

PALESTINE فلسطين



جمعية الشابات المسيحية فلسطين
Young Women's Christian Association Palestine

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

RESILIENCE, EMPOWERMENT & JUSTICE IN ACTION



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Palestinian context remains defined by “Educide” (the systematic destruction of education), shrinking civic space, and economic fragmentation. The intensified restrictions have devastated hospitals, schools, energy, water, and transport systems, bringing productive activity to a near standstill and erasing more than two decades of economic progress in just 15 months. The compounded factors cause the Palestinian community to be fragmented and weak in responding effectively to ongoing political, economic, and social challenges.

Despite these challenges, YWCA of Palestine made significant progress in empowering women and youth in 2025. Over 10,000 beneficiaries were reached through capacity-building trainings, economic empowerment opportunities, psychosocial support sessions, advocacy efforts, and community-led initiatives. This is reflected in 30 community-led initiatives that were implemented alongside 16 policy engagement activities, including roundtable discussions, verification workshops, and youth-led policy dialogues. More than 74 knowledge transfer sessions were delivered, and 44 workshops were conducted within the safe spaces, addressing critical themes such as MHPSS, GBV, PFA, Youth Leadership, Human



Rights, civic engagement and participation, mental health, and economic resilience.

Hence, resilience is a collective capacity shaped by social cohesion, systems, and sustained community support. Impact is therefore not driven solely by the YWCA alone but realized in partnership with more than 40 national and international strategic partners, to deepen community ownership, invest in long-term sustainability, and strengthen accessible and responsive systems where the voices of youth and women are amplified.

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP, & BOARD ENGAGEMENT

YWCA Palestine continued to operate under a strong governance framework guided by an active and committed Board of Directors. It unified its governance approach while investing in building staff capacity, enabling a more active and effective organizational performance. Despite the challenging context, YWCA also extended core institutional support to other women-led organizations, reinforcing its leadership role in sustaining and strengthening the broader sector.

The Board played a central role in providing strategic direction, oversight, and support to ensure the organization's mission, integrity, and long-term sustainability. Board members remained highly engaged, contributing to the review and approval of strategic priorities, monitoring financial and operational performance, and guiding programmatic direction in alignment with YWCA's mission and values. Their engagement supported

informed decision-making, while reinforcing accountability systems, safeguarding standards, and compliance with best practices.

YWCA intensified efforts to activate its member associations and general assembly, fostering stronger participation and ownership while promoting transparency, responsiveness, and sustainable impact.



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

From Awareness to Action:

How Al-Harah Theatre Became a Voice for Women's Rights in Palestine

Since its early beginnings, Al-Harah Theatre has demonstrated an interest in women's issues; however, this interest was limited and driven by individual efforts, lacking a deep understanding of the relevant laws, principles, and core concepts. Through its partnership, the theatre gained a broader understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) and women's economic rights, and it has become, through its theatrical productions and short films (spots), an effective advocacy tool. This tool is essential because it creates a direct impact on audiences through performances and dialogues.

The partnership also enabled the theatre to connect with Women's Rights organisation (WROs) in Palestine and the region, expanding the theatre's perspective and reach. As noted by its General Director, Marina Barham: "Thanks to these partnerships, Al-Harah Theatre is now able to focus more on women's economic rights, the economic violence directed against them, and gender-based violence". She continued "the partnership also contributed to developing the theatre's capacities and its understanding of relevant laws and legislation. We now have a team of artists, writers, and directors who are more specialized in the themes prioritized by YWCA."



Theatre performance- 4 Oct 2025-Bethlehem

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Breaking Barriers: Young Women Claim Their Place in Leadership

For too long, women and young women in Palestinian communities were shut out of leadership. Fewer than one in ten seats on local association boards have ever been held by women. This meant that decisions shaping everyday life—on education, health, or even how to respond to violence against women—were often made without women’s voices at the table.

YWCA of Palestine aimed at opening real doors to leadership by creating a powerful model of how local leadership can be nurtured and sustained when women are trusted as key actors of change. Young women took part in tailored workshops on advocacy, leadership, and organizational governance, followed by mentorship and volunteer opportunities in their communities. This structured approach ensured that learning was not theoretical but linked to practice. As one participant noted, “The training gave me skills, but the volunteering showed me how to use them in real life.”

What made the intervention unique was its focus on transitioning women from training rooms to decision-making spaces. By combining skills development with hands-on opportunities, it created a pathway for young women to move

from being participants to becoming leaders in their own. In Sa’ir, two young women—Ruba Jibrin and In’am Jarradat—proved just how powerful this shift could be. Once participants sitting quietly in training sessions, they are now board members of the Hayat Association.

“At first, I thought my role would end with the workshops,” Ruba said. “But I discovered I had a voice—and my community needed to hear it.”

Bethlehem saw a similar transformation. Wisal Khair and Abeer Rishmawi secured seats on the board of YWCA Bethlehem, and their courage inspired 15 more women to join the association. Their efforts went even further, sparking the creation of a safe women’s hub where leadership can be practiced, nurtured, and passed on to the next generation. “Being on the board is not just a position—it is a responsibility,” In’am shared. “I want every girl in my community to know she can lead too.” The impact is clear: when women lead, associations respond more inclusively and more effectively. What began as a series of trainings has grown into a living example of change,



where young women moved from the margins to the center of decision-making. As one YWCA representative reflected: “We realized that real empowerment starts when women are not only trained, but trusted with a seat at the table.”

This is not just about joining boards—it is about reshaping power structures, amplifying women’s voices, and reimagining what leadership looks like in Palestine.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Challenging Fear, Sparking Growth: The Story of Farah Abu Baker

This experience taught me that fear can be the beginning of success, and that self-belief, with the right support, can turn small opportunities into real achievements. My journey began with the YWCA's Economic Empowerment Program, where I developed key life skills that strengthened my confidence, communication, and teamwork.

This prepared me for vocational training at the Ministry of Agriculture, where I applied my skills in a real work environment and gained hands-on experience through field visits in villages around Ramallah. I learned practical agricultural techniques, worked closely with farmers, and benefited from the expertise of agricultural engineers. It was a rewarding and meaningful experience that brought me closer to my dream career and marked an important step toward my professional future.

Opportunities Flow Where Effort is Invested

My vocational training at the YWCA was a transformative experience that helped me grow both professionally and personally. I was able to strengthen my communication skills, built a strong sense of responsibility, and learned to see every task as a chance to grow.

My commitment and active engagement did not go unnoticed during the training. I was nominated for an opportunity at another institution, which later led to a job offer. It was a moment of pride and a clear turning point in my life.

