



ACTIVITY REPORT 2018

OUM EL NOUR

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rehabilitation • integration • prevention
إعادة تأهيل • اندماج • وقاية

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

When we began this journey together on June 15th, 1989, to serve the needs of our fellow brothers and sisters who were struggling with substance use disorder, we knew that this work was important, but perhaps considered it less important than other pressing social problems. Since this time, the consumption and trafficking of these substances has reached unexpected levels everywhere in the world as well as in our own country.

The complex nature of this problem is reflected in the many responses that exist today. The positions taken by government officials across the world to combat the growth of both supply and demand are equally problematic. Some, with the support of experts on the issue, propose the most repressive of measures, while other countries have opted for a “Risk Reduction” approach, offering Supervised Injection Sites, the distribution of clean needs, or even the legalisation of cannabis. In conjunction with other associations, we at Oum el Nour have presented our position on cannabis, based on our studies and experience, to the political leaders of our country. A quick survey of the almost 8,000 women and men who have come to us over the past 30 years demonstrates that at least 78% began their struggle with substance use with cannabis.

All countries must confront this problem and our government has issued its Inter-Ministerial Substance Use Response Strategy for Lebanon 2016-2021, which was developed in collaboration with Oum el Nour.

If we take a wider look at the many initiatives undertaken by different organisations to combat the negative effects of drugs, we can see three approaches: prevention, risk reduction, and rehabilitation.

As for Oum el Nour, we currently operate two inpatient rehabilitation centres, one for men and one for women, which have provided treatment for thousands of people. Our results are recognized as excellent, however, it is necessary to note that these results are not solely due to our programme, but also to the environment in which our patients live. Family, friends, and faith protect each person from the dire effects of isolation.

In terms of Prevention, we have developed an approach which won First Prize among 83 NGOs, following a 2012 study undertaken by the Pompidou Group.

With regard to Risk Reduction, we believe that these approaches do not offer persons struggling with substance use disorder or their families the peace and serenity that they seek. Moreover, these methods can lead to new forms of marginalization and a misunderstanding of their suffering, when, in fact, their deepest desire is to be free from dependence. This is why, since 2000, we have offered Outpatient treatment services, a space for those who may not be suited for inpatient treatment to also be heard and receive counselling.

This report offers a general overview of our many activities and initiatives, which are taking place in more and more regions of the country. We are active in the capital, in the North, with a base office in Tripoli, in the Bekaa Valley, and in Mount Lebanon, where our two inpatient treatment centres are located. Our inpatient treatment program lasts approximately one and a half years and is completely free of charge, just like all of our services. We welcome all regardless of religion, social class, or nationality—as we are particularly aware of the great number of refugees who have sought shelter in our country—with special priority for those at the greatest risk of hurting themselves or others.

We have tirelessly pursued our path for the last 30 years, despite financial difficulties and regional instability. Given continual changes in attitudes, we seek to always question our methods and approach in order to maximise our efforts. With ever increasing demand for our services, which exceeds our current capacity, we turn to you to help us continue, for your understanding and your assistance.

We have continued moving forward for the past 30 years thanks to the support of our numerous partners and we are very grateful. Together, we offer a second chance to our brothers and sisters who seek to reintegrate into society, a society that we wish to make healthier and more united.

Through your efforts, Oum el Nour is celebrating its 30th anniversary and we thank you!

Bishop Guy Paul Noujaim
Oum el Nour's President
February, 2019

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30 YEARS OF HISTORY

It all started in 1989

Oum el Nour was founded in 1989 in the waning days of the Lebanese Civil War as a group of socially-conscious young men watched one friend succumb to an overdose and struggled to support other friends in overcoming substance use disorder. With the assistance of Bishop Guy Paul Njeim and space offered by the Convent of Saint Charbel in Annaya, a movement quickly grew to help others seeking to overcome substance dependencies. Oum el Nour was registered as a Lebanese non-profit, non-governmental social organization (under decree 120/ad) in 1990 and became a pioneer in offering rehabilitation and prevention services in Lebanon. In viewing substance use disorder as a symptom of deeper personal issues, the Oum el Nour team, composed of 94 members, seeks to treat the whole person and help him or her achieve a healthy and balanced relationship with the self and others to become a positive asset to society.



- 1989: Opening of a Seheilé Rehabilitation Centre to provide inpatient treatment for men
- 1992: Opening of Fatka Rehabilitation Centre, inpatient treatment centre for women
- 1994: Development of a Follow-Up Program to support former substance users' reintegration
- 2000: Creation of the Prevention Department to coordinate educational work with children, youth, and parents
- 2012: Creation of Outpatient Treatment Department to support substance users in regaining a healthier balance to their lives before becoming dependent
- 2017: Opening of Tripoli Centre to respond to demand in North Lebanon for education and counselling services as well as outreach to incarcerated persons

PHILOSOPHY

Mission

Oum el Nour is committed to serving individuals through helping them overcome their dependency in order to promote a healthier society characterized by sustainable growth. In addition to rehabilitation, Oum el Nour is highly active in the prevention and social reintegration fields.

Vision

Oum el Nour aims at gradually decreasing the dependency rates in Lebanon and increasing awareness regarding the various factors leading to such dependencies and behaviour. Thus, we continuously endeavour to implement tested programs and develop new approaches to welcome, guide, rehabilitate, and accompany substance users.

