Naseej: Connecting Voices and Action to End Violence Against Women and Girls in the MENA Region

BENT AL-RAFEDAIN ORGANIZATION (BROB)

Field of Activity
Gender Equality and Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Vision and mission
BROB is engaged to create an integrated society based on equal opportunities, justice and equality through effective and efficient women’s participation in all fields. It is working to achieve a fair environment for women, children and vulnerable groups in society to enable them to access opportunities and rights through training, awareness and provision of services in various fields. They are actively involved to support women’s rights encouraging their participation in social, cultural and political life.

ACTIVITIES
BROB program and activities are highly concerned with Iraqi women activities developing their capacity in the social, cultural and political fields. They encourage the participation of women in development programs. Reducing the percentage of GBV through prevention and protection programs, providing psychosocial and legal support services, case management, empowerment, and awareness raising.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS
❖ Since 2005, Women Protection against GBV: capacity building, rehabilitation and empowerment, legal support and counseling, psychosocial support and case management, economic empowerment, awareness raising on rights, gender and violence.
❖ Since 2016, Child protection: community centers; psychosocial support; legal support; juvenile program.
❖ Since 2018, Economic and societal development for young people: qualification and capacity building; psychological support; training in professional trades; providing works to start small projects.
❖ Since 2015, Community peace processes: raising awareness, training, capacity building, and community dialogues. Media professionals, civic activists, and opinion leaders in joint exercises on coexistence and community peace.
❖ In 2012 submitted a proposal for Law of Assistance from Domestic Violence to the Babil Governorate Council approved the same year. Now working with the Iraqi Women’s Network in a campaign to submit the Law to Parliament.
❖ Created local governmental structures in the governorates of Babil, Karbala, Salah Al-Deen and Anbar to work on the implementation of the second national plan of UN Security Council Resolution 1325.
❖ Campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of participating in elections. Working on amending the Iraqi Juvenile Law in the paragraphs related to homeless girls.

Country: Iraq
Year of foundation: 2005
Areas of intervention:
Babil; Karbala; Najaf; Salah AL-Deen; Al-Anbar; Baghdad; Al-Diwaniyah
STAFF:
21 employees, 13 are women. 142 executive employees, 58 are women
Network:
Babil Governorate Office; Provincial Office of Salahaddin, Al.Anbar and Karbala; Iraqi network for a decision1325; Sustainable Development Network (TAMM); Iraqi Network for Education; GBV sub-sector in Iraq; GBV Central and Southern Region Working Group / GBV SC; Case Management Working Group/GBV SC, CPSC, Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and Child Protection Strategic Advisory Group/ CPSC
Website: http://www.brob.org
FB page: facebook.com/org.brob

BROB’s Contributions to Naseej’s workstreams:
3 Policy Change
BROB’s activities supported by Naseej: an overview

Project title: Connecting voices and action to end violence against women and girls

Locations

Baghdad governorate

Budget

€ 148.872

Timeframe

May 2021 - April 2022

Naseej’s workstreams

Stream 1 (Services Delivery)
Strengthening support and referral services and reporting systems for women and girls GBV survivors

Stream 2 (Community Engagement)
Transforming the social norms that perpetuate GBV with a special focus on youth engagement.

Stream 3 (Policy Change)
Strengthening development and implementation of national GBV legislation

Initiate a legal and participatory reform process to facilitate the amendment of the Juvenile Welfare Act

With the objective to protect the rights of homeless, which involves a large number of women fleeing their homes to escape domestic violence, and make the legal framework around this theme more reliable, a process to regulate the work of the homeless house will be initiate by working closing with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. A participatory approach will be followed by involving the main institutions of the executive and judicial authorities. The process includes writing a proposal for amendments and then submitting it to the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers to include it on its agenda for voting and presenting it to Parliament.

Launching a media advocacy campaign around the amendment proposal

Conducting a discussion meeting in an Iraqi satellite channel hosting a representative of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and relevant personalities. Ads on satellite channels and producing a short film about the importance of the proposed amendments to be published on social media.