



Women's Centre for Legal Aid and **Counseling (WCLAC)**

Field of Activity

Gender Equality

Vision and mission

WCLAC is a feminist, human rights based organization that seeks to protect and empower women. They support women in reaching full rights through strengthening a legal and legislative system that guarantees them access to justice through activation and participation of all community members to challenge the patriarchal culture, employing national, regional and international mechanisms in line with international human rights principles and conventions.

ACTIVITIES

WCLAC program and activities are highly focused on women empowerment providing social and legal services to women victims of violence and those whose human rights have been violated; undertaking awareness, advocacy, training and legal reform programs that ensure gender equality; developing the capacity of grassroots organizations and volunteer groups.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❖ 4 grassroots partner organizations and 5 local networks established a referral system for women victims of violence and their provision of services is extended to 5000 women
- ❖ Thousands of women provided with legal and social counseling; 90 women referred to the emergency shelter; provide help to 240 women through helpline. 260 Sharia lawyers trained on court procedures and gender sensitive representation to better provide legal service for women
- ❖ 450 educational sessions carried out in 11 governorates in the West Bank targeting 6300 women and 2700 men, of which 30% are youth
- ❖ Awareness among state and non-state front line service delivery professionals increased through lobby and advocacy interventions in order to promote women's economic interests; 20 CBOs trained to participate in a national advocacy campaign on women's inheritance rights; Promoted the creation of a new department within the Ministry of Justice to ensure access to inheritance.



Country: OPT



Year of foundation: 1991



Areas of intervention: Ramallah, Hebron,

Jericho, Bethlehem, East Jerusalem, Area C, Tubas, Tulkarem



STAFF: 38 employees, 7 women out of 9 at board and 3 out of 3 in the senior management



Network: Al Montada for Combating Violence

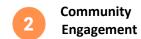
Against Women; National Coalition on Implementing UNSRC 1325; CEDAW Coalition, Personal Status Law Coalition: Adalah coalition on Economic, Social and Cultural rights; Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network; KARAMA Network; Salma coalition Women International League for Peace and Security; Arab CSOs **Feminist Network**



Website: www.wclac.org

WCLAC's Contributions to Naseej's workstreams:





Policy Change





WCLAC's activities supported by Naseej: an overview

Project title: "NOLE (لُون): Stitching with our Partners to Protect Victims of GBV"

Locations

Budget

Timeframe

West Bank in the governorates of Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Tubas, Tulkarem and Jericho



€ 200.000



September 2021 August 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



Provide legal and social counseling to 400 women victims of GBV

Professional legal, social and family counseling face to face, online or through the helpline.

Provide emergency protection services to women whose lives are under threat

Working in cooperation with relevant institutions based on National Referral System. Hold case conferences to develop an intervention plan with Ministry of Social Affairs, police and the governorate.





Provide supervision support to service unit staff

14 WCLAC staff of lawyers and social workers and 5 shelter housemothers benefit for supervision hours and 2 days retreat for service unit staff.

Build capacity for a local network of SGBV social, health and legal services providers

Workshop with management in health, police and social development to reinforce the protection networks. Coaching, support and knowledge exchange between the members of the networks to reinforce referral system and protection.





Develop the skills of 90 Sharia lawyer trainees on court procedures and gender sensitive representation

Specialized training courses on consulting and raising awareness. Create Legal Hubs to promote gender responsive discourse among lawyers.

Conduct one study on the establishment of child visitation centers in Palestine

The study will assess and explore the importance of establishing child visitation centers in Palestine.

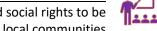




Awareness raising on GBV and women's social and legal rights

Prepare and publish posters on GBV and women's rights through social media and 20 radio episodes to raise awareness of the general public on GBV and women's rights

Training and counseling sessions for women activist



Increase awareness of 15 Sharia lawyer trainees, 18 women activists of their legal and social rights to be catalyst of change in their local communities



2 new networks of specialized volunteer groups

Lawyers and Journalists networks will be established and provided of workshops on women and human rights.

Review laws, policies and develop interventions to promote women's economic rights

Document cases of femicide and suicide in the West Bank and Gaza to influence the adoption of the Penal Code.





