

## **Fundraising foundation for Shatila's Children- and Youth center (CYC)**

Organization number: 857209-1034

Plusgirokonto: 59 84 28 – 1

Bankgirokonto: 208 – 6254

Swish 1234476354

### **The board:**

Kickan Einarsson, Eva Hammad, Jane Mattsson, Nestor Verdinelli, Charlotte Wiktorsson

### **News about the board:**

Our board member Jane Mattsson will be leaving at year end 2022, after 14 years of serving on the board. Jane has been an extremely valuable force in the board's work to support the CYC. We will miss her wisdom and experience, but we will stay in touch as she is still a sponsor and serves on the board for The Palestine group of Gothenburg (PGG). Thank you for your years on our board.

To the foundation's board we are incredibly pleased to be joined by Peter Rosenberg. Peter worked as a doctor in the Ein El Hellwe refugee camp 1977 and has been a sponsor for many years. He visited the CYC in 2019. Peter now resides in Gothenburg, and we are happy to welcome him to our board.

### **Activities report for 2022**

#### **What is CYC?**

Cyc has existed since 1997. The organization was registered 2008 as an NGO with the Lebanese government and changed its name to "The Children & Youth Association". The organization has its main operation in Shatila with a subsection in the refugee camp Nahr El Bared since the camp war there 2007. CYC offers a meeting place for the children and youths in the refugee camp. In their free time they receive help with schoolwork and take part in other meaningful and enriching activities.

Abu Mujahed is the director of the organization.

CYC's fundamental pillar: Locally led work organized by a committee of elected youths plan the work together with Abu Mujahed. The activities are planned at open meetings for the participants.

Children's and youth's participation in the planning and equal terms for girls and boys. Child - to-child method (children helping children) is the basis of how the activities are organized. The UN's convention on the rights of the child is the guideline when the organizations content is decided.

Corona year 2021: Like the previous year the CYC had to redirect their activities and cancel extracurricular activities during the school year to enable focus on education for the schoolchildren and play and knowledge development for the pre-schoolchildren. The important summer activities at the center were held despite the pandemic.

Organizations that support CYC's work:

- France: Support for the CYC's children's activities and programs  
The Association of France: Farashesh and "Chatila les enfants de l'espoire"
- Italian Peace Association: "Council of churches in Valdés" gives funds to "Italian peace association" that run the "Children of hope project" and "Free wings dancing project"
- Canada: Fund for little initiatives, "Preventing violence by improving life skills" 2021-2022
- Sweden: ESUL, "Empowering the education of Syrian refugee children" 2021-2022
- Greece: Dr. Christian Yanno, supporting the children and youth programs
- Austria: Dr. Robert Milla, supporting the educational and recreational activities
- Scotland: Mr. Steve Cox, supporting the educational and recreational activities

- CYC Contribution: Shatila and Nahr El Bared, Private donations and CYC's campaigns and activities to raise funds
- CYC Guest House: CYC income generating project
- UNICEF and "Palestinian welfare association" in cooperation: Support the CYC through "Early Childhood education project"

### **What is the fundraising foundation?**

This fundraising foundation was established year 2000 to:

1. Support the activities conducted by The Children & Youth Association. The foundation collects money from sponsors and is given gifts and donations from individuals and organizations. The funds raised are sent to agreed-upon activities that benefit the children and youths there.
2. Spread information about the situation for children and youths in Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

The fundraising foundation is non-governmental and independent.

### **The year 2022**

The Corona virus gained new momentum at the start of the year. UNWRA closed schools again due to the risk of spreading the virus, despite increased risk at home due to overcrowded housing, the CYC was not allowed to welcome the children. The circumstances for distance learning have worsened due to electricity and internet shortage and tighter economy for the families. Despite this the CYC reopened their activities soon after. Parents were required to authorize their children's attendance to kindergarten. Many took the risk as they did not want their children to feel imprisoned at home, where many were also sick.

