

“My son is reborn again with this opportunity for rehabilitation.” (Ammar’s mother 2019)

Your support has allowed ABCD to bring rehabilitation to a further refugee camp, Al Arroub near Hebron. All 19 refugee camps on the West Bank face challenges related to overcrowding, poor infrastructure, high levels of unemployment, food insecurity and protection issues. Al Arroub is no exception. Unemployment and poverty continue to affect the lives of significant numbers of families, impinging on the children,



Photo: Al Arroub

Ibrahim Sabatin, the centre manager, says: ‘We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to ABCD for their support and trust in helping the children with disabilities and which has helped us to reopen our centre having closed it for five years because of a lack of funding.’

‘Ammar, pictured here with a physiotherapist, just one of the many children needing care, is an 11-year-old boy who suffers from cerebral palsy and has physical and cognitive disabilities. Since the re-opening of the centre with ABCD’s support, Ammar attends the centre daily for

- 250 people with disabilities live in Al Arroub Camp
- 90 children have been identified with Downs Syndrome, flat feet, speech problems, brain injury, fractures, gunshot wounds, cerebral palsy and other difficulties
- Only 25 children receive support either in the centre or at home



Photo: Al Arroub

three hours, receiving physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, play therapy, and education. The main goal is to help Ammar develop his physical and cognitive skills and become more independent in his daily life. His mother says ‘My son is reborn again with this new opportunity of rehabilitation as it is being appropriately equipped.’



Photo: Gina Fontanini

particularly ones with disabilities. The barrier surrounding the West Bank blocks access to the labour market in Israel. ABCD works in these vulnerable areas to alleviate the challenges these families face on a daily basis.

Manar Jaber – Bethlehem University Physiotherapy Lecturer and ABCD Field Advisor – with Firas Sarhan, ABCD Project Manager, have collaborated with the centre has given support by drawing up a list of needs and costs. ABCD has been able to fund the purchase of basic physiotherapy equipment and the local community have contributed to the re-decoration of the centre to create a more therapeutic space. A physiotherapist, play therapist and speech and language therapist are working at the centre on a voluntary basis until the Centre is able to offer them an income.



Photo: Gina Fontanini

ABC'D's Deputy chair, Lara Madge, visiting the centre in March 2019.

■ **ABCD’s other partners, the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation, Jalazone and Nur Shams Refugee Camps and ABCD’s Music Therapy Projects are all growing from strength to strength with your support. We look forward to bringing you news of their developments in the Autumn Newsletter.**

2019 Palestine Marathon:

ABCD's second Palestine Marathon wildly exceeded our fundraising figures thanks to 23 participants. Heartfelt thanks to them and their supporters who have raised over £36,000. During

their time in Palestine, the group visited the ABCD-supported Jalazone Refugee Rehabilitation Centre. We will be participating in the 2021 Palestine Marathon and it's never too early to sign up for it as a walker or runner of any age. See www.abcdbethlehem.org for more details.



The ABCD Palestine Marathon Team meeting children supported by the Jalazone Refugee Camp Rehabilitation Centre.

Sensory Garden at the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation is now open

Thanks to your generous donations towards the Georgina Mortimer Memorial Fund, the BASR Sensory Garden was blessed and opened on March 22nd, 2019. Georgina's husband, ABCD Patron, Andrew Mortimer, was present as was Amy Mortimer and family from Australia. Keith Cook, one of BASR's early architects, was also present. We couldn't have done it without you.



Andrew Mortimer, back, and Amy Mortimer, middle front, with two of Amy's children, Charlie and Lola.

SAVE THE DATE!

ABCD Carol Concert 11th December 2019

St George's Bloomsbury at 6:30pm. Come and celebrate everything you have helped to make happen with festive singing! Join us afterwards for a drink and delicious Palestine fare. Music conducted by ABCD's Trustee and Music Therapist Canon Claire Tillotson.

York Opera Event 27th September, 2019

Trustee Anthony Glaister and his wife Lucy have arranged a celebration of spectacular opera of all your favourites at St. Chad's Church, York, on Friday, 27 September.

Contact us

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New ABCD Patrons

The Trustees warmly welcome Dr. Husam Zomlot, Palestinian Ambassador to the UK, Andrew and Amy Mortimer, husband and daughter of the late Georgina Mortimer, ABCD co-founder, and Lucy Glaister as Patrons of ABCD. Their breadth of experience and passion are exceptional and we look forward to introducing you to them in the future.

Join us at these fundraising events to help change the lives of children with disabilities across Palestine. For further information please visit www.abcdbethlehem.org/upcoming-events

London Palestine Reception and Auction 20th September, 2019

Join ABCD Patron, Dr Husam Zumlot, Palestinian Ambassador to the UK, charity founder Val Jourdan, MBE, Trustees and friends of the charity to enjoy Palestinian mezze finger food, drinks and to bid for attractive lots to raise funds for the charity including a day's fishing on the River Test. From 6:30 – 8.30 pm at Our Lady of Victories, Kensington High Street, London W8. Tickets: £25. See abcdbethlehem.org for details and ticket purchases.

STAY IN TOUCH

If you would like to be kept updated with ABCD's news and events, please go to <http://www.abcdbethlehem.org/stay-in-touch>

Ways to donate:

Donate online via Virgin Giving (search for Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability)

Bank Transfer – make a bank transfer to Lloyds TSB, Sort Code: 30 99 66, Account Number: 00 63 09 49

Sign up for Give as you Live – raise funds for ABCD as you shop online at no extra cost to you

Cheques (made out to ABCD) can be sent to Dovecot House, Winchester Road, Goodworth Clatford, Hants, SP11 7HN

For more options, including setting up a standing order, please go to <http://abcdbethlehem.org/donate>

ABCD Registered Office: Dovecot House, Winchester Road, Goodworth Clatford, Hants, SP11 7HN

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