

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



rehabilitation • integration • prevention
إعادة تأهيل • اندماج • وقاية



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ABOUT US

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.

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.

Beginning with inpatient rehabilitation services based on the Therapeutic Community model, Oum el Nour has since expanded to offer a comprehensive range of therapeutic services in multiple centers for Men and Women.

MILESTONES

1989: Opening of Scheilé Inpatient Rehabilitation Center for men

1992: Opening of Fatka Inpatient Rehabilitation Center for women

1994: Development of a Follow-Up Program to support former substance users' reintegration

2000: Creation of a Prevention Center to raise awareness and empower children, youth, parents, and professionals in preventing substance use

2012: Creation of Outpatient Treatment Center to support substance users in regaining a healthier balance to their lives before becoming dependent

2019: Oum el Nour Headquarters move to Aintoura

2020: Overcoming the pandemic and the economical crisis while ensuring our continuity.

2021: Forsa centre in Tripoli and Overcome the economic crisis to maintain our services free of charge and expanding.

Our 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 numbers of individual who suffers from Substance Use disorder in Lebanon and increasing awareness regarding the various factors leading to such dependencies and behavior. 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 open 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.

Leadership

Board of Directors

Mgr. Guy Paul Noujaim –Honorary President and Co-Founder

Mr. Gabriel Debbane – President and Co-Founder

Dr. Hani Zgheib – Vice President

Mrs. Najla Chahda – Member

Mr. Charles Noujaim – Member

Mr. Bachir El Murr – Member

Mr. Joe Miskaoui- Member

Mr. Francois Abi Nakhoul – Member

Management

FATHER TONI ABI AZAR, General Manager

Our Work and Statistics in 2021

Oum El Nour offers a comprehensive range of services to rehabilitate and reintegrate substance users as well as an extensive substance use prevention program to raise awareness about substance use issues with youth, parents, and the community.

All services are provided free of charge to beneficiaries with no discrimination regarding gender, nationality, religion, etc.

Oum el Nour's main objectives are:

1. Raise awareness on the psychological, health, and economic risks of substance use and empower youth, families, and the community with the necessary skills to make healthier decisions.
2. Diagnose, rehabilitate, and reintegrate substance users and persons with substance use disorder to overcome their dependencies and live substance free lives; support parents and families throughout the treatment period.
3. Build national capacity to combat substance use in Lebanon and coordinate with relevant organizations on national, regional, and international levels by spreading awareness about mental health and substance use disorder.

Prevention Department

The Prevention Department aims to empower individuals with knowledge, attitudes and skills to make healthy choices and live life fully without drugs as well as build the capacity of youth, families, professionals, and community members to act as partners in drug prevention.

A year of great efforts ...

The difficulty of the year 2021 lies in the many changes that accompanied the beginning of it, in terms of managing the department and in terms of the economic crisis that began in October 2019 in addition to the Beirut port explosion and completed its course to 2021,. As a prevention department, we created a hotline for people impacted by the Beirut blast and the economical crisis, mental health experts were managing the hotline and they were offering emotional support to callers. Until we were offered a centre in Beirut to assist people face to face and include this service in our prevention program. Finally, it lead us to create a Mental Health Awareness program to prevent Substance Use Disorder. This program was given in Schools, organization and to different host communities by Mental Health experts..

In 2021, the Prevention Department reached:
2000 direct beneficiaries
30,000 indirect beneficiaries