This experience did more than open the door to employment; it strengthened my confidence and shaped the beginning of my professional path. It reminded me that when you work with passion and dedication, opportunities naturally begin to find their way to you Susan Atta
"Economic Empowerment Program, 2025"

Susan Abu Atta



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Green Palestine –

The Entrepreneurial Journey of Mohammad Daramnah

Our entrepreneurial journey began at the YWCA, where life skills and entrepreneurship training, along with continuous mentoring, helped us turn an idea into a real initiative with community impact. Through the launch of our project, Green Palestine, we strengthened our teamwork, planning, and problem-solving skills, while also gaining practical knowledge in digital tools for marketing and management. With YWCA's support, we participated in a competition at Al-Quds Open University, where we presented our idea, exchanged experiences, and learned from others. This opportunity eventually led us to secure a grant that allowed us to expand and develop our project further. Looking back, this experience marked the true beginning of our entrepreneurial path, showing us that with the right support, collaboration, and belief in an idea, youth can turn their vision into meaningful reality.



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Threads of Resilience: Aida Barfili Story

Aida Barfili, a Palestinian refugee from Al-Jalazon Camp near Ramallah, faced challenges in finding a source of income after the death of her husband. She turned to embroidery, a craft she inherited from her mother and grandmother, and began selling traditional embroidered pieces. Over time, her work expanded and provided her and her family with a stable income, helping them achieve financial independence.

Through her participation in the “Fabric of our Lives” project over the past year, she was able to earn additional income that contributed to improving her family’s living conditions. She noted that these experiences demonstrate that handicrafts, especially embroidery, are not merely hobbies but a sustainable source of income and an effective tool for empowering women in marginalized communities. Such initiatives and supportive projects also help promote women’s economic independence, preserve cultural heritage, and foster a spirit of solidarity among them.



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Organizational Response to Challenges

Daily life in the West Bank during 2025 was defined by widespread closures, hundreds of checkpoints, and violent attacks that fragmented communities and limited access to education, employment, and health services. To mitigate risk implications, the risk management plan was collectively updated including communication protocols to share real-time assessments of mobility to ensure safety of staff and young women. Psychological First Aid (PFA) training was delivered to young women facilitators to enable them to stabilize distress and activate referral pathways when needed during safe spaces.

Economically, Palestine experienced a severe decline, losing more than 306,000 jobs in the West Bank, facing widespread salary cuts, decreased purchasing power, and rising poverty. At the same time, government employees received only 60% of their wages. Recognizing that the economic situation might limit the engagement of young women in activities, YWCA responded by covering travel costs for participants and offering stipends in return for young women's contributions, including facilitation fees, communication costs,



and developing relevant advocacy materials. These conditions fueled psychosocial distress and heightened vulnerability for women and young women, who faced increasing rates of gender-based violence amid a paralyzed judicial system and shrinking safe spaces. Political instability also stalled progress on legal reforms, especially with government changes and the absence of a legislative council, hindering work on critical laws. These combined factors required extensive adaptations to maintain continuity and protect young women and staff. Many in-person activities shifted to virtual modalities supported by digital safety measures, including PFA, safe spaces safeguarding rules, and grounding exercises, while face-to-face gatherings required increased transport budgets, safe accommodations, and tailored risk-management plans. Despite severe mobility restrictions, YWCA sustained strong engagement of young women through consistent safe-space meetings, hybrid participation models, and regular communication.

Gender Equality and Equity

YWCA advanced human rights and gender equality by implementing a comprehensive capacity-building trainings for a total of 850 beneficiaries of youth and women, addressing topics like gender-based violence (GBV), advocacy, and civic engagement. Youth and Women promoted gender equality using different advocacy tools such as dialogues with decision-makers, offline and online campaigns, youth- and women-led initiatives, and feminist consultation sessions.

Activities included high-level meetings with ministries like the Minister of Labour, Minister of Justice, Minister of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Health, UNRWA and national stakeholders, technical committee discussions, participation in international advocacy spaces such as CSW69, and engagement with trade unions and national coalitions to strengthen policy dialogue and legislative pressure.

15 young women and YWCA staff members met with a representative from the Ministry



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

of Awqaf to advocate for endorsing the Family Protection Bill, which has remained under discussion for nearly 20 years. During the meeting, participant highlighted the urgent need to strengthen protection mechanisms for women amid rising unreported cases of SGBV in Palestine. They emphasized the Ministry's influential role in challenging harmful social norms through progressive religious discourse and engagement of male and female preachers across the West Bank. The delegation also presented advocacy efforts, including a research paper addressing opposition arguments against the draft law and providing counter-narratives to support community mobilization. The meeting concluded with an agreement to share the research paper with the Ministry for further review and dissemination among preachers to support social norm change and advocacy for the law's endorsement.

On the other hand, A total of 20 GBV cases were documented. In parallel, evidence-based research and policy tools were developed to support and inform reform campaigns. Five short films addressing GBV were produced, contributing to increased awareness and public engagement.

Hence, YWCA established a National Youth Committee to be part of YWCA advocacy efforts and be led by the youth to amplify their voices on issues affecting their rights and communities.



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Youth-led Advocacy Campaigns

A total of seven impactful campaigns were successfully implemented, focusing on labor rights, community awareness, environmental sustainability, and mental health. These campaigns played a crucial role in raising awareness, advocating for policy changes, and driving positive community action

Minimum Wage Campaign

This campaign focused on advocating for a revision of minimum wage policies to better align with the citizens' basic needs. A legal memorandum was prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Labor, calling for a review of the minimum wage to ensure fair compensation for workers and increased youth involvement in labor issues.

Muwa'em (Inclusive Employment) Campaign

The campaign aimed to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities (PWDs) in the labor market and ensure existing regulations to protect the rights of PWDs and improve their access to employment opportunities.



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Lead Campaign

The campaign implemented an evidence-based study to enhance youth participation in local decision-making within Beit Sahour Municipality. The campaign identified barriers to youth engagement through a comprehensive field survey and data analysis, which will inform future efforts to empower young people in local governance.



Community Advocacy Campaigns

Welfare of Stray Dogs Campaign

Focused on promoting humane and safe ways to manage stray dogs, this campaign raised awareness about the risks of rabies and encouraged municipalities to take effective action. The goal was to improve public safety while treating animals with care and respect.

Carton Separation & Recycling Campaign

Aimed at reducing waste and promoting environmental sustainability. The campaign tackled the growing issue of cardboard waste in Bethlehem. Efforts in collecting and recycling cardboard boxes helped promote cleanliness and effective waste management practices within the community.

