LWF Jerusalem Program

**Ms. Caroline Tveoy (Ex-officio)**  
Regional Programme Coordinator,  
Middle East and North Africa | LWF World Service

**Ms. Sieglinde Weinbrenner (Ex-officio) \***  
Representative | LWF Jerusalem Program

**Ms. Karin Axelsson Zaar \*\***  
Church of Sweden

### LWF Staff:

**Ms. Bana Hussein**  
Program Coordinator | LWF Jerusalem Program

**Mr. Alex Kuttab**  
Director of Administration and Finance  
LWF Jerusalem Program

**Mr. Yousef Shalian**  
Director | LWF Vocational Training Program

\*Joined the VTAB in 2019

\*\*Completed service on the VTAB in 2019

\*\*\*Joined the VTAB in 2020

# LWF Offers Short Courses in Shu'fat camp for Youth and Women

Photo by Anwar Khatib / LWF



Youth and women, especially in remote and isolated areas, are facing challenges related to access to work and high poverty rates. Vocational training has proven to be one of the best ways to address these challenges.

Reaching vocational training centers is often difficult for students due to the cost of and the time needed for commuting. LWF VTP has responded by conducting many outreach courses in locations throughout the West Bank over the last 20 years. Now, in pursuit of one of its strategic goals, the LWF VTP is starting systematic, long-term partnerships with local CBOs in marginalized areas in order to conduct a series of short courses within these areas.

One of the most marginalized areas is Shu'fat Refugee Camp, established in 1965 and illegally annexed by Israel after 1967. After building the separation wall around Jerusalem, the camp ended up on the West Bank side, so the residents have to pass a checkpoint to enter Jerusalem.

UNRWA provides essential services like education and health to the refugees. However, UNRWA faces challenges due to the lack of resources needed to serve the population, which has increased from around 500 families in 1965 to an estimated 24,000 persons now. The social needs of the crowded camp (only 0.203 square Kilometers) are numerous. The Israeli authorities are also trying to eliminate the involvement of UNRWA as Shu'fat camp is the only refugee camp within East Jerusalem.

Given these circumstances, LWF VTP started strategic partnerships with two local CBOs in the



Photo by Anwar Khatib / LWF

camp – the Youth Social Center and the Women's Center. These centers will act as hosts for LWF short vocational courses that are catered to satisfy the needs of the youth and women.

With support from the European Union through the COOPI project, LWF VTP established a multi-use training workshop in the Youth Social Center and conducted two courses for 17 male trainees in electrical installation and mobile maintenance. In addition, the VTP conducted two courses in the Women's Center for 30 females in sewing and hairdressing.



## Vocational Summer Camp

Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF



In August 2019, the VTC organized the fourth summer vocational camp supported by the European Union through COOPI project and in cooperation with Madrasaty Felestine initiative.

59 youth (32 males and 27 females) participated in the camp that aimed at providing career guidance to Palestinian youth through exposure to vocations that they are interested in.

Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF



## Graduation Ceremony



Photo by Anwar Khatib / LWF

**A**la' Ibrahim, an honor graduate of the vocational secretary class, delivers a speech on behalf of the AVTP graduates. In June 2019, 214 Palestinian youth (159 males and 55 females) graduated after completing one-year or two-year programs.

# VISITORS 2019

In 2019, the LWF Jerusalem Program received many visitors who came to witness LWF's work in the region. Many of them toured the LWF Jerusalem Campus on the Mount of Olives, including Augusta Victoria Hospital and the site for the Elder Care and Palliative Medicine Institute, visited the Vocational Training Program, and learned about the LWF's affordable housing project.