Values

Independence Oum el Nour is independent, non-sectarian and non-political.

No discrimination All human beings are equal. Our services are opened to everyone with no discrimination relating to gender, religion, nationality or personal viewpoints.

Confidentiality Oum el Nour ensures complete confidentiality of its beneficiaries' information.

Transparency We ensure transparency of our activities and budget through activity and financial reports and yearly audits.

Respect All beneficiaries and employees are treated with dignity and respect.

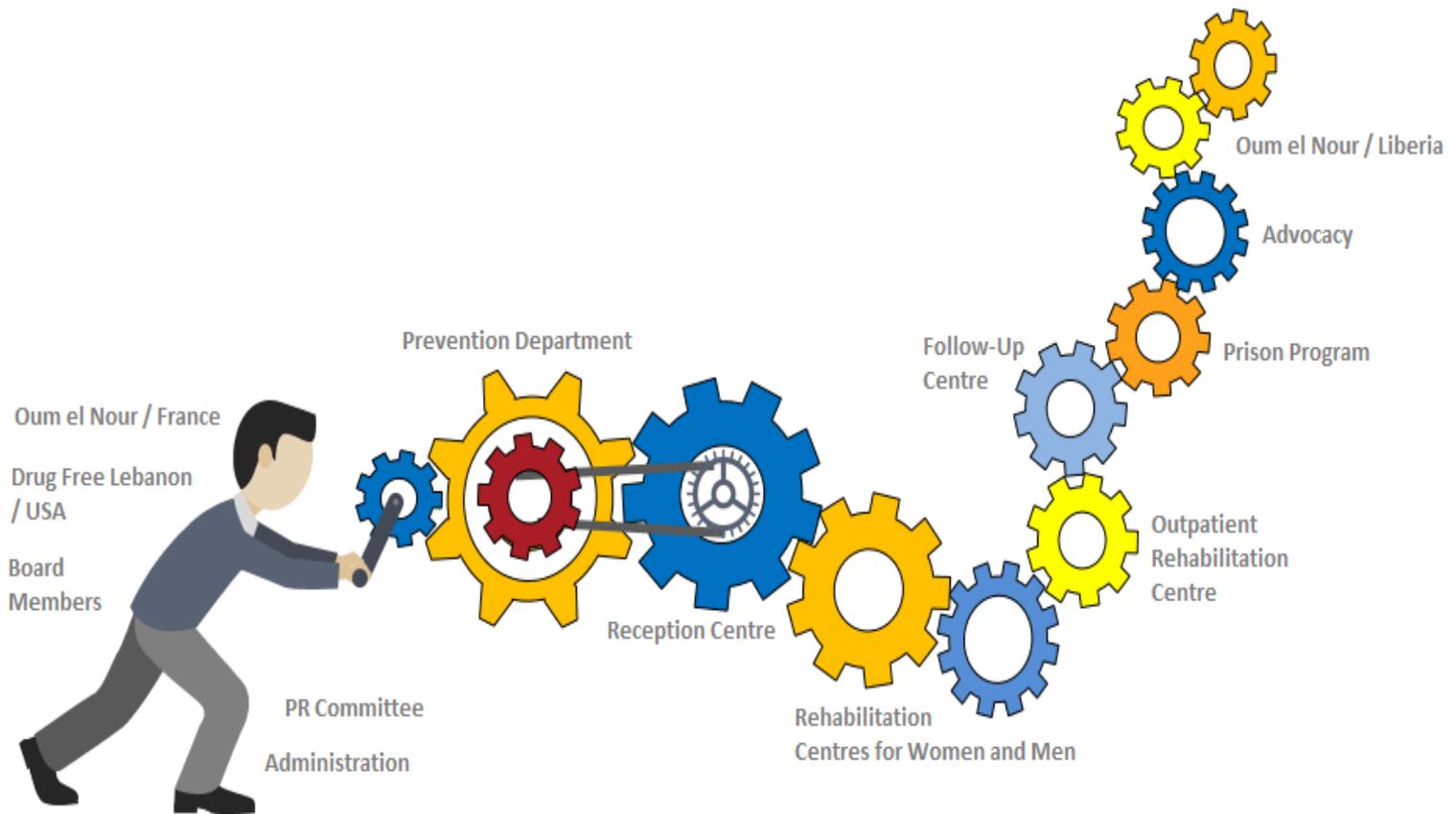
Professionalism We all deserve the best. That is why Oum el Nour is committed to offering the best services. Through follow-up, evaluation and training we constantly renew our services' quality.

Teamwork Trust, loyalty, equality and solidarity unite Oum el Nour's team toward a common goal: work to serve vulnerable people.

Welcome Our team is devoted and always available. Oum el Nour is a large family where everyone is welcomed with kindness.

OUM EL NOUR SERVICES

Overview of Oum el Nour Centres and Programmes



All Oum el Nour services are provided free of charge.

PREVENTION SERVICES

The **Prevention department** aims at **empowering individuals with knowledge, attitudes and skills** to make healthy choices and live life fully without drugs; and to **build the capacities of youth, families, professionals, and community members** to act as partners in drug prevention.