Youth and adult direct beneficiaries: 266



Individual sessions was: 359



Parent direct beneficiaries: 121



Professional/Community direct beneficiaries: 120



Indirect Beneficiaries (Awareness campaigns, educational videos): 30,000

Prevention center Mental Health Program



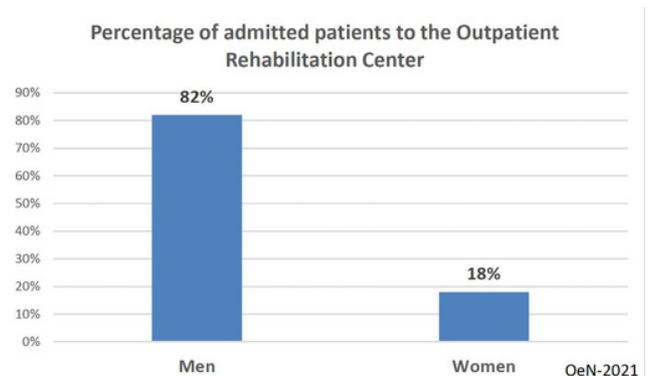
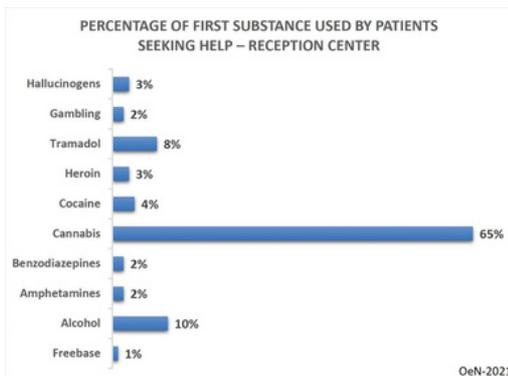
Reception Center

The Reception Center is the entry point to Oum el Nour treatment services. The Reception Center staff help substance users access treatment services in Lebanon and provide hotline services to offer information and counseling. The Center also welcomes beneficiaries in person to help them better understand their needs and to advance towards the best treatment option.

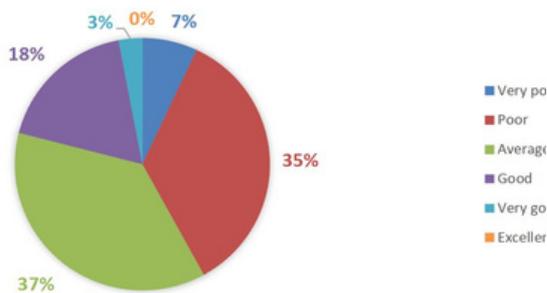
The Center accompanies each individual in transferring to Oum el Nour treatment services or treatment with other structures, according to their specific needs.

Call or WhatsApp
our Reception center
on:

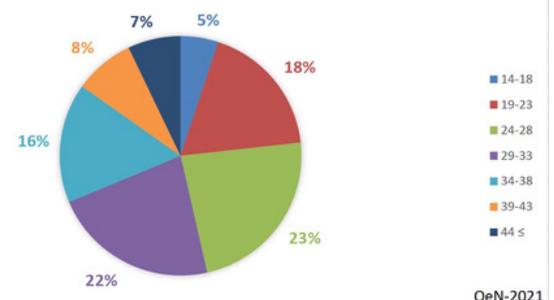
**76 750 738, 71 156 343,
and 76 947 460**



PERCENTAGE OF PATIENTS SEEKING HELP BY SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS – RECEPTION CENTER



PERCENTAGE OF PATIENTS SEEKING HELP BY AGE RECEPTION CENTER

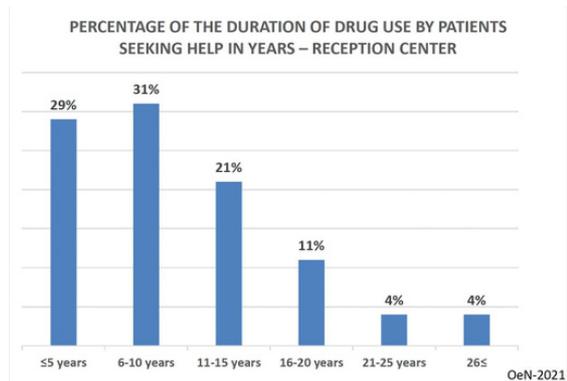
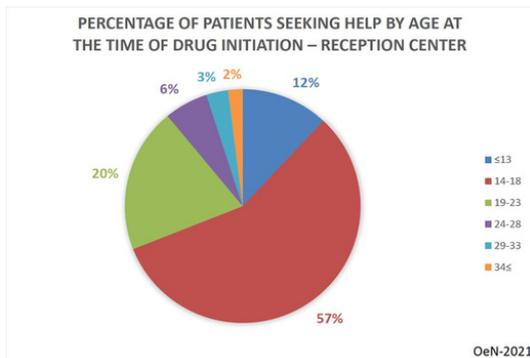
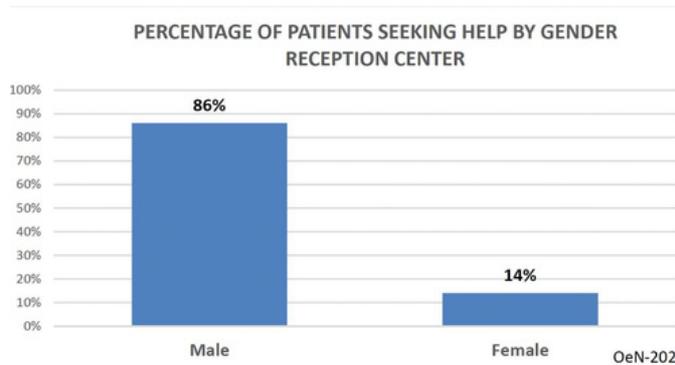