Delegation from the Church of Sweden; Delegation of German Parliament Members; Delegation of the Sovereign Military Order of The Temple of Jerusalem; Mr. Réne Trocaz, Consul General of France; Mrs. Lydia Tabtab, Secretary, French Consulate; Mr. Christian Clages, German Representative Office to the Palestinian Authority; Group from Advent Lutheran Church, Madison Christian Community and All Saints Lutheran Church led by Pastor Nick Utphall, Illinois; Group from Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Michigan led by Pastor Jonathan Heierman; Group from Lenoir-Rhyne University/Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary led by Rev. James R. Thomas, Ph.D., South Carolina; Group from Christ The King Lutheran Church, Texas led by Reverend Dr. Duane Larson; Ambassador Ahmad Rwaihy, Organization of the Islamic Conference; Mr. Hani Abu Diab, Representative for Palestine of the Islamic Development Bank; Senior owners of Al-Istishari Hospital, Ramallah, Palestine; Jerusalem Expat Network, Members of the Network; Rev. Dr. Martin Junge, General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation; Rev. Mark Brown, LWF World Service, Senior Advisor for Advocacy and Fundraising, Washington, DC; Kairos Canada Delegation, Rev. Andreas Thiel; Rev. Helen Smith; Father Paul E. Hanson; Rev. Martin Brokenleg; Bishop Susan Johnson; Lori Ransom; Rev. Rosalyn Kantlaht'an Elm; Lana Robinson; Jennifer Henry; Wendy Gichuru; Rachel Warden; Dr. Mai Keileh – Minister of Health for the Palestinian Authority; Lions Club Ramallah, Lions Club Representatives; Ms. Gwyn Lewis, UNRWA Director; Professor Ofer Merin, Director-General, Shaare Zedek Medical Center; Mr. Tomas Niklasson, Acting Head of the European Union Technical Assistance Office, Jerusalem; Ms. Hilde Haraldstad, Representative of Norway to the Palestinian Authority; Ms. Jessica Olausson, Consul General of Sweden; Mr. Khamis Al Farisi, Representative of the Sultanate of Oman; Property and Housing Advisory Committee Members - Bishop Ibrahim Azar, representing ELCJHL; Erika Brundin, representing Church of Sweden; Wyvetta Bullock, representing ELCA; Ralston Deffenbaugh, Chair, representing LWF; Anne Dorum, representing Mount of Olives Foundation, Norway; Berit Hagen Agoy, representing Church of Norway; Karin Achtelstetter, representing Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Rainer Kiefer, Vice Chair, representing Kaiserin Auguste Victoria – Stiftung; Martin Puehn, Regional Secretary for Ecumenical Relations for Evangelical Church in Germany; Propst Wolfgang Schmidt, representing Kaiserin Auguste Victoria – Stiftung; Dr. Christine Keim, representing German National Committee; Rev. Rolf Steffansson, representing Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission; Fursan Zumot, representing ELCJHL; Caroline Tveoy, representing LWF World Service; Rotary Club Jerusalem, Rotary Club Members; Ms. Jessica Zaman, USAID Director for the Office of Middle East; US Congressional Delegation: Congressman Ted Deutch (D-FL), Foreign Affairs, Chairman, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism, Congressman Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Energy & Commerce, Congressman Henry Cuellar (D-TX), Appropriations, Congressman Randy Weber (R-TX), Transportation and Infrastructure, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL), Appropriations, Congresswoman Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen (R-AS), Small Business, Congressman Scott Peters (D-CA), Energy and Commerce, Congresswoman Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon (R-PR), Transportation and Infrastructure, Congresswoman Kathleen Rice (D-NY), Homeland Security, Congressman Darren Soto (D-FL), Energy and Commerce.

A delegation from Italy representing local authorities working for peace and human rights under the slogan "Time for Humanity" visited AVH in January 2019. The delegation included medical and health staff, mayors, teachers and members of civil society. The delegation was welcomed by the AVH CEO, Mr. Walid Nammour, and AVH Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Dina Nasser and heard from them about the challenges of access to health care at the East Jerusalem Hospitals. The delegation visited the pediatric department to present Christmas cakes as well as toys for the children. They also met with the Italian Hemato-oncology Consultant at AVH, Dr. Fortunato Morabito, who emphasized the importance of cooperation between the Italian people and Palestinians.

Photo by Ezdihar Shaheen / LWF





# How to **Donate** to the **LWF** Jerusalem Program

Thank you for wanting to donate your resources so that we may continue our work for the Palestinian people. Not only do your financial contributions help pay for the actual work being done, but—perhaps more importantly—your support buoys our spirits and encourages us to continue when times are difficult.

For all donations to the LWF Jerusalem Program, please fill out our Contribution Form, which can be found on our website, [jerusalem.lutheranworld.org](http://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org). This contribution form, which can be sent by mail to the addresses below or by email to [info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org) will help us to ensure that your donation goes to the project of your choice. Due to our past experiences with unreliable mail service and high fees for processing non-local checks, please follow the instructions below for all donations by check.

