

Training Programmes for Women, Men and Youths

SGBV – Integration in schools

The aim of the project is to provide training for women and men in topics such as parenthood, SGBV, positive family dynamics and domestic violence. Youth leaders receive training on child safety and bullying prevention.



UNHCR/S. Malkawi

Background

The number of domestic violence cases being reported is increasing, which leads to two assumptions: either survivors are more encouraged to report their problems as a result of increased awareness on the importance to do so, or the incidence of domestic violence is actually increasing.

Violence is prevalent in Jordan's crowded public schools and as minorities, refugee children are frequently targeted and subject to discrimination and bullying. Moreover, changing gender roles in the asylum context, as well as men's frustration due to prolonged idleness, social isolation and financial problems, seem to contribute to increased levels of violence.

Location Amman, Jordan

Time & Duration 2009 - present

Population Groups Iraqi refugee and vulnerable Jordanian families

Actors UNHCR, Jordan River Foundation, Ministry of Health, Family Protection Department



Description

- In 2009 the JRF, with the help of UNHCR, established a network of peer educators in Amman among women called the “Mothers Outreach Network”, to educate Iraqi and Jordanian women on parenting topics.
- In 2010 the work of the network expanded to cover a larger number of women and succeeded in educating 592 Iraqi and vulnerable Jordanian women on topics related to protecting women and children from violence.
- In 2011, JRF recruited 10 new potential educators in Zarqa governorate to create a similar network of Iraqi and Jordanian women to educate women within their local communities on domestic violence issues.
- The educators began organizing gatherings in their neighborhoods and gave awareness sessions in a home setting, through which other community members became informed about these awareness sessions.
- Educators receive one-day supervision during implementation of their training programs to receive feedback and discuss challenges.
- Collective supervision has also been established. Educators share challenges and successes in a group setting, and to learn from each other’s experiences on the implementation of the mother to mother groups..
- Iraqi and Jordanian men were targeted within a comprehensive program on parenting, positive family dynamics and domestic violence topics. In the training for men and women, both JRF and UNHCR SGBV focal points acted as resource persons.
- JRF has trained Iraqi and Jordanian youth leaders on concepts of child safety and bullying prevention. This raised awareness on the different services offered to children and adolescence within the local context, which could include community based interventions.

Steps to Implementation

- Engage in community based awareness-raising for women on violence.
- Carry out specialized referral and women engagement activities.
- Source and empower both Iraqi and Jordanian women educators who possess or could possess the required skills to implement awareness raising lectures.
- Arrange and book spaces for training workshops/activities, utilizing community based organizations, government and NGO network.
- Establish and support educational support groups.
- Engage in awareness-raising directed to children and youth on topics related to violence.

Impact and Results

- Total Population involved in/ accessed by the project:
- 14 Iraqi and Jordanian women educators residing in eastern Amman who possess the required skills to implement awareness raising lectures on the services provided by JRF targeting other women in the area.
- 700 Iraqi and vulnerable Jordanian women in eastern Amman participated in the awareness raising lectures.
- 48 vulnerable Jordanian women residing in eastern Amman received individual counseling.
- 140 Iraqi women in eastern Amman received educational support.
- 60 Jordanian women in east Amman received educational support groups
- A community-based approach was established. This fostered support amongst community members regardless of whether they came for the local or refugee communities.



- The program of Men educators was highly successful and men showed great commitment and gave positive feedback. Having men advocate for respectful family relations and call to stop SGBV had a strong impact, especially because they are perceived as being the perpetrators of SGBV. Men expressed their need for guidance on next steps, showing their willingness to continue supporting the project.
- Participants in the Youth Program were very active; however, attendance was low because it took place during the month of Ramadan and cash distribution was limited. This point was taken into consideration for the coming projects and trainings.
- The “Mothers Outreach Network” was instrumental in identifying the need of beneficiaries for support groups and social capital, as they lack the opportunities for socialization due to fears related to

Constraints

- Trainers during the outreach were being interrogated by the police on the reasons for gathering in groups inside different houses to implement the TOT. Participants raised their fears with regard to conducting training in home settings due to government restrictions. Training sessions were therefore held in alternative venues owned by Community Based Organisations (CBOs), government or other NGOs to avoid similar incidents.
- Women educators complained about the time of the training. They expressed that they have many responsibilities, which require them to be at home in the mornings. As a temporary solution, JRF provided a day care service for the children of the participants during that time.
- Due to the month of Ramadan and limited funding, low attendance was recorded in the youth program.

Lessons Learned/Keys to Success

- The Home Setting might not always be appropriate for reasons of local security regulations regarding gatherings etc; a separate meeting space may be required to conduct training sessions, to avoid police interrogations/engagement.
- Trainings during Ramadan may have limited attendance.
- Women’s home chores may stop them from attending morning sessions. Therefore, it may be helpful to split women into groups depending on their availability and preference to ensure comfortable presence and strong participation.
- Throughout the TOT for women, the participants expressed their wish to receive further material on child behaviour and abuse. Women’s better understanding of SGBV increased their ability to recognize domestic violence elements within their family relations.
- Men expressed that it would be better to conduct the trainings in a location closer to the participants’ area of residence, so they can travel together to reduce the cost of travelling. Venues should thus be close to participants’ homes or they should be compensated for transport costs.
- The integration of both the local population and the refugee population from the very beginning of the project is crucial for success.

