

# 20 23 ANNUAL REPORT





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## Chairperson’s Letter

Last year, I wrote to you explaining that 2022 was the deadliest year for Palestinians since the UN started counting in 2005. But now as we come to close on displaced Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. While the West Bank was fuming from very early in 2023, the situation has deteriorated drastically in the West Bank since the war on Gaza. We are witnessing daily incursions in various areas of the West Bank with arrests, and violence leading to injured and killed Palestinians. In several refugee camps in the West Bank, Israeli Occupation Forces incursions include bulldozers that damage road, sewage, water, and electricity systems, leaving the people in despair. Just since October 2024 ,7, over 7000 Palestinians have been arrested across the West Bank.

Despite the regular protests, there seems to be little interest in listening to what the people want and addressing the root cause. Just this month, the PA president has accepted the resignation of the previous government led by Prime Minister Shtayeh, and appointed a new Prime Minister to form a new government. The newly appointed prime minister has the US government’s approval, according to telegram news headlines. But I say, what about us? The people of Palestine? Don’t we get a say in our future and in our government? I worry that this new prime minister will try to create an economic spurt implementing neoliberal policies that don’t support community sumood. We have already been through this in 2007 and it didn’t work. There can be no sustainable economic development while living under a military occupation. A just resolution is essential.

I want to thank you for supporting the work we do at Dalia. Mobilizing resources to support community priorities, identified by the people themselves, contributing to their sumood, is more important than ever. Strengthening this alternative to the ‘Big Aid’, solidarity community philanthropy, is only made possible by you. As I said earlier, the traditional structures of aid and humanitarian support have failed us, in particular our brothers and sisters in Gaza. The support you provide to our programs and community funds, in particular, Gaza fund, will enable us to support our community according to their needs and priorities, ensuring dignity and respect.



In solidarity,  
**Aisha Mansour**



## Despite the Bleeding Wounds, We March On

Throughout 2023, a year fraught with challenges and pains, hope for a brighter future did not fade but reborn, reaffirming our commitment to a better life. At Dalia Association, our resolve was firm as we pursued our strategic objectives, guided by our strategic roadmap for 2022-2026, placing a niche focus on empowering a free civil society that upholds principles of transparency and accountability and remains answerable for its performance.

In this past year, Dalia diligently moved forward with its community programs, awarding over thirty-five grants to youth and women-led initiatives as part of the IBDA' Youth Program and Giving For Change Project. We also provided targeted technical assistance to these groups to improve their operational capacities and skills. This support is a testament to our commitment to integrating the local civil society in the support and advocacy of such undertakings. Reaffirming our commitment to accountability, this approach also ensures that our beneficiaries are strategically positioned to leverage available resources to meet community-identified needs and priorities.

The Al Saha Program successfully concluded its Community Aid through Culture and Art project at Beit Al Karmeh in Kafr' Aqab. The initiative reached out to adolescents, young men and women, and adult women in the area, engaging them through a series of events that celebrated traditional Palestinian food culture and artistic expression. These activities featured murals that reflected the unique challenges faced by the community's youth. The program also celebrated the opening of two new branches of the Dukkan initiative in Beit Al Karmeh and Al Khawaja Castle in Ni'lin, west of Ramallah. This was complemented by the launch of a website developed in partnership with Birzeit University. The project also reinvigorated various facilities at Beit Al Karmeh, such as halls, a community kitchen, and an outdoor plaza, transforming it into vibrant community hub open and safe for all.



**Noor Nusseibeh**  
Executive Director

Supported by the unwavering belief of Dalia's friends in the critical resilience of our people in Jerusalem, the association launched the Jerusalem Community Fund. This fund supports initiatives centered on the city and its vicinities, such as the Beit Al-Maqdis Cooperative Agricultural Society, which utilized the fund's grant to establish irrigation systems crucial for the summer planting season. In the same vein, Dalia spearheaded a resource mobilization campaign for the Gaza Fund right from the outbreak of the ongoing genocidal war on the Gaza Strip. This fund aims to secure essential support for Gazan workers stranded in the West Bank, ensuring they meet their basic needs. In partnership with local organizations, the fund facilitated the delivery of food to the displaced and refugees in the accessible areas in Gaza.