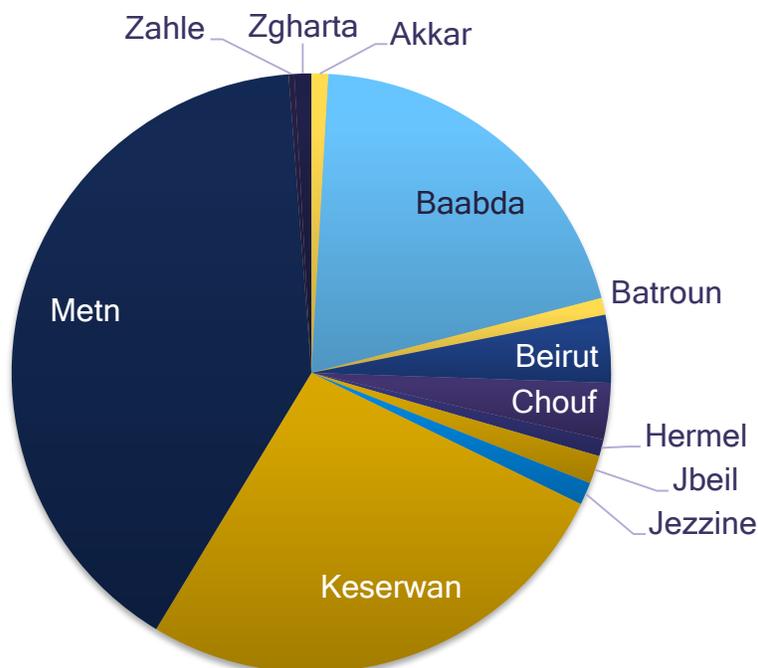
The prevention department strategy is focused on health promotion and community development. The work of the department is based on a holistic approach targeting the individual as well as social and environmental factors leading to substance use, by involving youth of all ages, as well as their peers, parents, teachers, professionals and communities.

The Department implements several prevention programmes, adapted for various beneficiaries, among them vulnerable groups such as refugees living in Lebanon, through the implementation of programs built on life skills-based education, peer-to-peer education, prevention education program, capacity building, and parental skills.

“I HAVE A SMALL STORY
HAPPENING TO ONE OF MY
FRIENDS AND NOW I KNOW
WHAT TO DO”

YOUTH AWARENESS
PROGRAMME, 2018

In 2018, the Prevention Department reached **16,247 direct beneficiaries**.



Where our Beneficiaries come from

NB:

In 2018, prevention activities in the North of Lebanon have taken place through the WAll project (cf. page 30).

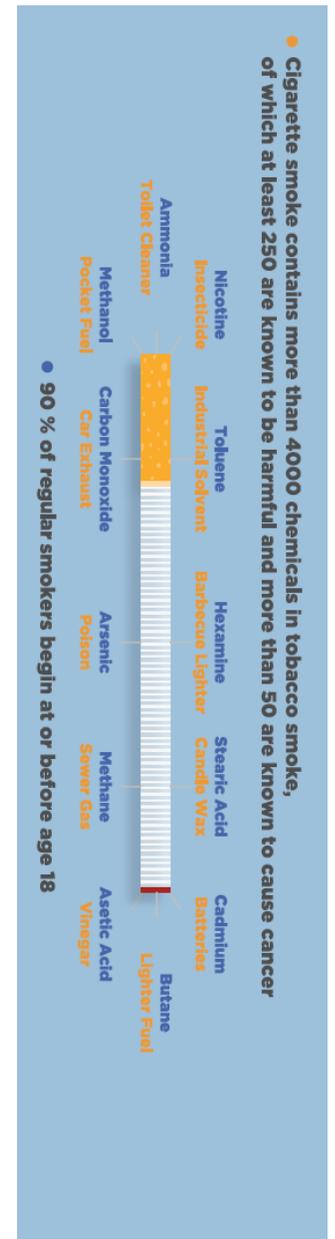
The Prevention Department carried out more than 330 prevention sessions and 40 workshops, trainings and capacity-building sessions as well as events such as forums, campaigns and awareness stands.

The Prevention team also developed the first “Escape the room” game to raise awareness on substance use called "Escape the room". They presented stand about Prevention in the **Presidential Palace** during the Independence Week, which targeted about 5,000 beneficiaries. They also developed a **new movie** "هَيِّي مرّة" (“Once is Enough”) as an interactive awareness tool targeting youth.

The Prevention Department published several **new tools**, including the Parents’ Guides; Informational wheels, pens, and posters for youth; bookmarks¹ on 4 different topics (Tobacco -*cf. caption on the right*-, Alcohol, Narguilé, Cannabis) and a series of 10 Postcards related to each session in the SAIL program.



Training of Trainers with the NGO Himaya



¹ These bookmarks have been funded by the Italian Cooperation (AICS) project AID 10964 implemented by the Italian NGO CTM (cf. page 27).

RECEPTION AND ORIENTATION SERVICES

The **Reception Centre** is the entry point to Oum el Nour treatment services. It aims to help substance users access treatment services in Lebanon. The Reception Centre thus provides hotline services to offer information and counselling and receives beneficiaries in person to help them better understand their needs and to advance towards the best treatment option. The Centre accompanies them in their transfer toward Oum el Nour services or with other structures, according to their needs.

In 2018, the Reception Centre received **515 persons**.



In 2018, the Reception Centre implemented a **new assessment process**, adapted to the changing needs of substance users. The new process includes, for example, questions related to cyber addiction. The assessment helps to establish a diagnosis for each beneficiary.