It was important to continue the various projects that had been started, the Canadian project was budgeted for the first months of 2022. In addition, the support from the ESUL (Emmaus Sundsvall Luleå) to cover costs for tutoring Syrian children were also for five months 2022. Meetings and gatherings in the library were held off for the time being.

On the 15th of May, Nakba day, many people gathered in front of the CYC. They came from different fractions, committees, organizations, camps, and NGO's that work with social issues, clubs, and foundations. Together they manifested the demand for the return to Palestine and the hope of freedom. The oldest gathered in a symbolic tent, those that were old enough to have experienced the hardships and suffering during the exile of 1948, and in the refugee camps that were established. Speeches were held about then and now. The Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Aqleh had recently been brutally killed by an Israeli soldier in the refugee camp Jenin on the West Bank. Abu Mujahed spoke and urged for national unity, demands were made on the PLO and for the Oslo-agreement to be added to history, the occupation ended and the return of all refugees. The children from Alma preschool performed dances, songs, and little plays about their situation today. The youths performed the traditional folk dance, Dabke. Poetry was read. At the end, everyone lite their flashlights and the Palestinian national anthem was played.

In June, 170 students gathered with many families, teachers, and the Italian "Children of Hope" at the CYC in Nahr El-Bared to celebrate the end of the school year and the children that were ending

their three years of preschool to start first grade. Principal Zukaina thanked everyone that supports their work and spoke on children's right to an education and the need for work, also about being given the opportunity to return to their homeland and to grow up in peace. Staff were thanked for their hard work all year with children of all ages. Parents registered their children for the coming summer activities, and for summer school for the students that didn't reach their goals and were at risk of becoming so called "dropouts." The children presented entertainment, music, and dance. In Shatila they held a similar day after the summer activities. The children showed what they had learned about taking care of and growing the garden that was organized between the CYC building and the fence. They take care of their environment, recycling, and gardening, and they decorated the wall with their paintings, handcraft, and embroidery.

The 40th anniversary of the massacre I Sabra and Shatila fell in September. Abu Mujahed was responsible for the program on one of the days. International guests flocked to the anniversary, especially those that worked in health care during this time in 1982. A nurse and sponsor that also spoke about the massacre in Swedish media and has been interviewed by the Palestine groups podcast about their experiences, traveled to and participated in the manifestation, a march with the inhabitants of the camp from CYC to the Martyrs burial. A large and well-attended photo exhibition was held in the center and exhibited in the open space, The Peoples square, in front of the CYC.

A few weeks later we could finally welcome Abu Mujahed to Gothenburg. We held several detailed meeting, he met with sponsors and friends, after a long absence due to the pandemic. He was meant to come during "Fredsloppet" the Peace race, but his visa was delayed, and his trip had to be postponed. There is a detailed commentary on Abu Mujahed's visit to Gothenburg on our website, under the tab News.

In Hammarkullen, Gothenburg, the children and youths have, throughout the year, been fundraising in solidarity with the children of the CYC. The foundation's board as well as Abu Mujahed, while he was here, have visited the school and youth center in the district and talked about the situation in Lebanon, especially the two refugee camps where the CYC is located.

We gave out information about the CYC at a book table during the Peace race in Slottskogen, Gothenburg, and organized a well-attended sponsor meeting, where we spoke about the CYC and the foundation, even though Abu Mujahed had not yet arrived.

A book about the refugee camp Tal El-Zaatar, in Swedish, and with two chapters written by Eva Hammad was released in May. After that, several talks were held about the brutal war and massacre in Tez 1976. Those that worked on the book were not paid for their work. All funds (after printing costs) go to the CYC. The book is sold, among other places, at internet bookstores and at "Röda Stjärnan" (The red Star) in Gothenburg. The title of the book is "Dagbok från Tal El-Zaatar, En läkares vittnesmål om belägringen och massakern 1975–1976" (Diary from Tal El-Zaatar, a doctors testimony on the siege and massacre of 1975–1976), author Youssif Iraki. Publisher Celander.