In conclusion, we extend our deepest gratitude to our partners and friends, whose unwavering trust and support have been instrumental in implementing our programs. Our appreciation is also due to our general assembly and the board of directors for their voluntary roles and effective guidance, whose voluntary contributions and strategic guidance have significantly propelled our vision and organizational stability. Last but not least, none of these accomplishments would have been possible without the relentless dedication of our colleagues, donors, and volunteers, who deeply believe in our association's leading community role.

In conclusion, we owe profound gratitude to our partners and friends, whose unwavering support has been crucial in our endeavors. Our General Assembly and Board of Directors have also played indispensable voluntary roles, providing strategic guidance that has significantly strengthened our vision and organizational resilience. Finally, none of these achievements would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our colleagues, donors, and volunteers and their belief in our leading community role.

Together, we move ahead, dedicated to cultivating a community capable of safeguarding its national treasures and enhancing community philanthropy.



## About Dalia



Dalia Association is a community foundation that realizes our rights as Palestinians to control our resources for our own durable development for generations to come. Our mission is to mobilize and properly utilize resources necessary to empower a vibrant, independent, and accountable civil society, through community-controlled grant-making. Our community development approach focuses on the ecological, local economy, social and cultural dimensions.

### How do we do that?

- **Making grants** to support inspirational and relevant civil society initiatives, especially grassroots efforts that seek to supplement local resources.
- **Link resources** by introducing people with expertise, ideas, contacts, equipment, and other assets to community activists who can use them to serve their communities. This helps decrease our dependence on outside resources.
- **Encourage giving** by locals, companies, and refugee and Diaspora Palestinians. We revive local traditions of philanthropy and volunteerism such as mujawara\* and al Ouna\*.
- **Advocate for systemic change** in the international aid system so that it respects Palestinian rights and responds to local priorities.

## Performance Indicators 2023



### Dukkan Dalia's interventions during the current war

As part of Dalia Association's work towards community philanthropy, the Association implemented activities through the «Dukkan» initiative to support Palestinian workers from Gaza who were working in the 48 areas at the outbreak of war and were subsequently displaced towards the West Bank. These activities included providing workers with clothes, blankets, and basic necessities to support them through these hard times.

Dalia also conducted initiatives through Dukkan to support camps in the West Bank, including Tulkarm and Jenin, which have faced repeated incursions by the occupation resulting in widespread destruction of infrastructure and citizen resources. Dalia provided residents of these camps with clothes, blankets, and other essential needs.







# Community Programs



## Food Sovereignty Program

### Introduction

Food sovereignty is a core principle of the Dalia Association—a belief in the right of Palestinians to control their resources in pursuit of sustainable development. Dalia believes that self-reliance in food production, underpinned by the mobilization of a wealth of local knowledge, wisdom, and natural inputs, is the cornerstone for building a stronger and more resilient community in the face of challenges.

In 2023, Dalia initiated a nucleus for cultivating a self-reliant local economy, tapping into its years of experience and the insights garnered from its community engagement and research. This seminal effort engendered several studies, such as Palestinian National Food Sovereignty in Light of the Colonial Context and another on the border farming in the Gaza Strip from a food sovereignty perspective. It also featured the production of a booklet containing several articles on indigenous seeds and their connection to Palestinian identity, among other open discussions, community engagements, and workshops with relevant stakeholders aimed at advancing food sovereignty in Palestine. Based on a collaborative approach involving activists, farmers, experts, union representatives, and civil society organizations, these awareness and education experiences were aimed at achieving food sovereignty in Palestine.



### Food Sovereignty Campaign

In the Palestinian context, food sovereignty is intertwined with the Palestinian aspiration for community-led development and emancipation from occupation and its control over our resources, including food production resources. Anchored in a critical understanding of food security—which is often compromised by the influence of capital powers and corporate monopolies on the global food market—Palestinian discourse advocates for food sovereignty as a conduit to liberate food production from the domination of occupation and the speculative practices of globalized capital markets.