Our Water, Everyone's Right Campaign

This campaign raised awareness about water scarcity and the importance of reusing greywater as part of sustainable water management practices and distribution in Bethlehem Governorate.

Protection and Community Well-being Campaign

Our Mental Health is a Priority Campaign

This campaign aimed to raise awareness among youth about mental stigma, psychological stress and the importance of mental health. It promoted coping mechanisms and strategies for youth, encouraging them to prioritize their well-being and seek help when needed.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Advocacy for Workplace Sexual Harassment Reform

YWCA took significant steps to address workplace sexual harassment through a multi-level advocacy approach. This included direct engagement with the Ministry of Labor to push for the inclusion of workplace sexual harassment in national policy discussions and to explore

regulatory reform pathways. Additionally, a multi-stakeholder technical committee was convened, which included women's rights organizations (WROs), young women, the Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions (PGFTU), and representatives from the Ministry of Labour. Together, they worked to develop regulations on sexual harassment at workplaces, aiming for endorsement and enforcement.

Key Outputs

- 30 youth trained in human rights, GBV, and digital advocacy
- 668+ women completed a 52-day conflict resolution program
- 20 young women certified as Trainers (ToT)
- 5 women's groups trained in feminist consultation
- 20 students trained in political participation
- 60 youth trained in leadership and community engagement
- 50 youth trained in digital skills
- Total Reach: 850+ beneficiaries

The key outputs above contributed directly to our impact:

Women's Empowerment was advanced by training women in leadership, human rights, and conflict resolution. Gender Equality Promotion was supported through feminist consultation and increasing youth involvement. Increased Community Participation resulted from targeted training in political participation, leadership, and digital skills for youth and women.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

16 days of activism against gender based violence

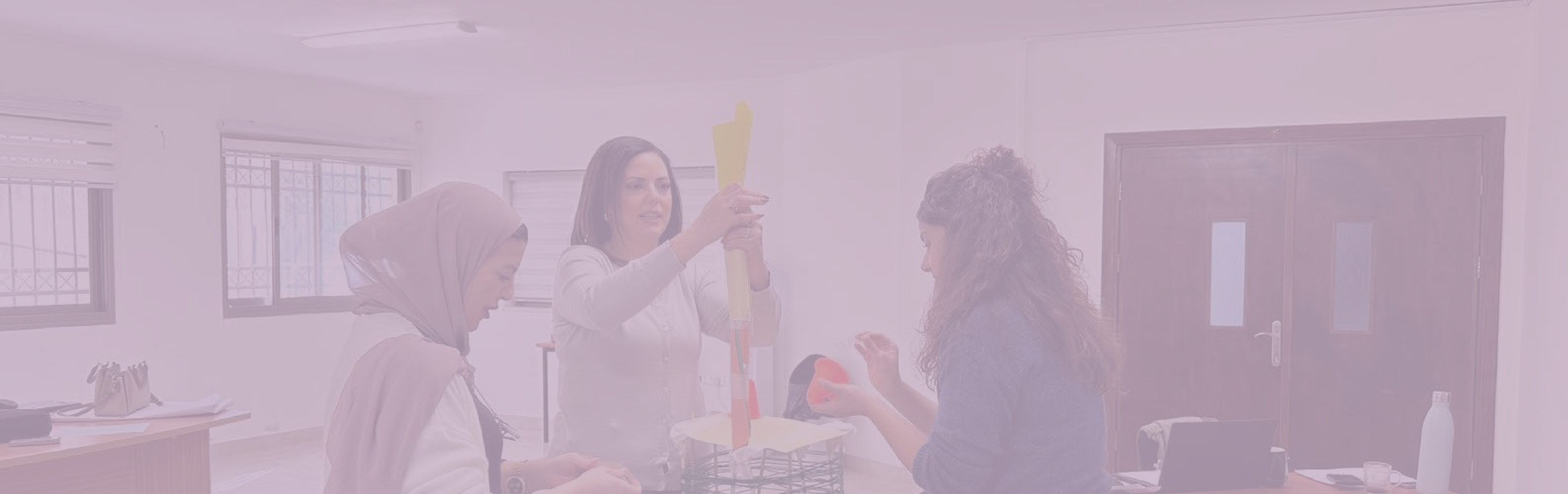
247 participants were reached through the 16 days of Activism that included a photo exhibition followed by a dialogue session and 2 other in-person awareness sessions in Birzeit University and Bethlehem. The exhibition featured 26 artworks portraying the testimonies and experiences of Palestinian women and girls in combating violence, alongside 10 artworks documenting the feminist narrative of the YWCA throughout its more than 130-year journey. The exhibition demonstrated the use of art as an effective advocacy tool for conveying human rights messages at local level. 140 participants attended the exhibition, reflecting strong community engagement and contributing to raising public awareness while amplifying Palestinian women's narratives to a wider audience.



Community-based early warning and response system

YWCA established 7 community-based early warning and response systems across seven localities to prevent and address domestic violence – contributing to the National referral system. A total of 69 women leaders managed and resolved over 182 GBV cases, demonstrating strong community ownership and leadership in addressing violence and promoting protection mechanisms.





YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & ENGAGEMENT

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & ENGAGEMENT

Social Innovation and Youth Engagement

YWCA strengthened youth engagement and social innovation efforts by equipping young people with essential leadership and digital competencies to drive community impact. 200 youth participated in intensive training related to citizenship, leadership, team building, and Training of Trainers (ToT), enhancing their capacity to take on active roles within their communities and lead peer initiatives. This contributed to fostering a generation of skilled, confident, and socially engaged youth capable of promoting innovation, participation, and positive change within their communities.

Furthermore, YWCA in partnership with FilmLabPalestine, gathered 40 youth to watch the documentary “A State of Passion” as part of the Palestine Cinema Days series. The screening was followed by an interactive dialogue session that provided a safe space for participants to reflect on and discuss the key messages and insights they drew from the film.



Economic Empowerment Program

YWCA successfully reached 82.86% of VTC students and outreach participants, women in rural and marginalized areas in the West Bank consistently showed increased knowledge and strengthened life skills across diploma, short course, and livelihood training, overcoming the cumulative major socio-political and economic shifts since Oct 2023 and achieved 54.24% of employment for beneficiaries. At least 46% of young entrepreneurs had successfully set up their social enterprises based on internal assessment, field visits, training and coaching performance.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & ENGAGEMENT

A. Innovation and social entrepreneurship

25 young men and women were empowered and supported through life skills trainings on communication and interpersonal skills, teamwork, and work life balance. Then, 25 businesses were supported through small grants to develop and scale their projects. Furthermore, technical support was given to them to finalize their business, financial and marketing plans. In parallel, 27 young women were trained with essential life and employability skills to facilitate their entry into the Palestinian labor market. 23 of the 27 received a three-month paid internship. The rest were able to secure a full-time jobs after the training. This hands-on experience enabled participants to practice their skills and indulge in professional work environments, significantly strengthening their applied competencies and communication skills.