**Donations from the USA:** Donors in the USA and Canada should send checks (**payable to “The Lutheran World Federation”**) to Hope Lutheran Church in Maryland and the church will ensure delivery to the LWF Jerusalem Program:

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
Attention: LWF Jerusalem Program  
4201 Guilford Drive  
College Park, Maryland 20740

To make a tax-exempt gift to the LWF Jerusalem Program, contact us for instructions using the contact information provided at the bottom of this page.

**Donations from Europe:** Donors in Europe should send all checks (**payable to “The Lutheran World Federation”**) to the LWF office in Geneva. The office will process these donations and apply them to the LWF Jerusalem accounts:

The Lutheran World Federation  
Attn: Melanie Freiburghaus  
P.O. Box 2100  
150, route de Ferney  
CH-1211 Geneva 2  
Switzerland

Donations by Bank Transfer: Donations can also be made by bank transfer. Visit our website, [jerusalem.lutheranworld.org](http://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org), or email us at [info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org) for more information.

Name of Account : The Lutheran World Federation  
Account Number : 9110 463015 592  
Account Currency : EURO  
Bank Name : Arab Bank  
Branch : 861  
Branch Name : Al Ram  
Address : Al Ram Main Road - West Bank - Palestine  
Swift Code : ARABPS22110  
IBAN : PS31ARAB000000009110463015592

Questions? Contact us at:  
Email: [info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org)  
Phone: +972-2-628-2289  
Fax: +972-2-628-2628

# Your source for olive oil

## from the LWF Jerusalem Campus on the Mount of Olives



Photo by courtesy / LWF



The Olive tree so common in Palestine is a magical tree. It is a tree that produces an oil which is known the world over for its health and nutritional properties. Its oil provides a staple food for the people of Palestine. Today, there are more than 12 million olive trees in Palestine.

This amazing tree knows how to track the sun and the design of its leaves is an amazing feat of creation. The undersides of the leaves are a deep white while the upper side are a deep green where the photosynthesis takes place. It is a rare and unusual tree which has this important feature.

Olive oil in Palestine is known to make one strong and healthy. A well-known Palestinian proverb says: "Eat oil and knock down the wall."

Olive trees are also known worldwide as a symbol of peace through the saying: "to hold out an olive branch."

Olive oil is a part of the fabric of Palestine and no location in all of Palestine is more significant or well known than that of the Mount of Olives. In fact, some of the oldest olive trees in Palestine are located in the Garden of Gethsemane (which means "olive press" in Hebrew) on the Mount of Olives.

LWF continues its ministry of farming its olive grove of more than 800 trees. These trees play an important part in LWF Jerusalem's strategy to reduce our carbon footprint in

Palestine. In 2019, these trees yielded between 750-900 kilos of olives, which were pressed into 150-180 liters of olive oil.

We make this oil available to you to continue our ministry of healing through Augusta Victoria Hospital. Your support of this program generates funds to where the need is greatest.

With a minimum order of \$300 USD, olive oil can be shipped as far away as the United States.

| Sizes of bottles available                        | Cost in USD (\$) |
|---|------------------|
| 250ml of LWF Campus olive oil in a plastic bottle | 15               |
| 750ml of LWF Campus olive oil in a plastic bottle | 35               |

You can also be a permanent part of this ongoing and essential ministry to support our health programs. For a donation of \$1,000, we will plant an olive tree on the Mount of Olives in your name and place a plaque in our lobby in appreciation and recognition of your support.

Contact us at: [info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org) for more information. Thank you so much for your support of this long standing ministry.



This olive tree located on the LWF Campus is more than 100 years old.

Photo by courtesy / LWF

### 2019 / 2020 Scholarship Recipients

In the spirit of its ongoing commitment to protecting and promoting the rights of those who are the most marginalized in the field of higher education, LWF Jerusalem continued its support of worthy students seeking to pursue their higher education.

This support comes in the form of both loans and grants. In 2019, the LWF Jerusalem Scholarship Program awarded 5,152 Euros to seven students from Hebron, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem who are studying English literature medicine, commerce, interior design, and pharmacy at Bethlehem University, Hebron University, Al-Najah National University, Birzeit University, Al-Quds University, and Dar Al-Kalima University.



# INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP DONORS 2019

The LWF is grateful to the many groups and individuals who have supported Augusta Victoria Hospital, the Vocational Training Program, the Affordable Housing Project in Jerusalem, and the other projects of the Jerusalem Program in 2019.


