

Mini Basma

Year 2007 - 2008



Draw a dream...



Draw a dream

It was not by chance that this past year's theme was, "Draw a Dream." Our dreams can create hope despite all the circumstances that block our way and challenge our future.

Yes, we want to make dreams, because dreams heal, purify, and bring things back together again.

Dreams are always beautiful.

Let us build dreams—for our children, youth, their families, and our mission.

Let us work on the dream we want for our country.

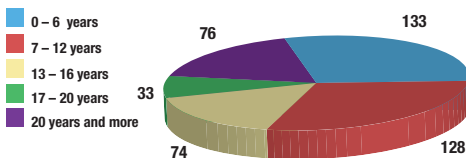
Let us create dreams and work together to fulfill it with hope and faith.

Fadia Safi
General Manager of SESOBEL

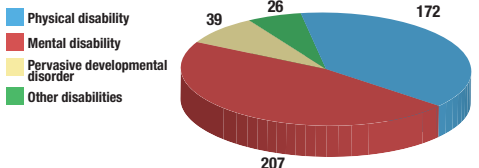


During 2007-2008, SESOBEL's holistic approach cared for the need of **444 children and youth** as well as **420 of their families**.

Age



Handicap



Programs and Services

I – Rehabilitation Program, *a personalized program for each child*

During the 2007-2008 year, **21 943** medical and rehabilitative interventions were offered for the children. These services included state evaluations, consultations, medical exams, rehabilitation care, family guidance, technical aids, surgeries, and Gait Motion Analysis.

The Services

The Family Reception Service / SAF

The SAF received 107 children and youth from 103 families.

These families were offered diagnosis, family support when the disability was identified, information about their child's condition and the rehabilitation care they need.

Some of these children were referred to other institutions because of the lack of vacant placements at SESOBEL.

Ambulatory Services

This service assisted 62 children who cannot attend internal programs because of distance, delicate health conditions, or integration in regular school program.

They benefit from this program's medical care, rehabilitation services, and family support.

External Services

These services are open to paying patients outside of the SESOBEL community.

44 individuals benefited from rehabilitation services and from Gait Motion Analysis.

Medical Care Service

To provide specific and complementary medical care to 346 children and youth: diagnosis, specialized medical care and community health services, during working hours, for all the children and the team of SESOBEL.

Re-education and Therapies

Services	Children and youth
- Physical therapy	322
- Occupational therapy	158
- Speech therapy	295
- Psychomotricity	244
- Psychotherapy	79

These services included evaluation, re-education, family guidance, research and training.

Technical Aids

697 technical aids were manufactured to 299 children and youth who have limited motor capabilities.

The aids covered: Special material to help maintain good posture while in the sitting, standing or lying down position, orthosis, adaptations to facilitate the achievement of daily skills, home and classroom modifications to improve lifestyle and accessibility.



II – The Education Programs, *an appropriate pedagogy*

Beneficiaries

Kindergarten

Physical disability

Mental disability

Pervasive developmental disorder

29 children

49 children and youth

84 children and youth

39 children and youth

Through educational services, we aim to discover and enhance the capacities of the children on cognitive, affective and social levels.

New achievements

- Partial integration of 3 autistic youth in the sheltered workshops.
- An Open House program was held for the families of autistic children. Parents attended information sessions on autism, and then visited the classrooms and spent time with their children. The parents were invited to a festive lunch and party hosted by the children.
- Implementation of new workshops for education and rehabilitation, addressed to children with severe mental retardation.
- Introducing a theatre workshop for autistic children.
- Starting a new approach to teach autonomy to children with severe mental retardation at the kindergarten level.
- New organization of the program for children with multiple handicaps and introducing new workshops (esthetic, visual, culinary, movement...) to stimulate interaction with the children.
- Introducing French language lessons to a group of physically disabled children.



Extracurricular Activities

The children and youth of SESOBEL benefited from 30 recreational and educational field trips, for culture, information and fun.

These activities also included special occasions like Halloween, Independence Day, Christmas celebration, and other outings.



III - The Sheltered Workshops, *a social and vocational integration*

Beneficiaries: 30 youth

They integrated in the following workshops:

Production workshops: chocolate factory, Pre-press workshop, horticulture, sales at SESOBEL's permanent exhibition centers, SESOBEL's cafeteria.