Inpatient Treatment Centers

Oum el Nour has two Inpatient Rehabilitation Centers, one for men in Seheilé (72-bed capacity) and one for women in Fatka (35-bed capacity). Both centers share the same aim to accompany substance users in overcoming their dependency and reintegrating into society.

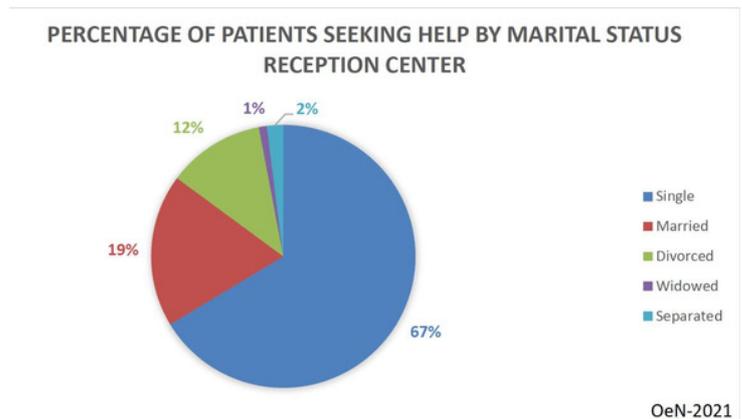
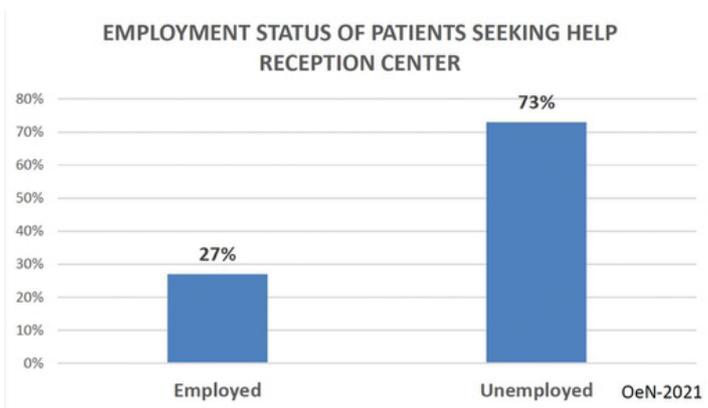
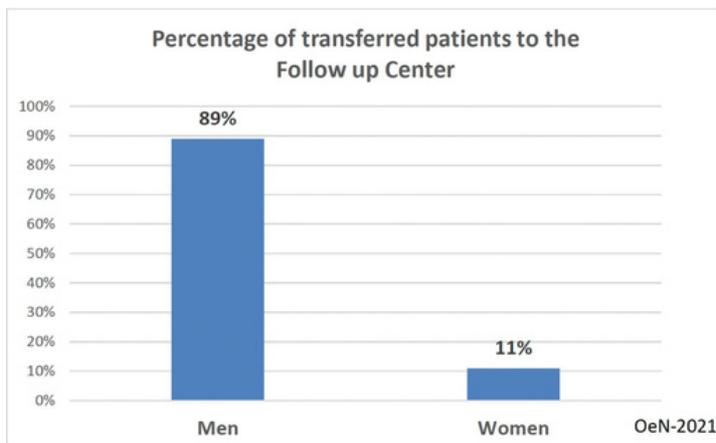
Inpatient treatment at Oum el Nour, which last 15 months, is based on the Therapeutic Community model, which focuses on holistic support (psychological, social, medical, educational, legal, etc.) through group and individual therapy and activities, as well as psychological and social support for the family to increase awareness about issues relating to substance use and reinforce healthy parenting skills.