Among our beneficiaries, 15% were women; 3% were referred via the Drug Addiction Committee; 52% were between 18 and 28 years old; 29% had

a criminal record.



89%
cannabis



75%
alcohol



73%
cocaine



52%
tramadol



47%
freebase



46%
salvia



Hotline number: +961 (0) 9 223 700

TREATMENT SERVICES

Outpatient Rehabilitation Centre

The **Outpatient Rehabilitation Centre** provides support to substance users who have not yet reached a stage of dependency, or who do not want to / cannot enter an inpatient treatment facility. The Centre's objective is to help its beneficiaries **achieve autonomous, substance free lives**. They accompany substance users toward: abstinence from all substances and avoiding relapse; improving their psychological well-being and their family dynamics; and helping them to be better integrated in their social environment.

The Centre offers 4 to 9 months of therapy which is based mainly on group therapy, family therapy and individual psycho-social support. After completing the program, beneficiaries can benefit from a one-year follow up program within the Outpatient Rehabilitation Centre.

In 2018, the Outpatient Rehabilitation Centre received **28 beneficiaries**.

Under 30

68% youth



18% women



89% of parents
attended family groups

11

graduated



14% benefited
from couple therapy



Expression group in which program participants work on personal development through discussion about sensitive topics that have had positive and negative influences on their life.

Inpatient Rehabilitation Centres

Oum el Nour has two **Inpatient Rehabilitation Centres**, one for men in Seheilé (72 beds), one for women in Fatka (35 beds). Their aim is to accompany substance users in overcoming their dependency and reintegrating into society. The centres offer treatment based on the Therapeutic Community model, which focused on group therapy and individual holistic support (psychological, social, medical, educational, legal, etc.), as well as psychological and social support for the family to increase awareness about issues relating to substance use and reinforce healthy parenting skills.

The treatment lasts 15 months and is designed in accordance with the Ministry of Public Health requirements.

The programme is divided into 5 stages, each stage lasting 3 months and concentrating on specific objectives and the acquisition of specific skills: Resident, Companion, Head of Unit,

THE REHABILITATION PROGRAM HELPED
ME LOVE AND APPRECIATE THE PERSON
I AM INSIDE OUT.

K.A. Fatka Rehabilitation Centre

Supervision and Reintegration. During this last phase, a stronger focus is placed on reintegration.

In 2018, **107 new residents, including 12 women**, were welcomed by Inpatient Rehabilitation Centres, in addition to those already having entered in 2017 and in the process of completing their rehabilitation programme.



Snow outing with women of the Rehab Centre

The Rehabilitation Centre for Women has added an additional floor. It will be used for socio-economic trainings and social inclusive business.

Women substance users face a greater level of stigma. This can prevent women from reaching out for treatment services. Outdoor activities, such as camping, help residents to better connect with nature and develop new ways of learning to enjoy life without drugs.

REINTEGRATION SERVICES

Reintegration is a cross-cutting issue in all Oum el Nour services. In 2018, the reintegration programme took place mainly within the framework of the Indimaj project, funded by the European Union and of the project AID 10964 funded by the Italian Cooperation (AICS) and implemented by the Italian NGO CTM (cf. page 27).

Although preparing for reintegration is a priority throughout the inpatient rehabilitation programme, social reintegration becomes the most important focus during the last three months. In [Inpatient Centres](#), residents have access to professional orientation, languages classes, computer classes and to different types of socio-economic activities to help broaden their professional prospects, such as social farming, beekeeping, carpentry, sewing, electricity, etc. Moreover, finding a job is compulsory in order to leave the programme and graduate from the centres. Afterwards, beneficiaries continue to receive support for social reintegration with the [Follow-Up Centre](#), as explained below.

*Seheilé Centre goes green with the development of a **social farming** program (project AID 10964). It aims at improving the agriculture activity toward a sustainable inclusive business. On the right, one of the three green houses.*



*Fatka Centre provides the residents with **beekeeping training**. The beekeepers also ensure honey production. Oum el Nour then sells the honey to fund a portion of the activities.*

Follow-Up Centre

The **Follow-Up Centre** helps recovered individuals who have completed the rehabilitation program in Oum el Nour Inpatient Centres to **maintain their sobriety and reintegrate into society**. The Centre accompanies beneficiaries in avoiding relapse and in developing their autonomy and personal potential. The Follow-Up programme lasts 18 months and consists of a 24/7 hotline, psychiatric and psychological follow-up, group therapy, individual therapy and follow up with the family.

In 2018, the Follow-Up Centre received **37 beneficiaries**, in addition to the 30 already participating in the programme.

In 2018, the Follow-Up Centre completed **Indimaj**, a project funded by the European Union and managed by the Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (cf. page 27). Among the various project activities, Indimaj included an **awareness** component, to fight against the stigma surrounding substance users, which is exacerbated by the mention of substance use on their criminal record. This poster on the right was designed to raise awareness among the private sector, to enhance former substance users' access to the labour market.