Workshops for the daily living skills: Laundry, stock keeping, kitchen, technical aids.



IV - The Social Action, *a privileged partnership with the family*

To accompany all the members of the family and provide them with parental guidance and social support.

Individual interventions:

1336 interventions

549 home visits

775 interviews at SESOBEL

12 visits during hospitalization of the child

Group intervention:

70 mothers and 7 couples

52 interventions

3 recreational outings

Vocational skill training

To provide support to mothers

13 training sessions for 16 mothers:

- Handicrafts
- Embroidery
- Painting on tissue
- Stain Glass

The siblings group
composed of 47 brothers and sisters (aged between 6 and 18 years old)

They held six meetings for information and training purposes.

The themes were:

- The mission of SESOBEL and Anta-Akhi
- Effective relationships with parents
- The problems encountered at adolescence
- Dealing with the problems associated with having a disabled sibling
- Long term care options for disabled siblings.

4 recreational outings

4 camps



SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

Assistance to fit, equip and sponsor activities of SESOBEL:

Thanks to the precious collaboration of our friends in Lebanon and abroad, we were able to cover needs related to the children and to the development of SESOBEL services

- Remodel and equip the central kitchen
- Install water distiller and solar heating system
- Cover the fees of medicines, surgeries and technical aids
- Cover the fees of the end of the year event
- Build and equip the inclusion classroom at the Jezzine public school – South Lebanon
- Remodel and acquire new equipment for the sewing workshop
- Cover summer camp fees
- Purchase a van
- Equip the classrooms

Visitors, "to everyone" our doors are open wide!

School and university students

667 students and scholars visited SESOBEL throughout the year to meet the children.

Special visitors

Monsignor John Faris, from the Pontifical Mission

Mr. Tony and Mrs. Mary Khaicy, M. Jean-Claude Sabbagh, Mrs. May Succary, Mrs. Agathe Fahd, and Mrs. and Caroline Khaicy from SESOBEL Australia

Mrs. Ina Rihani from the American Friends of SESOBEL – USA

Mr. Jean Dupré from "Les petits frères des pauvres" France

Mr. Romain Cardon and Mr. Jean-François Le Grand, from Partage – France



Volunteers

937 hours of volunteer work were offered in various fields:

- Marketing
- Sponsorship program
- Production workshops
- Administration and finance department
- Field trips with the children
- Education activities in classrooms

Testimony, of a father

When I was young, I used to dream of getting married and having a little girl that I would educate and cuddle. I dreamed of the magic moment where I would hold her hand and guide her, proudly, to her husband.

This dream was broken the day the doctor told me, at the hospital in the presence of many people, that my only child was handicapped. The whole world collapsed in front of me. I was happy to have a baby girl but I was dying knowing she had a problem.

Month after month I tried to get close to her and to understand her. One day, I brought her a toy that spoke the word "mother". She reacted to the sound and laughed. I hoped she would say "father", but it was not right away.

As my daughter grew up, I thought that my old dream could not come true.

I used to watch her mother take care of her, help her and choose her clothes. After a while, my daughter started choosing what to wear herself, she started to take care of herself, to become respectfully self-confident in society, to express her feelings, to ask me to go out with her and her mother.

What more could I ask for?

My dream had not faded away; on the contrary, it was transformed into friendship, love and admiration. My daughter will stay with me, she will live with my loving affection, and she will take care of me till my last day. God had sent me a blessing which I had not fully valued.

Father with a Down Syndrome daughter

Special events

The day camps

The summer day camp

90 children and youth participated to the summer camp. They spent 5 weeks of dream.

The siblings camp

37 brothers and sisters aged from 6 to 17 years old participated to this camp where they lived like a big family called SESOBEL. The group of siblings aged from 7 to 16 years old gathered also at the end of April at Dlehta village. The theme of their reunion was “Let us make a dream to live together”

Sports activities :

Our champions

The Special Olympics took place in Shanghai, China, September 12-28, 2007. More than 10 000 athletes from all over the world participated in various competitions. Sara Khalifé and Rami Saad from SESOBEL, won the silver medal and the fourth in the swimming competition.