The program is divided into 5 stages: Resident, Companion, Head of Unit, Supervision and Reintegration; each stage lasts 3 months and concentrates on specific objectives and on acquiring specific skills. During the last phase, a stronger focus is placed on reintegration.



Follow-Up Center

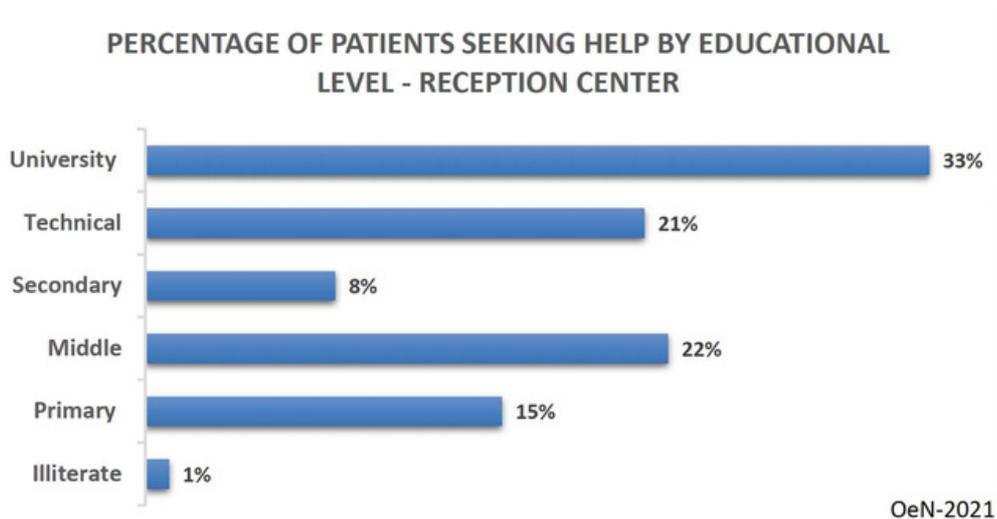
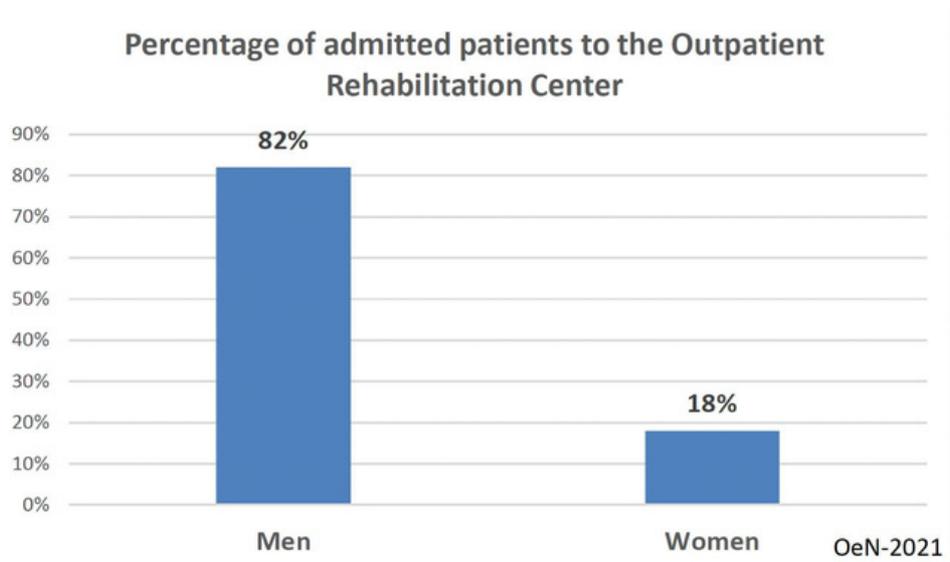
The Follow-Up Center helps recovered individuals who have completed the rehabilitation program in Oum el Nour Inpatient Centers to maintain their sobriety and reintegrate into society. The Center accompanies beneficiaries in avoiding relapse and in developing their autonomy and personal potential. The 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.