## These supporters include:

Central Lutheran Church Women – Eugene, OR • Central Lutheran Church – Portland, OR • Debra J. Johnson • Fred Schott • Giesela Betty Elhammouri • John Breaux • Kristy Bergman • Linda Bareis • Ronald Rentner • Steven Schumacher • Amna Jatoi • English Lutheran Church – LaCrosse, WI • First Lutheran WELCA – Bothell, WA • Trinity Lutheran Seminary • All Saints In Big Sky, MT • Anne Else • Bethesda Lutheran Church - New Haven, CT • Calla Gilson • Christ The King Lutheran Church – Houston, TX • Craig & Lois Kippels • Dale Crouse • Daniel Sullivan & Annelisa Steeber • Dario Rossi Dambrosio • David Hickey • Diane Steen-Hinderlie & John Olson • ELC of The Ascension – Chattanooga, TN • Vanwylen family • Evangelical Lutheran Church of The Advent • Frederick & Luann Shuman • Gary & Gloria Graber • Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Cincinnati, OH • Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – Raleigh, NC • Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church - College Park, MD • John Stumme • Joseph R. Carlson • Lutheran Church Of The Master - La Habra, CA • Lutheran Church Women • Lutheran Seminary • Martin B Hillia • Mary M. Nedde • Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod • Mona Grutter • Morvin & Kimberly Jakubiak • Mount Olive Lutheran Church – Minneapolis, MN • Mrs. N. Ravalia • Nancy Lund • Pastor Joel-Good Shephard L.C. - Colorado • Peace Lutheran Church • Pilgrim Lutheran Church • Pontoppidan Lutheran Church - Ellendale • Ralph & Laurel Doermann • Rev. Dr. Lee B. Rozen • Mark & Susanne Brown • Shepherds Tours & Travel Ltd • Simona • St. Timothy Lutheran Church – Portland, OR • St. James Lutheran Church - Lake Forest, IL • St. James Lutheran Church – Portland, OR • St. Luke's Lutheran Church - Grand Rapids, MI • St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church - Lititz • Steven A. Fahnestock & Patricia Budkey • Thrivent Financial • Jeannie Weber • Ueli Rohrer • Verna & Conrad Kraehling • Zena M Lapp • Evangelical Lutheran Church In America • Alternative Tourism Group - Inga Lill Rubenson • Armin Kolbli • Ashley Simmons • Association Of Women's Action • Atonement Lutheran – Billings, MT • Bana Hussein • Brett Winters • Calvary Lutheran Church • Catrin Heiden & Madeleine Mors • Christ Lutheran Church – Detroit, MI • Christine A Cowan • Church Of Sweden • Clarence Belue • Daniel Doelle • Daniel Sullivan & Annelisa Steeber • Darlene Dunham • Dominik & Leila Heinzer • Dr. Max & Tina Teuber • Edward Edens • Evangelical Church of the Ascension • Ferdiand Girke • Haruka Fukugami • Heinzer Claudia • Horace Brock • Ian Anderson • James Monkman • Jeff Buschman • Jeff Jontz • Jeffrey Ogonowski • Karen Briggs • Katie Archibald-Woodward • Kirsten Freiman • Kristy Bergman • Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago - Illinois • Lutz Wollziefer • Martin Luther University • Marvin Hawkins • Michael McGuire • Mr. David Kryder • Mr. Lennart Hernander • Ms. Christine Keim • Nathan Allen • Nebraska Synod ELCA • Nina Barschneider • Patricia Sellick • Robert Brose • Scott Swix • Souad Freij • The Lutheran Church - Pastor Nick USA • Tim Jahn • Timothy Keyl • United Church of Ferndale • United Lutheran Seminary • Rev. Wyvetta Bullock • Amjad Ibrahim • Ann O'Hara • Anne Else • Arthur & Vera Mae Schultz • Constance Schmalz • Dalia Habash • David Hickey • David Shull • Debra Goodman • Dennis & Naomi Raymond • Edward Jones • Elise Schumacher • Engineerica Systems Inc. • Evangelical Lutheran Church In America • Fred Schott • Gail Chupick • Grace Tours • Grand Canyon Synod of ELCA • Helle Poulsen • Hope Lutheran Church Tour • Ibrahim Alzant • Issam Shihabi • J.C. Morris Group • Janice L Miller • Jeff Abood Tour • Jessie M Odell • Lama Aburajab • Lisa Pole • Lord Of Life Lutheran Church • Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd - Olympia • Lutheran World Relief • Lynne Santangelo • Marie Meiom • Mark Hoffman Group • Maysoun Rowe • Micaela Vining Grantham • Michael Tveite • Nadine Abu Tayeh • Nancy Grami • Nederlands Luthers Genootschap Voor In-En Uitwendige Zending • Paul & Susan Pintus • Peter Boecher • Philip Petersen • Pilgrim Lutheran Church • Pr. Blake Rohrer Tour • Rod Schofield • Ruba Totah • Ruth Hansen • Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church • Salim Hijazi • Sarah Raymond Tour • Shepherds Tours & Travel Ltd • Skylar Seward • St. Barnabas Episcopal Church - Chelsea • St. Luke's Lutheran Church - Mt. Ulla • St. Stephens Evangelical Lutheran - Monona • Steve Leinhos Tour • Steven Schumacher • Sylvia Campbell • The English Speaking Cong. Geneva • The Lutheran Church Of The Holy Trinity – Lancaster, PA • Theresa Fiebiger • Timothy Manwell • Valerie Barron • Wendell Hendershott



# THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

## WORLD SERVICE - JERUSALEM PROGRAM

| Donations Received Locally (in Euro)                 |                  | Donations Received Through Geneva (in Euro)   |                |
|--|------------------|---|----------------|
| Association Solidarite Maroc Palestine               | 55,292           |  |                |
| Bread for the World - Protestant Development Service | 852,000          |   |                |
| Canadian Lutheran World Relief                       | 75,282           |   |                |
| Chamber of Commerce                                  | 465              |   |                |
| COOPI International                                  | 77,000           |   |                |
| DanChurchAid   | 6,115            |   |                |
| Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe                           | 198,000          |   |                |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church in America               | 137              |   |                |
| Islamic Development Bank                             | 581,993          |   |                |
| Lutheran World Relief                                | 9,095            |   |                |
| Ministry of Education - Jerusalem                    | 548,922          |   |                |
| Norwegian Church Aid                                 | 34,783           |   |                |
| Norwegian Representative Office                      | 984,213          |   |                |
| Olive tree   | 9,315            |   |                |
| Others   | 309,663          |   |                |
| Palestinian Medical Relief Society                   | 76,578           | German National Committee of the Lutheran World Federation                          | 45,000         |
| Rozana   | 25,268           | Church of Sweden  | 215,775        |
| United Nations Development Programme                 | 423,053          | Nederlands Luthers Genootschap voor In- en Uitwendige Zending                       | 3,000          |
| United States Agency for International Development   | 129,420          | Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  | 246,339        |
| Various donors - AVH cancer patients                 | 929,971          | Various donors  | 29,206         |
| Welfare Association                                  | 523,159          | <b>Sub Total</b>  | <b>539,320</b> |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                                     | <b>5,849,723</b> |   |                |

| COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL DATA (in Euro)   |            |            |            |            |            |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|  | 2019       | 2018       | 2017       | 2016       | 2015       |
| <b>Revenues</b>                        |            |            |            |            |            |
| Vocational Training Program            | 1,585,265  | 1,482,150  | 1,534,477  | 1,416,851  | 1,340,026  |
| Scholarship Program                    | 16,343     | 16,716     | 16,903     | 18,267     | 21,388     |
| Augusta Victoria Hospital (Operations) | 61,846,206 | 46,674,004 | 49,386,123 | 43,674,292 | 34,258,817 |
| Village Health / Outreach Clinics      | 73,877     | 133,898    | 81,271     | 87,281     | 112,689    |
| <b>Expenses</b>                        |            |            |            |            |            |
| Vocational Training Program            | 1,585,265  | 1,482,150  | 1,534,477  | 1,416,851  | 1,340,026  |
| Scholarship Program                    | 16,343     | 16,716     | 16,903     | 18,267     | 21,388     |
| Augusta Victoria Hospital              | 45,888,589 | 44,571,709 | 46,615,292 | 34,763,524 | 29,997,520 |
| Village Health / Outreach Clinics      | 73,877     | 133,898    | 81,271     | 87,281     | 112,689    |



The Lutheran World Federation  
Department for World Service  
**JERUSALEM PROGRAM**  
**SENIOR STAFF**