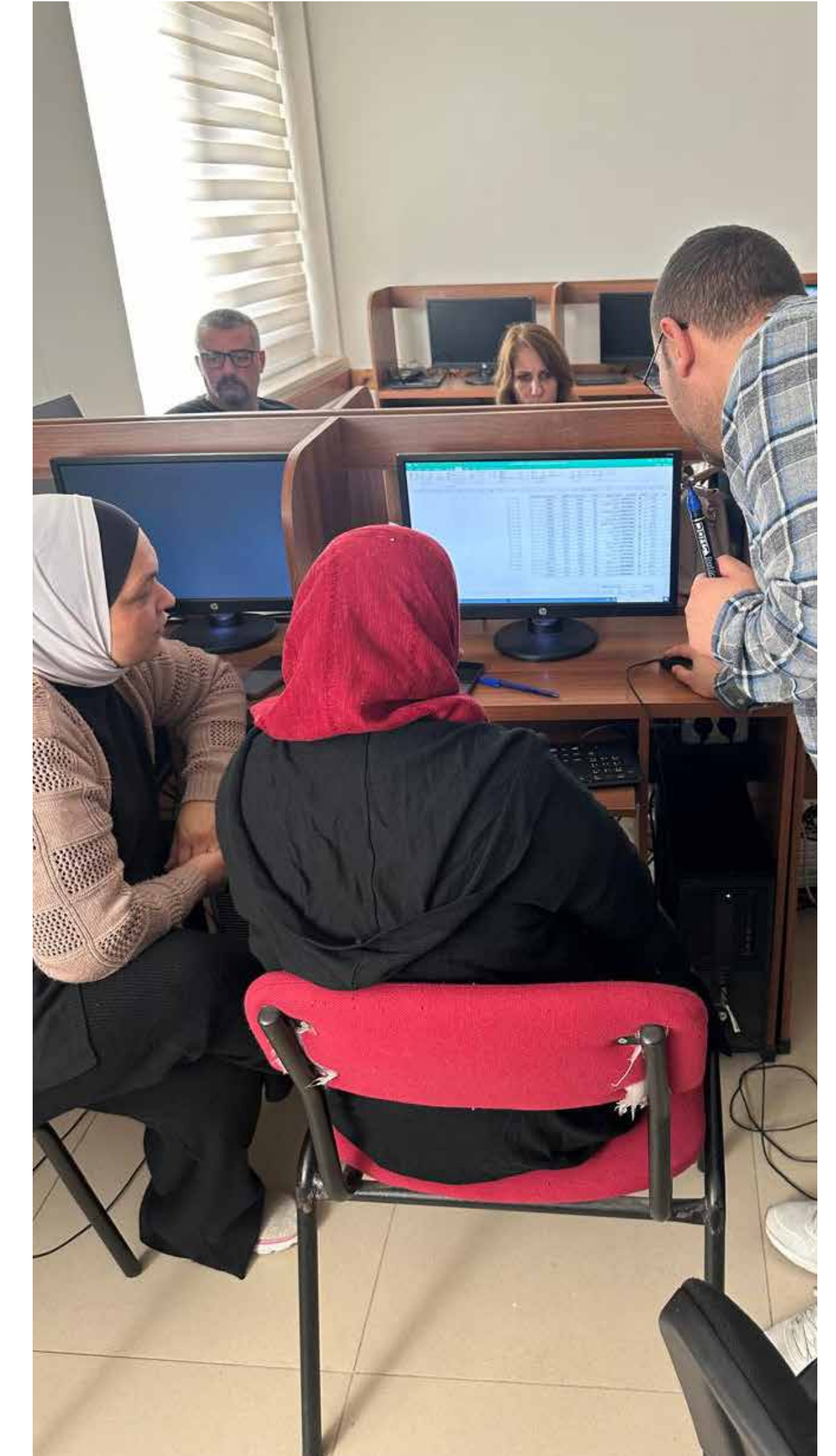
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & ENGAGEMENT

B. Vocational Training Center

Efforts were made to empower 13 women and youth through full scholarships to the Office Management Diploma and graduating 15 young women from the cosmetic diploma under the Vocational Training Center in Ramallah and Jericho, respectively. while also establishing more than 20 networking field visits and partnerships with local NGOs, the private sector, and the TVET community.

Extra-curricular activities included:

1. Artwork exhibitions about Gaza and Palestine at Al-Qattan foundation and The Palestinian Museum in Birzeit.
2. Three sessions with Injaz on team building project management, and Financial Inclusion and literacy with the Bank of Palestine.
3. Awareness sessions on: Drugs with the Palestinian Police department and breast cancer with Dunia Center.





SAFE SPACES

YWCA: Empowering Youth and Women through Safe Spaces and Community Engagement

YWCA has successfully created 13 new spaces in partner organizations and upgraded 4 established spaces, promoting inclusive, supportive environments where young people can learn, connect, and grow. These spaces foster safe dialogues, knowledge exchange, and civic engagement on critical community issues

The safe spaces empower young people to take a more active role in their communities, with opportunities to participate in activities, share experiences, and step into leadership roles. YWCA's program implemented a wide range of awareness sessions, directly addressing the pressing issues affecting women and youth in the region:

1. Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): 18 sessions were held, reaching 240 participants, focusing on mental health awareness and providing psychosocial support.
2. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) & Family Issues: 56 sessions explored GBV, child marriage, domestic

violence, and family relationships, engaging 1,070 participants. These sessions contributed to a deeper understanding of women's rights and personal well-being.

3. Financial Literacy: In partnership with Bank of Palestine, YWCA facilitated two financial literacy workshops for 30 participants, equipping them with valuable skills to manage their finances.
4. Youth- Led Initiatives and Knowledge: In YWCA Bethlehem, youth led 74 knowledge-transfer sessions, reaching over 1,650 participants. These sessions covered a wide range of topics, including public safety, drug prevention, cybercrime, citizenship and leadership, digital advocacy, labor rights, environmental issues, and water challenges in Palestine.