Outpatient Treatment Center

The Outpatient Rehabilitation Center provides support to substance users who have not yet reached a stage of dependency or who are unable to enter an inpatient treatment facility. The Center’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.

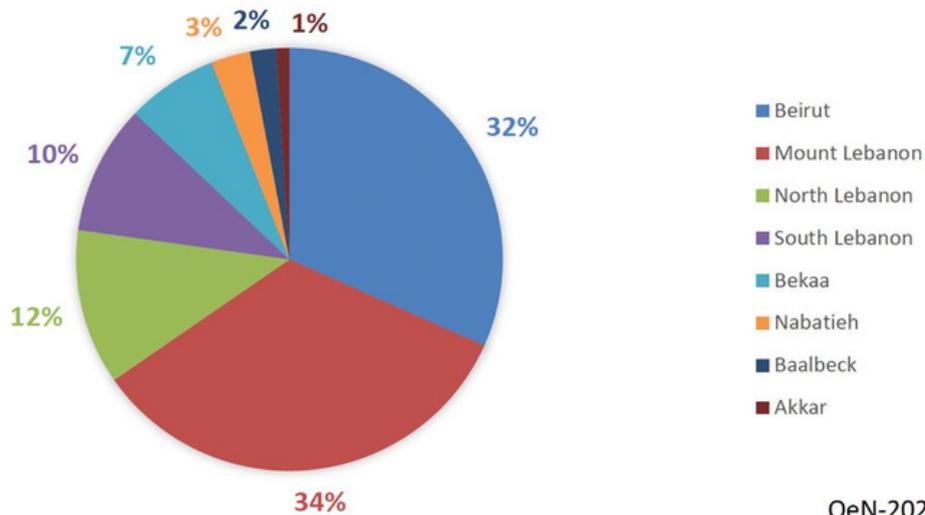
The Center offers 4 to 9 months therapy, based mainly on group therapy, family therapy and individual psycho-social support.





The Inpatient Treatment Centers for Women at Fatka (left) and Men at Seheilé (right)

PERCENTAGE OF PATIENTS SEEKING HELP BY DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE- RECEPTION CENTER



OeN-2021

The beneficiaries in our treatment centers are from different locations in Lebanon

OUR 2021 PARTNERSHIPS

Oum el Nour maintains formal partnerships with ministries and several municipal authorities to support substance use prevention and rehabilitation services:

- Ministry of Health
- MOSA (Ministry of Social Affairs)
- Municipality of Beirut
- Municipality of Zouk Mikael

Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MoPH):

The MoPH has been providing funding to support the costs of treatment for Lebanese residents in the Inpatient Rehabilitation Centers since 1995.

Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA):

The MoSA has been a key supporting partner for Oum el Nour's activities since 1994. The Ministry covers a portion of the costs for:

- Primary Prevention activities
- Outpatient treatment
- Activities at the Reception and Follow-Up Centers
- The Prison program, providing counseling and awareness-raising for detainees and prison employees
- Parents' Program to support parents of residents in inpatient treatment



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Forsa centre in Tripoli

**For Drug Addiction Treatment & Rehabilitation
FORSA (Chance) Center was established in light of
growing concern about trends of drug abuse in Tripoli,
where economic crisis means an absence
of treatment and rehabilitation facility services as well.**

AL MANHAJ Charitable, not- for- profit organization is committed to providing educational services and first aid in its medical centers equally and without any discrimination.

This is where it noticed how serious and concerning the scale of drug abuse is.

Given this situation, there was an urgent need to find a specialized association with considerable experience in dealing with substance use disorder and gradually decreasing the addiction rates.

Al- Manhaj Charity has initiated contact with Oum El Nour association, who is sharing key commonalities like credibility, free services and the expertise in specialized humanitarian sector.

Both parties agreed on creating an opportunity to support people in Tripoli and its surroundings: an opportunity for treatment, prevention and social integration.

A Memorandum Of Understanding has been signed also in the presence of both parties and a representative of the Mufti of Tripoli and the North at Oum El Nour Organization.

An opening ceremony was held, in Rashid Karami International Fair, Tripoli January 15th, 2022- Al Manhaj Charity and Oum El Nour Association launched their joint project in Tripoli, "FORSA Center" For Substance Abuse Prevention & Rehabilitation sponsored and attended by His Excellency the Prime Minister of State Mr.Najib Mikati represented by the Minister of Interior M. Bassam Mawlawi.