Bronze medal

The Basketball team from SESOBEL participated in a competition with many other Lebanese associations.

They were ranked third place and won the Bronze medal.

Their competitive spirit and enthusiasm distinguished them.

Beirut Marathon

On Sunday, October 18, 2007 a group of SESOBEL youth with their teachers and friends participated in the Beirut Marathon, which took place in downtown Beirut under the slogan “Let us run!”

The Girl Scouts “Tournesol”

To celebrate the 70 years of the “Association des guides du Liban”, our Girl Scouts “Les Tournesols” participated in the national day organized for the occasion. They met with 4000 young Girl Scouts from different Lebanese regions; they shared with them the principles and values of scouting.

First communion

May 11, 2008 was a blessed day. Thirty five children from SESOBEL received their

First Communion during a big ceremony that gathered all the children, their families, the SESOBEL team and friends. Monsignor Antoine Nabil Andari celebrated the mass with Father Joseph Salloum and SESOBEL’s chorus.

SESOBEL’s staff appreciation end of the year day

Every year, July 31 is dedicated to the SESOBEL’s organizational team.

Everyone left their offices and their classrooms to spend an exceptional day with nature at Mayrouba village. Many surprises took place there: the election of each department’s model employee of the year, goodbyes for those leaving SESOBEL, games and skits... It was a marvelous occasion to reaffirm the mission of SESOBEL and to thank all the team for the great job they are doing.

Innovations

Inclusion classroom at the Jezzine public school

This pilot inclusion program has been a longtime goal of SESOBEL. It was finally implemented in Jezzine, South Lebanon, at the primary public school. This “mainstreaming” or inclusion program offers social and educational advantages for both disabled and non-disabled students. At the end of the year, a ceremony was held with the children of SESOBEL and those of the public school.

Child by child project

For more than 30 years, SESOBEL has worked with all segments of society to recognize the value of disabled children and to defend their right to lead a dignified life.

Under this framework, the leadership of SESOBEL asked their disabled youth to promote a project called “Child by Child”, in collaboration with ten schools that have no disabled students enrolled. SESOBEL’s youth visited these schools and were able to address 721 students concerning the rights of the disabled, to discuss different views on this topic and to answer questions.

End of the year event, "Let us work together for the rights of disabled children"

Under the patronage of the Minister of Education, Dr Khaled Kabbani, and with the collaboration of the mobile operator, Alfa, and within the framework of the "child by child" project, the youth of SESOBEL along with students from standard schools presented a play about the rights of all children. The play was interspersed with songs and appearances by media figures. The event took place on June 8, 2008 at the Casino du Liban theatre whose management graciously offered a small reception at the end of the ceremony. Those attending were touched by the insightful way the youth proclaimed their rights.

This event does not mark the end of the project.

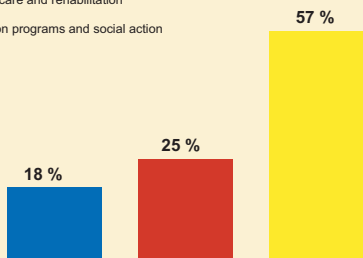
Next year, meetings and projects with more schools will take place.



Our Resources

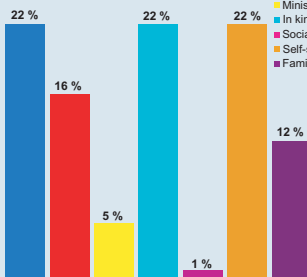
Charges

- Sheltered workshops and production
- Family reception program, medical care and rehabilitation
- Education programs and social action



Products

- Foreign donations and sponsorship
- Lebanese donations and sponsorship
- Ministry of social affairs contribution
- In kind donations
- Social assistance for families
- Self-sustained activities and sales
- Families participation



Around the disabled child, a big family

We want to thank all the members of the big family of SESOBEL who help us continue our mission by showing us their confidence, their love and their support:

The general assembly, the board of direction, the volunteer ladies of the standing committees, the technical advisers, the volunteer doctors, the sponsors and donors, the collaborators, the suppliers, the parents of SESOBEL's children and all the team.

Special thanks to our friends and sponsors from France, Australia and the United States of America who are there for us with great fidelity and love.