SAFE SPACES

Key Outputs

- 13 new safe spaces established + 4 upgraded within YWCA
- 18 MHPSS sessions conducted, reaching 240 participants
- 28 awareness sessions on GBV & financial literacy, reaching 500 participants
- 74 youth-led Knowledge transfer sessions implemented, reaching 1,650+ participants

Winter camp implemented for children in Al-Jalazon Camp, providing safe recreational and psychosocial support activities

SAFE SPACES

Building Bridges Initiative

The “Building Bridges” initiative aimed to promote the social inclusion of people with disabilities, engaging 120 participants in collaboration with four local institutional partners in Bethlehem. This initiative fostered greater understanding and support for persons with disabilities within the community.



Humanitarian Emergency Response

In response to urgent needs, a Humanitarian Emergency Response initiative supported displaced women and women with disabilities in Jenin Refugee Camp and Ya’bad Village. A total of 188 dignity kits were distributed, addressing critical health needs while maintaining the dignity and privacy of the recipients in the aftermath of displacement.



SAFE SPACES

Independence League – Table Tennis

The “Independence League” initiative highlighted the importance of sports by organizing a table tennis league in Bethlehem Governorate. The league involved 9 scout groups, 30 players, and 150 participants, offering a fun and competitive platform for youth to connect and stay active.



Your Life Matters Initiative

The “Your Life Matters” initiative raised awareness about the dangers of drug use and strengthened youth involvement in prevention efforts. In partnership with the Palestinian police, the initiative engaged 25 participants in meaningful discussions and activities aimed at protecting youth from the dangers of substance abuse.



Breathing Space Initiative

In Aida Refugee Camp, the Breathing Space initiative supported 70 children by providing a safe environment to reduce psychological stress. Through psychosocial support sessions and recreational activities, the initiative gave children the chance to express themselves and experience moments of joy and healing.



SAFE SPACES

Rare Light Initiative

The Rare Light initiative, in collaboration with Dunya Women's Cancer Center and Augusta Victoria Hospital, focused on raising awareness about breast cancer and promoting early detection. Over 100 women and young women participated in three awareness sessions in Ramallah and Bethlehem, and more than 40 women benefited from mammogram screenings, empowering them with the knowledge to take charge of their health.



Christmas Joy in Aboud Village

In Aboud Village, a special psychosocial initiative brought joy and strengthened social cohesion during the Christmas season. The initiative distributed 100 gifts to children, spreading cheer and fostering community solidarity during a time of celebration and reflection.



SAFE SPACES

Youth-Led Mental Health Initiatives

In collaboration with six local community-based organizations (CBOs), six youth-led community initiatives focused on mental health awareness, particularly around mood disorders. These initiatives reached 90 direct participants and hundreds of community members, reducing stigma and promoting open discussions about mental health in various communities.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES

Six initiatives were implemented to support women's social and economic empowerment in cooperation with six local community-based organizations in Bethlehem. The initiatives reached over 400 women, including survivors of violence, women with disabilities, and women from low-income backgrounds.

Sustainable Environment Initiatives

Two initiatives were implemented to promote environmental sustainability and green areas: one in cooperation with the Beit Sahour Municipality, where 66 ornamental trees were planted in different locations, and the other in Ramallah, where 15 fruit trees were planted.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES

A Holistic Approach to Community Empowerment

YWCA reached over 2,000 individuals through its interventions, significantly contributing to raising awareness and empowering both women and youth. By creating accessible hubs for mental health support, promoting dialogue, and facilitating leadership development, YWCA continues to play a key role in building inclusive, resilient communities.

A. Khirat Jericho Project (Food Production Unit)

YWCA of Jericho was able to continue its work and maintain its staff and programs despite political and economic challenges, relying on its solid internal structure and commitment to its mission, reinforcing the association's role as an active organization in community empowerment.

The food production unit witnessed infrastructure renovation and improvement for an outdoor production space, supported by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, that enhanced operational efficiency and food production requirements.

It also successfully increased their selling points in new restaurants, hotels, and stores while continuing production for seasonal items and products.

The Goethe-Institute team was hosted as part of the “Kitchen Without Borders” project, together with chefs from Germany and France. The training day included all staff of the Jericho “Khairat” project and the administrative team, in the presence of the Association’s Board President and Director.



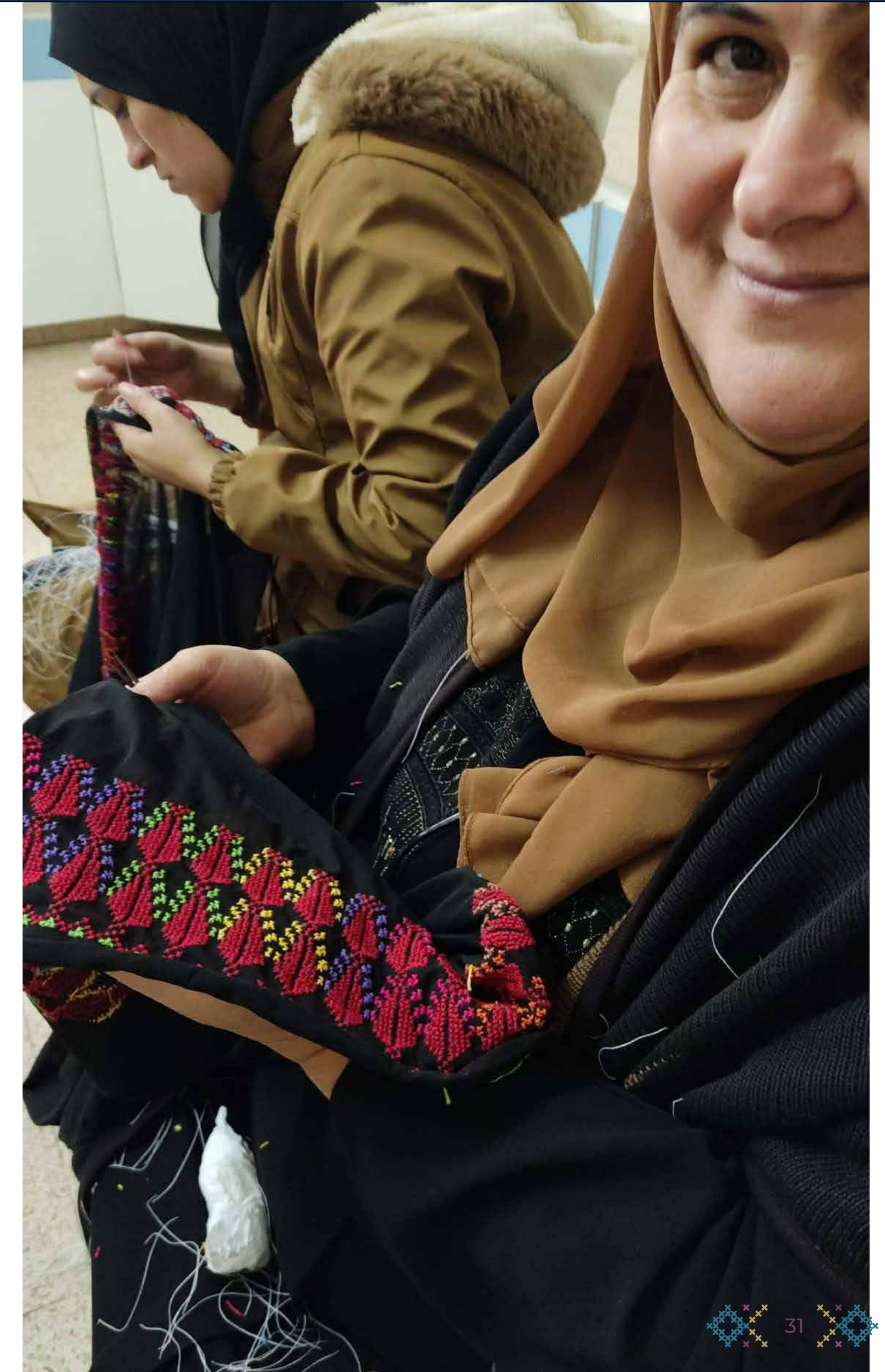
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES

Empowering Refugee Women through Traditional Embroidery

“Fabric of Our Lives” project supported refugee women in Al-Jalazon Community Center in the Camp through the production of handmade dolls and embroidered items. Implemented in two phases, the initiative engaged 11 women in each phase and focused on strengthening livelihoods through traditional craftsmanship.

The first phase was implemented from November 2024 to May 2025, followed by a second phase from July to October 2025. Across both phases, a total of 580 handcrafted items were produced, including dolls, scarves, and dresses inspired by the cultural heritage of displaced Palestinian cities.

The project contributed to enhancing women’s economic empowerment by creating sustainable income-generating opportunities through traditional embroidery, thereby improving household livelihoods and reinforcing cultural identity.





COMMUNITY CENTERS IN REFUGEE CAMPS

COMMUNITY CENTERS IN REFUGEE CAMPS

Community Center in Al-Jalazone and Aqbet Jabr Refugee Camps

The kindergarten in Aqbet Jabr Refugee Camp provided quality early childhood education to more than 130 children in a safe and engaging environment.

The program combined structured learning with extracurricular activities, including cultural events, environmental awareness initiatives, and health education. Weekly psychosocial support activities were integrated to promote emotional well-being.

Investments in staff development, modern learning tools, and community engagement contributed to enhancing children's cognitive, social, and emotional development.

At the Al-Jalazon community Center, the winter camp brought warmth, joy, and meaningful engagement to 80 children. The program was designed to provide a safe space where children could learn, play, and express themselves through various interactive and recreational activities.

Many children expressed their happiness as some kids got to join organized recreational event for the first time.

Parents also shared positive feedback, noting noticeable improvements in their children's moods, self-confidence, and enthusiasm. The winter camp helped strengthen the role of the Al-Jalazon Center as a supportive and child-friendly place within the community.



YOUNG WOMEN LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY



YOUNG WOMEN LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY

YWCA of Palestine Concludes “YW4A” – Young Women for Awareness, Agency, Advocacy, and Accountability” Program After Five Years of Joint Work, Achievements, and Empowerment

YWCA of Palestine concluded the five-year “YW4A” (Young Women for Awareness, Agency, Advocacy, and Accountability) program, which aimed to empower young women and strengthen their participation in leadership and decision-making spaces. The closing event brought together representatives from government ministries, civil society organizations, international partners, and young women participants from across Palestine. Throughout its implementation period (2021–2025), the program provided young women with opportunities to develop leadership skills, advocate for women’s rights, and engage in community and national initiatives. It also fostered collaboration between governmental institutions, civil society, and youth leaders to address key issues affecting women and girls.

A significant achievement of the program was the contribution of young women to national policy discussions, including participation in efforts led

by the Ministry of Labor to develop a workplace sexual harassment framework and support national initiatives addressing gender-based violence.

The event featured a documentary highlighting the program’s achievements and participants’ success stories, as well as discussions on its impact and sustainability. The YWCA of Palestine reaffirmed its commitment to building on the program’s legacy by continuing to support young women’s leadership, advocacy, and meaningful participation in creating a more just and equitable society.



INTERNATIONAL
REPRESENTATION

AMPLIFYING PALESTINIAN WOMEN'S VOICES



AMPLIFYING PALESTINIAN WOMEN'S VOICES

In March 2025, YWCA Palestine actively participated in the 69th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) in New York, contributing to global dialogue on gender equality and sustainable development.

The YWCA delegation brought together leadership and youth voices, ensuring that the lived realities of Palestinian women and young women were represented at an international level. Through its engagement, YWCA highlighted the intersection between gender justice and broader social and political challenges, emphasizing the importance of inclusive and rights-based approaches to development.

In partnership with YWCA Japan, YWCA Palestine co-organized a parallel event, "Empowering Women, Promoting Equality," which engaged over 60 representatives from global YWCA movements and international organizations. The event provided a platform to showcase grassroots initiatives and advocacy tools that strengthen women's leadership, economic participation, and civic engagement.

Beyond the event, the delegation participated in high-level meetings with international partners, UN agencies, and global YWCA networks to strengthen collaboration, exchange expertise, and advance advocacy efforts for women's rights.

This participation reflects YWCA Palestine's ongoing commitment to connecting local action with global advocacy, ensuring that Palestinian women, particularly young women are visible, heard, and actively shaping international agendas.



**YWCA Palestine Parallel
Event CSW69**

AMPLIFYING PALESTINIAN WOMEN'S VOICES

International Engagement

YWCA Palestine participated in the 35th General Synod of the United Church of Christ (UCC) in Kansas City, USA, contributing to global dialogue on justice, peace, and solidarity.

During the Synod, YWCA facilitated a workshop on “Decolonizing Practices: Reflections on 77 Years Since Al Nakba,” engaging over 60 participants in critical discussions on justice, resilience, and collective action. YWCA also contributed to an international panel addressing the role of faith-based organizations in contexts of conflict, highlighting the realities faced by Palestinian communities and the organization’s work in empowering women and youth.