**I. LWF CENTRAL OFFICE**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Ms Sieglinde Weinbrenner</b> | Representative                                |
| <b>Mr Alex Kuttab</b>           | Director of Administration and Finance        |
| <b>Mr Fadi Murra</b>            | Deputy Director of Administration and Finance |
| <b>Ms Bana Hussein</b>          | Program Coordinator                           |
| <b>Mr Samuel Martin</b>         | Project Manager                               |
| <b>Mr Yorghos Stavridis</b>     | Property Manager                              |

**II. AUGUSTA VICTORIA HOSPITAL (AVH)**

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Mr Walid Nammour</b>     | Chief Executive Officer                                      |
| <b>Ms Badiah Bajjali</b>    | Assistant Chief Executive Officer                            |
| <b>Mr Nidal Saifi</b>       | Chief Medical Officer  |
| <b>Ms Dina Nasser</b>       | Chief Operating Officer                                      |
| <b>Ms Maha Tarayrah</b>     | Chief Nursing Officer  |
| <b>Mr Ahmad Abu-Halaweh</b> | Director, Department of Community Programs & Diabetes Center |
| <b>Ms Kholoud Ashhab</b>    | Director, Department of Pharmaceutical Services              |
| <b>Mr Muhammad Khweis</b>   | Director, Department of Public Services, Buildings & Grounds |

**III. VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM (VTP)**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Mr Yousef Shalian</b>   | VTP Director                            |
| <b>Mr Thaeer Shqair</b>    | VTC Deputy Director, Ramallah           |
| <b>Mr Mahmoud 'Adarbeh</b> | VTC Deputy Director, Beit Hanina        |
| <b>Ms Anwar Khatib</b>     | VTP Projects/graduates unit Coordinator |
| <b>Mr Amer Khalaf</b>      | VTCR Short Courses Coordinator          |



Photo by courtesy / LWF



THE  
LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION

The Lutheran World Federation has been serving the needs of Palestinian refugees in the Palestinian Territories for over 70 years. As a major Christian presence on the Mount of Olives, the LWF/WS Jerusalem Program provides essential health care, vocational training, and scholarships, and promotes justice, peace and reconciliation. This service, or “diakonia,” is the embodiment, through human actions, of God’s love for the world, and it is the very essence of what it means to be the church in a place of suffering from poverty and injustice.

**actalliance** is a coalition of 135 churches and faith-based organizations working together in over 120 countries to create positive and sustainable change in the lives of poor and marginalized people regardless of their religion, politics, gender, sexual orientation, race or nationality in keeping with the highest international codes and standards.

**Editor:** Mark Brown

**Contributing Authors:** Mark Brown, Randa Hilal, Bana Hussein, Bisan Khair, Samuel Martin, Aida Qleibo, Ezdihar Shaheen, Yousef Shalian, Sieglinde Weinbrenner

**Map Source, Designer and Publisher:** PalMap/Good Shepherd Engineering & Computing

**Photography:** Albin Hillert, Ezdihar Shaheen

**Design and Printing:** Emerezian Printing and Publishing Est. [www.emerezian.com](http://www.emerezian.com)

Photo by 4Kmedia



#### Front Cover

The month of (Pink) October is dedicated to AVH’s breast cancer awareness campaign. Female staff of AVH gathered in the courtyard of the hospital to form a pink ribbon to encourage women to be screened.



Photo by Albin Hillert / LWF

#### Back Cover

Female students in the handcrafts department of the VTC. The training will give them an opportunity to be self-employed.



The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition. Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the LWF now has 148 member churches in 99 countries all over the world representing over 75.5 million Christians.

The Lutheran World Federation World Service (WS) is the humanitarian and development arm of the LWF. Drawing on a firm commitment to uphold the rights of the poor and oppressed, WS works in 28 countries with local and international partners to alleviate suffering, combat injustice and poverty, and lay the foundation for a life in dignity for all.

The LWF is a founding member of the

**actalliance**

(Action by Churches Together).



THE  
LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION

World Service

member of **actalliance**

P.O. Box 19178  
Jerusalem 91191, Israel  
Phone: +972 2 628 2289  
Fax: +972 2 628 2628  
Email: [info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org](mailto:info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org)  
[jerusalem.lutheranworld.org](http://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org)  
Facebook: LWFJerusalem  
Instagram: LWFJerusalem  
Twitter: LWFJerusalem