1 Who is a former substance abuser

- Responsible
- Determined
- Honest
- Motivated

2 Why to recruit a former substance abuser

- Interpersonal Skills
- Perseverance
- Team Unity

3 Where to recruit a former substance abuser

- University/School
- Companies
- Organisation
- Public Sectors

4 When to recruit a former substance abuser

- After completing his/her inpatient program
- During his/her reintegration into society
- During his/her continuous self development
- During his/her potential growth

Oum el Nour
2018

TRIPOLI CENTRE

In 2017, Oum el Nour opened a Centre in Tripoli, funded by the European Union through the WALL project (cf. page 27) in a partnership with the Safadi Foundation. This Centre offers Reception, Orientation, Counselling and Prevention Services. The project came to an end in December 2018, however, due to the strong demand and need, Oum el Nour is continuing to fund these activities for the North of Lebanon.

Reception and Orientation Services

A hotline number is available for the Tripoli area. A counsellor provides information, counselling, one-on-one meetings and referral services. In the last 2 years, more than 300 one-on-one meetings have been held.

Hotline Number: + 961 (0) 76 947 460

Prison Services

Following our 2017 study in both women's and men's prisons to assess the specific needs of inmates, training sessions were implemented for the medical staff of both prisons to give them information and help them develop skills on substance-use related issues. Moreover, in 2018, approximately 140 one-on-one meetings were held in both men's and women's prisons in Qobbeh to provide psycho-social support and counselling to substance users.

Prevention Activities through Capacity Building

Through this project, **10 key actors** have benefited from training sessions and follow-up to be able to implement effective mechanisms for addressing drug prevention throughout the Tripoli region. More than **5,500 youth** benefited directly from prevention activities, as well as **600 parents**.



Parent's Forum in Safadi Cultural Centre

PILOT PROJECTS



Oum el Nour Liberia

Oum el Nour has created a branch association in Liberia.

In 2018, assistance and many training sessions were provided by Oum el Nour staff from Lebanon. Those participating included a coordinator, a specialized educator from Fatka Rehabilitation Centre, a trainer from the Prevention Department, who helped to implement Prevention and

Outpatient programmes adapted to the Liberian context. In November 2018, the Prevention Center of OEN Liberia created a "Light Club" in three Schools. In addition to collecting data on substance use among students, the Light Clubs aim to promote emotional, informational and social support through activities that highlight the prevention of all types of addiction.

Cyber addiction

Oum el Nour has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lebanese Association for Rehabilitation Awareness on Addiction (LARAA). This new partnership aims at gathering the expertise of LARAA on cyber addiction with Oum el Nour's expertise on dependencies in general in order to develop preventive strategies to raise awareness on this increasingly important issue.



This session was held in Carmel Saint Joseph Meshref school.

Fight against substance use in Deir el Ahmar area

In 2018, Oum el Nour provided help to Talita Khoum, a NGO based in the Bekaa, to design a project to tackle the needs regarding substance-use related issues in the area. Oum el Nour mentored Talita Khoum and both associations presented a joint project to Deir el Ahmar Union of Municipality (composed of 9 municipalities) and the Archbishop. The project was accepted and will begin in 2019. It includes training from Oum el Nour professionals for Talitha Koum staff.



A marathon was organized in Deir el Ahmar with Talitha Koum and Oum el Nour Prevention's Department.

ADVOCACY

“Be the Game Changer, our Society is in Danger... Say NO to legalization of cannabis cultivation in Lebanon”

Within the **Lebanese network of Therapeutic Communities**, Oum el Nour, together with JCD Jeunesse Contre la Drogue, CDLL Cénacle de la Lumière, and Nusroto al-Anashid, has published a position statement against the legalization of cannabis cultivation in Lebanon.