A key outcome of the Synod was the adoption of a resolution calling for an end to the war in Gaza, reflecting growing international solidarity and advocacy efforts.

Following the Synod, YWCA engaged in strategic meetings in New York with international partners and UN representatives to strengthen

collaboration on gender equality, youth empowerment, and community resilience. This participation reinforced YWCA’s role in amplifying Palestinian voices globally and advancing partnerships that support justice and sustainable peace.



YWCA of Palestine participated in the General Assembly of the United Church of Christ (UCC) in Memphis, USA, where two workshops, “The crisis in the Middle East” and “The Global Rise of Authoritarianism: Perspective from Global Partners,” were facilitated, raising awareness and strengthening international solidarity with around 160 participants.

AMPLIFYING PALESTINIAN WOMEN'S VOICES



Furthermore, YWCA Palestine also participated in three church visits across the United States to amplify Christian voices from Palestine, creating a safe space for dialogue and awareness through interactive Q&A discussions. YWCA Palestine also held a meeting with youth group in New York organized by the UCC-UN representative. The session provided an opportunity to engage young people in meaningful discussions, increasing their understanding of the situation in Palestine and exploring ways they can support advocacy efforts within their communities and social circles.



Mediterranean Innovation Agrifood Week

The YWCA of Jericho, represented and participated in the Mediterranean Innovation Agrifood Week conference, organized by CIHEAM Bari in Italy from November 25–28, 2025. This participation marked the culmination of a series of trainings conducted throughout the year under the SANET project.

The conference brought together a number of international institutions, universities, incubators, and entrepreneurial projects from across the region, including 10 Palestinian institutions and startups. It highlighted the challenges faced

by Palestinian institutions and entrepreneurial initiatives, such as limited resources, recurring closures that restrict access to external markets, and barriers to import and export. It also explored the opportunities and challenges facing the Palestinian agrifood sector.



AMPLIFYING PALESTINIAN WOMEN'S VOICES

Y-Program Implementation Team (YPIT) Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya

YWCA of Palestine participated in the Y-Program Implementation Team (YPIT) by YGlobal in Nairobi, Kenya. A session on the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) was led, bringing global partners to explore practical applications of HRBA in development programming. Participants examined, through interactive group work, how adopting an HRBA can shift power dynamics, by placing communities at the center as active agents in shaping their own development pathways. The session also tackled cross-cutting principles, including the Do-No-Harm approach, Sexual Abuse, Exploitation, and Harassment (SAEH) policies, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), strengthening partners' capacity to implement more inclusive, safe, and accountable programs.



Advancing the Unique Role of Women and Young Women of Faith Mediators

A Common Pledge: Advancing the Unique Role of Women and Young Women of Faith Mediators: YWCA staff member participated as a panel speaker in the webinar to reflect on the YW4A's experience in advancing young women roles as faith mediators in peace processes to change UNSCR 1325 from principle into practice on 30th October.



AMPLIFYING PALESTINIAN WOMEN'S VOICES



Regional Symposium- Kenya

Representatives from WROs' staff and the YWRGs joined the technical partners, consortium lead (WYWCA) and Egypt delegation in a gathering in Kenya. The gathering focused on sustaining the achievements of the YW4A programme by integrating advocacy efforts into long-term institutional structures. Country team,

including Palestine, outlined tools for continuity, resource mobilization, and strengthening youth leadership beyond the programme's lifetime. The event concluded with certificate distribution, recognition of partners, and recommendations for continued cross-region al learning.

PARTNER ENGAGEMENT & **FIELD VISITS**

PARTNER ENGAGEMENT & FIELD VISITS

International partners

In 2025, YWCA Palestine welcomed several key international partners for field visits and follow-up on ongoing projects, including Global Ministries (United Church of Christ), Kerk in Actie, Christian Aid, and Y Global and YW/YM Sweden.

These visits provided valuable opportunities to assess program progress, strengthen partnerships, and engage directly with beneficiaries and local communities. They also contributed to reinforcing shared priorities, enhancing accountability, and exploring opportunities for future collaboration to expand impact and sustainability.