In October, several sponsors visited the CYC in Beirut and described, independently of each other, how well organized and functioning the center was despite the problems Lebanon is experiencing. The staff are fighting tooth and nail to organize activities for the children that give them fun and healthy leisure time that strengthens their knowledge. Solidarity for others that also suffer is central. Lebanon as a country is nonfunctioning and sadly the circumstances are getting worse each month that goes by. The impoverished Lebanese suffer enormously. They suffer great misery as do many of the Palestinian and Syrian refugees. The past year has been horrible, but the CYC is still there and is an oasis for children and youths.

**The foundations website: *faddershatila.se***

There you can find activities reports, in English, and other texts, letters and important documents about the us and the CYC.

The foundations Facebook page can be found if you search Shatila.

**The CYC's website: *cycshatila.org***

Information and pictures about the activities at CYC. CYC is also on Facebook and KG Alma is on Fb, Instagram and Tik Tok.

**Information material**

The foundation has an information folder with text and pictures about sponsor work and about CYC. If you wish to use and spread this material, please contact the board and we will send the folders.

**The foundation's board meetings 2022**

3/2 Annual meeting

3/2, 27/6, 8/8, 30/8, 11/11, 9/12 Board meetings

**Economy 2022****From the foundations account to CYC:**

Year 2022	283 846.16 sek, including 17 232 sek from children and youths in Hammarkullen
Year 2021	277 986.57 sek in addition ESUL donation 43 955,50 sek (\$5000) = 321 942,07 sek
Year 2020	266 808.50 sek

**The foundations proceeds, received donations and gifts:**

Year 2022	331 905.00 sek
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Year 2021	336 290.00 sek
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Year 2020	404 453.00 sek
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Comments: Yet another year of generosity from our generous donors! Thank you!

**Expenses/Fees: 2022**

Website, annual fee (One.com) 0.00 sek (see comment)

Authorized accountant: 7 820.00 sek

Fee Plusgirot:	1 849.65 sek
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Fee Swish:	1 038.00 sek
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**Expenses/Fees total: 10 707.65 sek**

Comments: The cost for the County administrative board's record keeping and overseeing and the annual fee for the website was paid for with funds collected by the sales of Enjoy booklets.

**Sponsors:**

2022	117
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2021	117
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2020	117
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Comments: Behind every donation is either an individual sponsor or a family which makes the total amount of sponsors approximately 150.

The Swedish Tax agency has decided to authorize THE FUNDRAISING FOUNDATION FOR SHATILAS CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTER as donation recipient for tax deductions of donations. This applies from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, 2022 and 2023 according to law (2019:453) paragraph 6 – 8, as the foundation's goal is to support social charity work and aims to help those in need. The needs can be either of an economic or of a social nature.

**Authorized accountant:** Åsa Jeanson, Adact Revisorer & Konsulter AB, Odinsgatan 9, 411 03  
Gothenburg

**Dear sponsors and friends of the CYC:**

The board has seen several new names donating to our account. Some temporary and others that wish to become monthly donating sponsors. We are proud that our sponsor feel confidence in our fundraising and that they spread the word about the wonderful work the CYC does, as well as convincing other to support economically in connection with birthdays, memorials and more.

For the children at the CYC the support from Sweden is concrete help for all their activities. As a large amount of donations are given regularly, the CYC can count on this security in their budget. This is unbelievably valuable to them. Thank you!

Over 95% of the gifts and donations benefit the children and youth!

A huge thank you from us and the children at CYC!

**Fundraising foundation for Shatila's Children- and Youth center**

Gothenburg March 1<sup>st</sup> 2023

Kickan Einarsson

Eva Hammad

Jane Mattsson

Nestor Verdinelli

Charlotte Wiktorsson