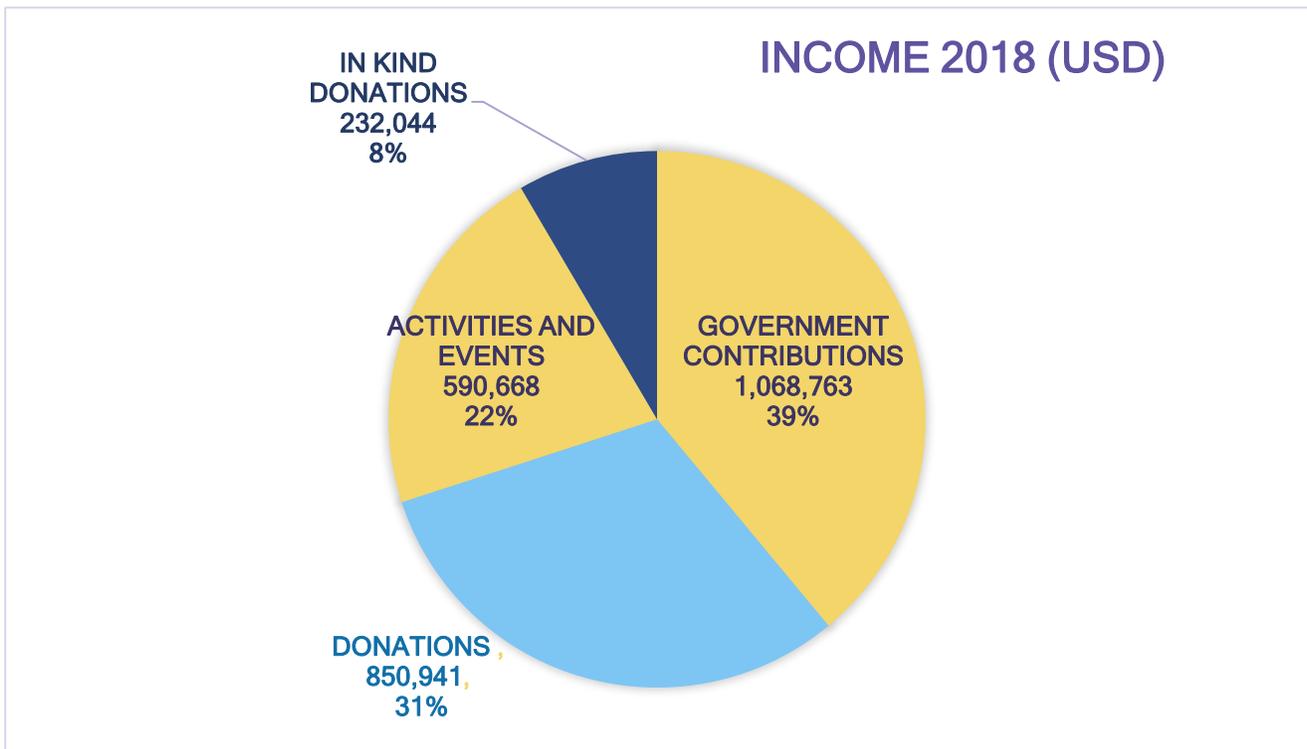
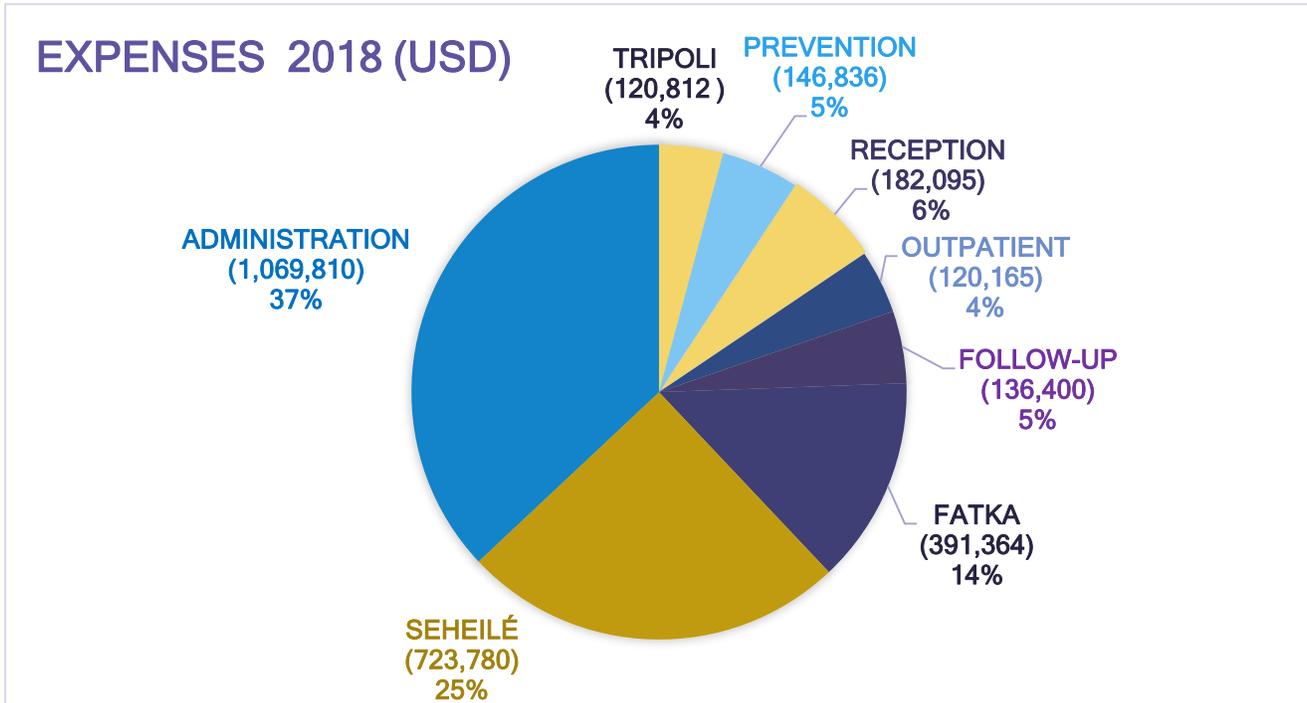
They have agreed on the following six points and went through all political parties and national stakeholders to defend their position.



1. **Ambiguity in Lebanese studies** regarding the local demand for medical cannabis. This weakens the economic argument to legalize cannabis in order to help farmers increase their income.
2. **Medical studies are inconclusive**; scant evidence is available and relates only to a few cases.
3. **Risks and cautions.** In addition to all risks and cautions that must be communicated, legalizing cannabis for medical use is a potential pathway to the legalization of recreational pot, which would lead to greater costs in terms of healthcare and crime.
4. **Ambiguity on the economic benefits.** Because the Lebanese economy is so idiosyncratic, cultivating cannabis for medical purposes will cost farmers much more than traditional agriculture. At the same time, demand for recreational cannabis, which can be cultivated with less rigor than medicinal cannabis, will still be high, leading to an uncontrollable black market.
5. **Ambiguity in the monitoring & control:** to maintain sufficiently strict control, ministries will need to establish competent and effective departments to properly implement the law and prevent the growth of black markets.
6. **Protect Lebanon by not legalizing cannabis cultivation, even for medical purposes, and aim at regional development.** In a country like Lebanon that is suffering from the inability to enforce its laws and control smuggling and illegal trade, cannabis cultivation legalization will increase the risk of giving the parties involved in this trade the ability to evade laws and achieve different goals from the purpose for which it was established.