Cooperation and consolidated partnerships are among the contributing and influencing factors for better risk mitigation and increasing protection factors in Tripoli region and its suburbs.



Oum El Nour LIBERIA

REHABILITATION

The renovations of the rehabilitation center have started early December. The center is located on a 30-acre land on the Buchanan Highway. It was donated by the Government of Liberia through the instrumentality of His Excellency, George M. Weah. The plans and studies are complete and the work on-site has started.

Dr. Wilhemina S. Jallah, Minister of Health and our partner in the project, suggested the names of three staff members (Dr. Ziah Moses, Mr. Armah Welsh & Mrs. Mylene Konkardoe) to receive a Detoxification and Rehabilitation training at our centers in Lebanon.

Winfred Youbie, a Volunteer in our organization, will also be sent to Lebanon for the training.



Project Partners

Oum el Nour is very grateful for its network of loyal donors who support us in continuing our mission to help those seeking to overcome their substance dependencies.

This network includes individuals and businesses who provide both cash and in-kind donations in the form of food products, sanitary products, and small equipment that help Oum el Nour maintain its services.

We are especially grateful to the donors participating in the Sponsorship Program, who have volunteered to underwrite the annual treatment cost for one resident.

Anyone interested in becoming a partner and supporting Oum el Nour's mission can contact the Fundraising department: fundraising@oumelnour.org



National Partnerships and Advocacy

Oum el Nour is part of the following national networks and committees:

- Lebanese Network of Therapeutic Communities, which also includes: Cénacle de la Lumière, Nusroto al-Anashid, and Jeunesse Contre la Drogue.
- Drug Addiction Committee: We are the civil society representative in the Drug Addiction Committee along with representatives from the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Interior, to promote treatment alternatives for persons arrested on drug charges.
- The technical committee to develop and guide the implementation of the Inter-Ministerial Substance Use Response Strategy for Lebanon, 2016-2021 a process co-ordinated by the Council of Europe's Pompidou Group.
- Lebanon Humanitarian and Development NGOs Forum (LHDF): We are a member of this network that aims to facilitate the improvement, rationalization, and optimization of the response to humanitarian and development needs in Lebanon.

Talitha Koum: We are collaborating with this small NGO in Deir el Ahmar (Bekaa Valley), to expand prevention and referral services in this underserved region.



International Partnerships

Over the years, Oum el Nour has developed an international network of partners:

- **Oum el Nour France**- established in 1993; participates in awareness-raising and fundraising activities
contact: oumelnour.france@gmail.com
- **Drug Free Lebanon**- established in 2007; participates in awareness-raising, fundraising, and scientific collaboration activities
contact: infodrugfreelebanon@gmail.com; www.drugfreelebanon.org
- **Oum el Nour Liberia**- established in 2015, this sister organization offers substance use prevention programs, and inpatient and outpatient substance use rehabilitation treatment
contact: infolib@oumelnour.org; www.oumelnour.org/liberia

Oum el Nour also serves as one of the NGOs to assist the United Nations Department of Global Communications in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals and disseminating information on the UN's role in defending human rights and promoting peace and security.





A final word from Our general Director

Father Toni Abiazar
March 2022

As Lebanon continues to struggle with a severe multi-layered political, economic and financial crisis, our team at Oum el Nour keeps working relentlessly to maintain our mission at the center of all we do. There is no denying that the unstable situation, which has gotten increasingly worse over the last two years, has greatly affected us on multiple fronts, with evident humanitarian consequences on our community. However, by looking back at how we were able to withstand the hardships of the crisis so far, we can only move forward with the hope and determination to keep providing our services of rehabilitation, reintegration and prevention.

Today, it is only with the support and loyalty of our donors and partners, and with the persistence and efforts of our team, that Oum el Nour can pursue its mission and stay at the forefront of fighting addiction.

I wish to thank all our contributing partners and each member of Oum el Nour, as we work together during these unprecedented times to provide our beneficiaries with the support they need.

Thank you!



**THERE IS SOME GOOD IN THIS WORLD AND IT'S
WORTH FIGHTING FOR.**