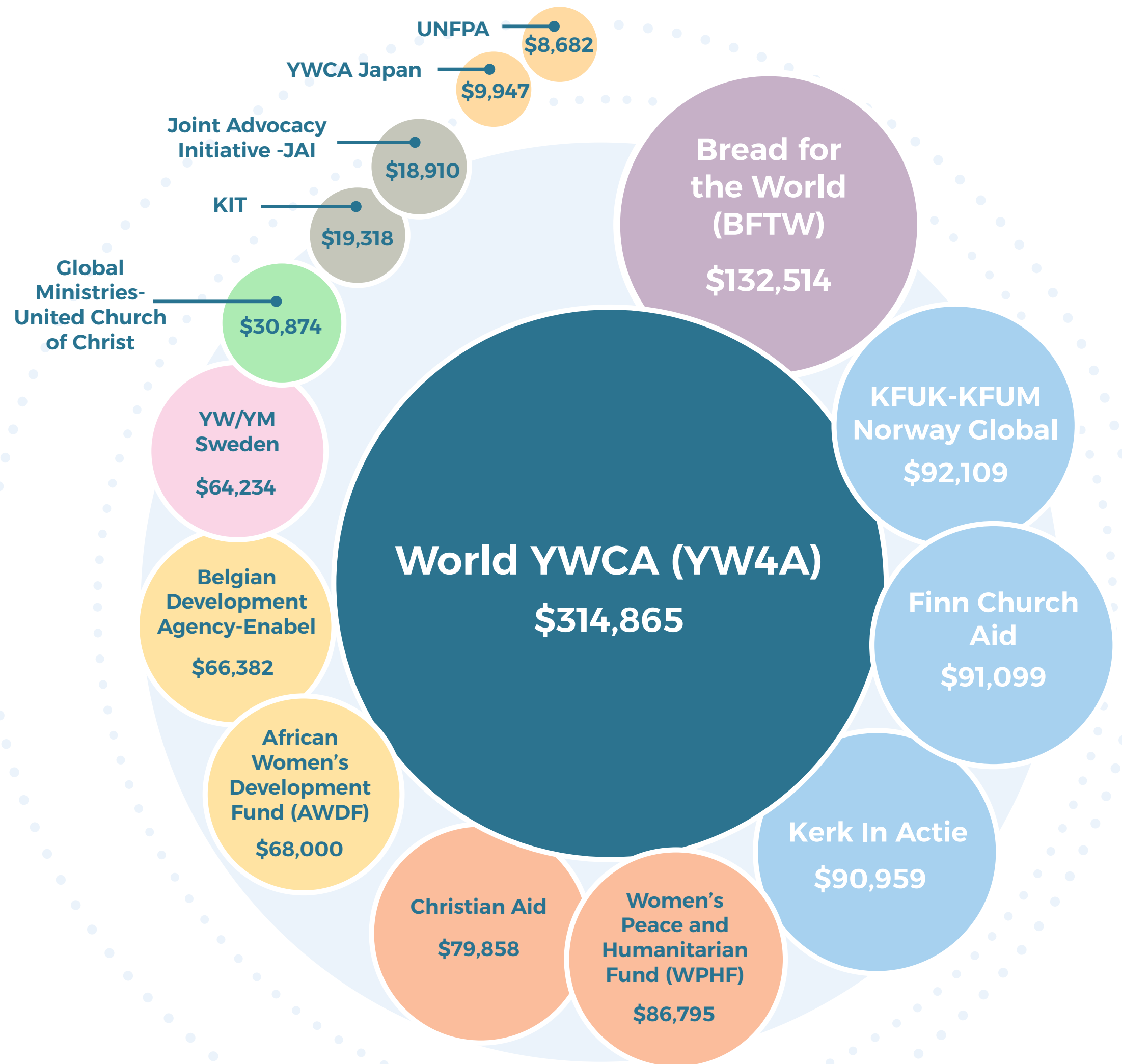
Our local partners

Key partners included a wide range of organizations and institutions across different sectors, such as the Ministry of Awqaf, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Labor, the Palestinian Police, Film Lab, Birzeit University, Dunya Women's Cancer Center, Augusta Victoria Hospital, Bank of Palestine, Ramallah Municipality, the Environmental Quality Authority, Beit Sahour Municipality, the Papal Scout Troop of Beit Jala, Al Manar Association for Culture and Creativity, the Workers' Union, the Veterinary Department, Bethlehem Municipality, the Water and Sewage Authority in Bethlehem, the Palestinian Union of Social Workers and Psychologists, the General Union of Persons with Disabilities, and Al-Harah Theatre, PWWSD, Dunya Center, Al-Qattan association, The Palestiniann museum. In addition, more than 20 community-based organizations, educational institutions, women's groups, and youth organizations played an important role in supporting the implementation of activities. These partnerships contributed to delivering impactful services, expanding outreach, strengthening coordination across sectors, and supporting more sustainable and effective interventions.

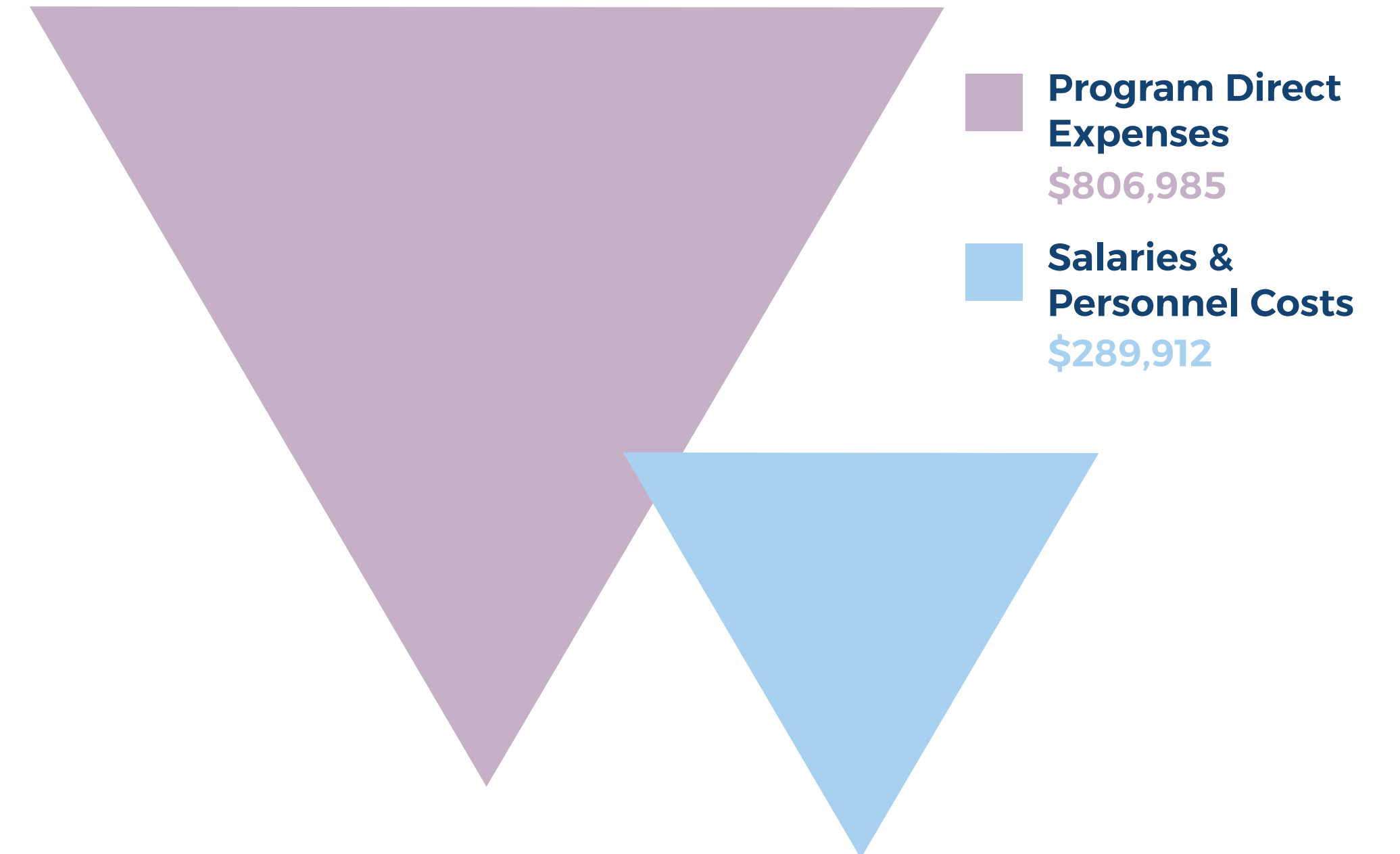


FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Grants & Revenues



Expenses Breakdown



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026



YWCA of Palestine remains committed to creating meaningful and sustainable opportunities for women and youth by strengthening economic opportunities, delivering innovative training programs, and building stronger connections with the communities.