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Are accounts are audited by Rayess & Associates. Income does not include grants from the European Union, as they require different accounts. This is discussed further on page 27.

GRANTS & PARTNERSHIPS

Institutional Partnerships

Ministry of Social Affairs *MoSA*

The MoSA is a key supporting partner for Oum el Nour's activities. Through a direct contract, the Ministry covers the costs for primary Prevention activities and also a part of the Prison programme. Through the Specialised Care Sector, a second contract covers beneficiaries in the Outpatient Rehabilitation Centre, activities at the Reception and Follow-Up Centres, as well as the Parents' Programme (for parents of residents in the Rehabilitation Centres).

Ministry of Public Health *MoPH*

The MoPH is a strong supporting partner for tertiary prevention activities. The Ministry provides funding to support the costs of treatment for Lebanese residents in the Inpatient Rehabilitation Centres.

- The MoSA and MoPH have been supporting Oum el Nour for 25 years. In 2018, they covered almost 40% of Oum el Nour's expenses.

Oum el Nour is also working in partnership on projects with other Ministries, according to current needs. In 2018, Oum el Nour partnered with the **Ministry of Education and Higher Education** which provided the Prevention Department with access to public schools; with the **Ministry of Justice** and the **Ministry of Interior and Municipalities** on the Prison Programme; with the **Ministry of Public Works and Transport**, who have improved access roads to the Rehabilitation Centres; and with the **Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform**.

Oum el Nour is also a member of the **Drug Addiction Committee**, and its only civil society member.

Municipality of Hadat



Since 2016, Oum el Nour and Hadat Municipality have been working together for a healthier society. Oum el Nour provides community-based referral and Outpatient treatment services for substance users in Hadat and implements many activities to increase awareness about substance use related-issues among parents and youth through training and awareness sessions. In 2018, the Prevention Department

organised the “**International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**” event in the Hadat region, targeting more than 500 beneficiaries through educational and entertainment activities.

Municipality of Zouk Mikael



Oum el Nour signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Zouk Mikael municipality in 2017. It establishes a 5-year partnership to expand and better coordinate prevention activities in the area, and to support Oum el Nour in providing services in the area.

Municipality of Beirut



In 2018, Beirut municipality signed a partnership with Oum el Nour to open new **reception and orientation, prevention and treatment services** for the Beirut region. The project should begin in 2019.

Oum el Nour organised a fundraising event at **Casino du Liban** on September 28th and received the support from the following municipalities: Achkout, Adma, Aïn el Rihane, Aïn Saadeh, Ajaltoun, Amioun, Antelias, Beit Merry, Bikfaya, Bourj Hammoud, Broumana, Deir el Ahmar, Dekweneh, Faytroun, Hazmieh, Jdeide, Jeita, Jounieh, Mansourieh, Mazraa Kfarbedian, Raachine, Sin el Fil, Watta Joz, Yahchouch, Zalka, Zouk Mikael, Zouk Mosbeh.

International Cooperation Project



ctm | onlus

“Strengthening of prevention, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration services for addicts and former addicts in Lebanon”

The Italian Cooperation is funding this project AID 10964, implemented by the Italian NGO “Cooperazione con i Territori del Mondo” (CTM) and its partners: Oum el Nour, Conferenza Episcopale Italiana (CEI) and Associazione Solidarieta E Sviluppo (ASeS-CIA). The project finances activities in the Rehabilitation Centres of Fatka and Seheile in addition to activities of the prevention department and the technical training for the personal of Oum el Nour (cf. pages 11, 14 & 15 for more details)

Two of the main achievements of 2018 were the rehabilitation of the Fatka Rehabilitation Centre (construction of the **second floor** of the main building, landscaping all around the centre), and the development of a **social farming** (green houses, animal husbandry) socio-economic activity.

Grants

“WAI, Community-based action for drug abuse prevention and support for substance abusers in Tripoli”



This project is a collaboration with the Safadi Foundation and was funded by the European Union. The overall objective of the project was to create a sustainable and strategic system at a local scale that will contribute to a consolidated national strategy for confronting the drug problem across Lebanon. The project, which ended in December 2018, funded activities in the Tripoli Centre through a two-year grant of 555,555 Euros (cf. page 19).

“INDIMAJ, Socio-professional reintegration program for former substance abusers”

This project, part of the AFKAR III Programme, was funded by the European Union and managed by the Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR).

The overall objective of the project was to promote sustainable socio-professional reintegration programme for former substance users. The project funded most of the activities described in the Reintegration Services and the Follow-up Centre (cf. page 17 & 18) through a two-year grant of 688, 570 Euros.

Renovation of the Hangar into a Workshop



This project was funded by the Australian Embassy under the Direct Assistance Programme, which covered the first phase of the works. Through a grant of 19,542 USD, the roof was completely refurbished (repaired and well-insulated), the exterior of the ground floor has been repaired and insulated, the lavatories and kitchen areas have been cleared; a wall has been constructed and the

main entrance has been paved. This hangar, once completed, will be dedicated to socio-economic activities.