## Food Sovereignty Campaign Vision

The vision for the food sovereignty campaign reflects its catalytic, liberating objective, aimed at redefining the agricultural sector's role within a colonial context—from a peripheral dimension to a central player in empowering Palestinians and enhancing their visceral connection to their land. This paradigm shift in Palestinian society builds upon the integration of diverse community stakeholders—producers and consumers—under the leadership of committed Palestinian farmers. By embracing the principles of cooperation, production, sustainability, and local resource empowerment, this initiative seeks to reposition agriculture as a cornerstone of community resilience and independence.

In 2023, Dalia spearheaded an advocacy campaign in pursuit of a set of national and community objectives, including food sovereignty. Steeped in a participatory approach, this campaign engages community initiatives, local organizations, agricultural cooperatives, and farmers. Hosting public discussions on the role of community support in achieving national food sovereignty, the campaign brings together activists, farmers, experts, and representatives from unions and civil society organizations. These dialogues engendered a position paper with a set of recommendations presented to policymakers, advocating for the adoption of policies that enshrine national food sovereignty values and strengthen the agricultural sector.



## Dalia's in 2023: Activity Highlights

### Ecology Training Program

Our training activities are designed to empower individuals by equipping them with the essential knowledge and skills needed to create a sustainable local food system.

Through these interventions, we aim to:

- **Raise community awareness:** We strive to raise awareness about the instrumentality of sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty in local communities through awareness campaigns and participatory events.
- **Develop experience and skillsets:** Through advanced training programs and theoretical and hands-on workshops, we channel our concerted efforts into developing the expertise and skills of our program participants, catering to both novice farmers and potential trainers.
- **Promote efficient use of resources:** At Dalia, advocate for the sustainable use of agricultural resources, placing a niche focus on continuing development and empowerment of individual efficiency in agriculture and resource management.
- **Build knowledge exchange networks and channels:** We promote the creation of robust networks among participants, facilitating the exchange of knowledge and experiences, thereby fostering collaboration and enhancing mutual benefits.

In collaboration with seasoned ecologists, the association delivered an array of training sessions for members of agricultural cooperatives across various governorates. Participants also facilitated reciprocal visits to their farms and cooperatives, allowing for the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and sustainable farming practices. Having these targets accomplished, we aim to foster a sustainable and conscious community that makes efficient use of its resources and supports the advancement of food sovereignty in the region.



# IBDA' Youth Program



[Program stages illustration (mobilization, awareness activities, funding, initiative implementation, and networking)]

In alignment with its overarching vision to optimize the use of community resources—human, intellectual, and physical—Dalia Association champions youth support as a crucial element to invigorate the community and manage its resources efficiently. From this perspective, it launched the IBDA' Youth Program to achieve sustainable and resilient development. According to the press release co-issued by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and the Palestine Monetary Authority on January 2024 ,2, unemployment rates in the Gaza Strip saw a significant surge during the last quarter of the year, reaching 75 percent, with 651,000 individuals unemployed—up from 46 percent in the third quarter. In the West Bank, unemployment rates in the same quarter reached 32 percent, affecting approximately 258,000 people—up from 13 percent in the previous quarter. Tailored to the Palestinian context, the IBDA' Youth Program aims to create a nurturing environment for young individuals aged 15 to 35, catering to their diverse knowledge and interests. The program uses a grant cycle methodology to support youth-led community initiatives, enhancing the ethos of community work and engagement. Through various components designed to develop the necessary skills to meet the community's genuine developmental needs, the program seeks to revive and promote the concept of community philanthropy and mobilize a wide range of resources for youth empowerment and capacity building. The program stages cover a wide range of areas, from different theoretical concepts related to resilient development through building administrative and technical skills to networking and mobilizing local resources through various means and mechanisms.

This year proved that our unity, collective efforts, community philanthropy, and investment in human resources are our paths to a resilient Palestinian community—not the reliance on conditional funding. Consistent with our community-driven mission, we emphasize that youth energy should be strategically invested as a pivotal force, driving sustainable development and creating a brighter future for us all.



## Success Stories from IBDA' Youth Program

The IBDA' Youth Program began as a tool for exploring and identifying active youth groups across various regions of Palestine. It succeeded in mapping civil society organizations and active individuals of all genders in different fields and areas, creating nuclei for community engagement and empowering young men and women to unlock their leadership potential within their communities.

As the youth nuclei formed, the program evolved into a journey where Dalia walked alongside the participating young men and women, keeping pace with the developments they navigated throughout the program cycle. These experiences included challenges, achievements, and concerns that echoed the broader societal, economic, and political landscapes, reflecting the participants' integral roles within their communities.

## Community Initiatives: From Ideas to Success Models

Dalia Association takes pride in the successes achieved by the IBDA' Youth Program in supporting cultural initiatives that rely on local resources, offering them a level of sustainability and financial stability. The program implemented several cultural initiatives targeting children and women, striving to address the diverse needs of our communities across various regions of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Creating dynamic spaces for various sections of society, these initiatives blend traditional Palestinian arts, such as storytelling, with modern mechanisms, including psychological relief, self-expression, and venting activities.

One of the standout examples of these initiatives is the Rummana Library in Hebron Governorate. Sarah, the initiative's coordinator, used Dalia's seed grant to implement a series of cultural and artistic activities for children—such as storytelling sessions, educational tours around Hebron, and art activities whose creations were turned into stickers for sale. Sarah also devised a way to collect nominal fees from participating children to secure more books for the library's internal collection, in addition to the support received from her family and the local community in Wadi as-Samin.





## Women Supporting Women Program

In 2023, the challenges faced by women in Palestine intensified significantly, particularly in the last quarter. They were disproportionately affected by the continuous violence in the Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, the year witnessed the dismissal of hundreds of thousands of Palestinian workers in Israel, with unemployment rates soaring to unprecedented levels. Coupled with the Palestinian government's struggle to fulfill public personnel payroll, the crisis deepened, exacerbating the economic burden on women. These adversities underscored the critical necessity for initiatives aimed at empowering women and reinforcing their role at the economic resilience forefront. Through its Women Supporting Women Program, Dalia steps into this gap, offering Palestinian women various opportunities to attain social and professional empowerment.

### Women on the Path to Empowerment and Resilience

We, at Dalia, remain dedicated and committed to women's empowerment, leveraging their active role in society through its battery of programs. These initiatives span a range of workshops that merge skill and craft development—from recycling art to celebrating Palestinian culinary culture—to hair braiding courses and more. Fostering women's active participation in the economic landscape, these activities provide safe spaces for them to exchange ideas, experiences, challenges, and aspirations, thereby strengthening their capabilities and community bonds.

The ongoing, dynamic engagement of women with the workshops at Beit Al Karma showcases the effectiveness of our supportive environment in enhancing the development of the participants—an environment we strive to cultivate within the framework of Dalia's commitment to our vision of community-led sustainable development. Beyond training, we bridge connections among women, traditional crafts, and community spaces, enhancing both personal and communal development.



With an equally innovative approach, the Tashkeel Gallery initiative adopted a unique strategy to boost public engagement with art.

The initiative transformed children's artistic creations from art workshops into keepsakes for sale at various bazaars, including decorated bookmarks and printed mug designs. The proceeds from selling these products were reinvested into enhancing the gallery's resources and materials.

Shifting the spotlight from Hebron to Bethlehem, the Salon Al Adabi initiative in Aida Camp shines as another exemplary model. This youth-led creative writing hub aims to nurture the verse and prose talents of community members. It gained widespread popularity, particularly during the COVID19- pandemic, highlighting its importance by offering a cultural space that addresses previously unmet community needs.

Thanks to the dedication and perseverance of its members, led by a young woman from Aida Camp, the initiative was officially registered as a youth organization in 2020. Moreover, this initiative has inspired other active youth groups to adopt and implement its activities in various parts of the Bethlehem Governorate.

Last but not least, the Al Shaabya Library initiative provides another distinctive success story.