Cyber Addiction and Parental Skills

This project is being implemented by LARAA and Oum el Nour upon the initiative of the Rotary Club Beirut Cedars, which allocated a grant of 10,000 USD. This grant covers the activities described on page 20 with regard to cyber addiction.

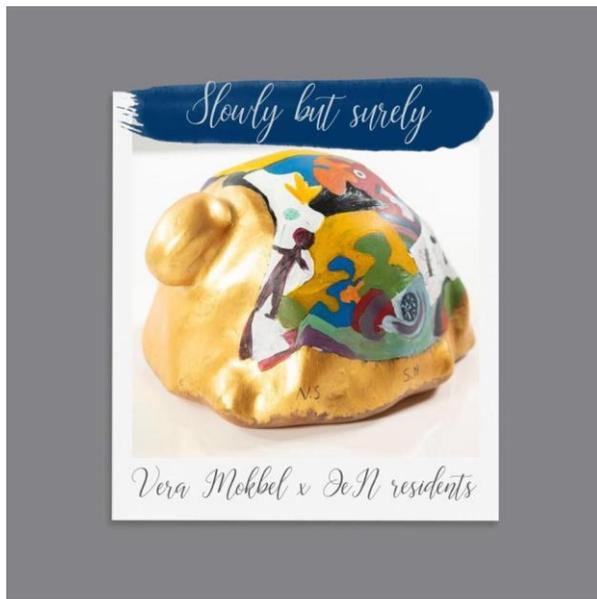
Sister Organisations

Drug Free Lebanon serves to assist fundraising activities in the US. In 2018, it collected 31,989 USD to cover Oum el Nour expenses.

Oum el Nour France, with the support of *L'Oeuvre d'Orient*, collected 6,723 EUR in 2018.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Al Mandaloun NightClub - November 15, 2018



On November 15, Oum el Nour hosted its Annual Fundraiser event at Al Mandaloun nightclub, Mar Mikhael. The exceptional event was organized by Caractere Events and hosted by MTV presenter Rania Achkar. The evening included a unique fashion show by Rani Zakhem organized by Paola Rebeiz, a percussion show, and an auction conducted by the extraordinary auctioneer Taline Boladian. The auction offered special turtles designed by Ghassan Zard that were distinctively reinterpreted by 15 well renowned Lebanese

artists, Nada Debs, Anastasia Nysen, Jad El Khoury, Georges Mohasseb, Roger Moukarzel, Nada Sehnaoui, Ramy Boutros, Bokja, Katya Traboulsi, Hania Farrell, David & Nicolas, Youssef Haidar, Bassam Kahwaji, Jean Boghossian, and Gregory Gatserelia. Another special turtle was designed by Oum el Nour Residents in collaboration with Vera Mokbel, cf. photo above.

Casino du Liban, Salle des Ambassadeurs – September 28, 2018

Oum el Nour hosted its Annual Gala Dinner on September 28 at Casino du Liban, in the Salle des Ambassadeurs. Oum el Nour's partners were invited to celebrate the 29th anniversary of our journey together. The entertaining evening included the astonishing performance of Lara Jokhadar and the famous Saad Ramadan (photo on the right). A raffle was organized with more than 100 items, making for an evening of great fun for a good cause.



BOARD MEMBERS

BISHOP GUY PAUL NOUJAIM *President & Co-Founder*

Bishop in the Maronite Order and the founder of several NGOs. He has dedicated his life to the most vulnerable. A Founder of Oum el Nour, he has served as President since 1990.

GABRIEL DEBBANÉ *Co-founder and Vice President*

General Manager of the Debbané Group and graduate from HEC Montréal with a MBA. Committed in many NGOs, he is a co-founder of Oum el Nour has been an active Board Member since the founding.

TALAL AHMAR *Board Member*

Founder and General Manager at Squaremeters and graduate from Montreal University with a BA in Computer Science. He has been a Board Member of Oum el Nour since 2015.

NAJWA BASSIL PIETON *Board Member*

Consultant in local development and graduate in Social Work and Local Development at USJ. She was also a member of Jbeil municipality. She has been a Board Member since 2017.

ANTHONY BOU KATHER *Board Member*

CEO of A.N.Boukather - Automotive, and graduate from AUB with a BA in Computer Science, and an Executive MBA from INSEAD. He has been a Board Member since 2015.

CÉLINE DEBANNE *Board Member*

A graduate in Plastic Arts from ALBA University, she has been a Board Member of Oum el Nour since 2013 and has been an active member of the Public Relations Committee.

CHARLES NOUJAIM *Board Member*

Attorney at Law, BBA, he graduated in Law from La Sagesse University and previously assisted Oum el Nour as a Legal Advisor, He has been a Board Member since 2017.

HANI ZGHEIB *Board Member*

Dr. Architect and graduate of USEK and Kyushu (Japan). He has executive experience on International level, managing a multi-national staff. He became a Board Member for the first time in 2010.

MIREILLE KHOURY *General Manager*

General Manager since 2017, she graduated in Social Work and Human Resources, and holds a MBA from USJ-Paris Dauphine-La Sorbonne. She was Operational and HR manager at Arcenciel.

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Thank you!

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