This public library initiative was launched by a dedicated group of young men and women eager to drive positive changes steeped in the Palestinian system of values. Set to raise youth awareness about issues affecting their reality, it encourages them to read and enjoy the acts of reading, interacting with books through giving, cultural and intellectual exchange, and book-sharing.

The library, open to all, operates on a self-sustaining model where individuals borrow a book to read and leave another for others to enjoy, thus nurturing collective thinking and community engagement and rejecting monopolistic and consumerist practices.



## Women and Crafts

In 2023, Dalia launched Yad Al Hikaya (Hand of Tales), a project that celebrates and supports the rich tradition of Palestinian craftswomanship. This initiative is designed to spotlight the contributions of women within the vibrant tapestry of traditional Palestinian crafts, aiming to empower them and enhance their skills through collaborative learning experiences.

At the heart of building a brighter future and advancing social and economic development is the empowerment of women, particularly through skill acquisition and development. Therefore, we focus on developing the talents of women artisans in traditional Palestinian crafts, blending their skills with artistic techniques to enhance both the aesthetic and cultural value of their work. Building the technical skills of these artisans, this program addresses the challenges faced by Palestinian women in the workplace. The positive impacts of this initiative are evident, as participants report significant improvements in their work output and overall contributions to their communities, enriching their daily lives.

Thus, Dalia strides forward, affecting a tangible impact in shaping a brighter future for Palestinian women. This commitment underscores the importance of diligent work and sustained empowerment in achieving progress and excellence in crafts and arts.

## Women in Community Spaces

Dalia Association often organizes women's bazaars, integral to its activities, creating safe environments that foster women's active participation in the labor market. These bazaars do not merely showcase women's enterprises; they are also instrumental in highlighting and introducing these initiatives to the local community. Advancing women's economic empowerment, these activities promote public engagement and support for these women-led projects.

In 2023, Dalia held seven bazaars, each reflecting themes, including seasonal cuisines, traditional crafts, and recycling initiatives. These events generated additional income for the participants and provided safe loci for networking and promoting their products to a broader audience.

## Women at the Forefront of Sustainable Environmental Initiatives

Women play a crucial role in fulfilling Dalia's vision for environmental sustainability, actively participating in our practical and theoretical ecology training events. Covering a broad spectrum of topics—from seasonal crop planning, soil preparation, organic fertilization, and eco-friendly pest and disease management—our initiatives have empowered many women-led farms and agricultural cooperatives.

In the same vein, women took an active part in Dalia's recycling initiatives, highlighting our dedication to environmental sustainability. Recognizing the critical impact of these activities, a dedicated part of our agenda is given over to sustainable consumption practices. These efforts are designed to optimize the use of limited local resources and combat the prevalent issue of excessive consumption.





# Cooperation Through Culture and Arts Program



## Enhancing Community Cohesion and Solidarity through Arts and Culture

The town of Kafr Aqab, situated north of Jerusalem, faces significant social and economic challenges. These issues stem primarily from the occupation's policies, which control the area's administration and security without providing essential services. Thousands of Jerusalemites have moved to this enclave to escape the high housing costs in Jerusalem and the extreme difficulty of obtaining building permits behind the Apartheid Wall. They have relocated here to maintain their residential address within the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem to avoid losing their residency rights in their native city. Kafr Aqab's demographic fabric also includes many West Bankers who have moved there to ensure their family members with Jerusalem ID cards from losing their residency rights in Jerusalem if they lived outside its municipal boundaries. These factors, among others, have created a densely populated, informal, or semi-informal urban area that lacks services and suffers from the absence of a cohesive and safe community structure. Against this slew of challenges, the Dalia Association leveraged its Cooperation Through Culture and Arts Program—implemented in Kafr Aqab and its surrounding areas with funding from the A. M. Qattan Foundation—as a crucial step in building a united, supportive, and culturally and socially pluralistic community.

Through this project, noted for its distinct and explicit objectives, Dalia sought to revive the principle of *ḥawnah*—community and neighborly mutual aid—in Kafr Aqab, with a focused effort on cementing community solidarity and cohesion. Targeting the area's most marginalized groups—youth, seniors, and women, this initiative actively involved these groups in community initiatives that shed light on their needs and challenges. Activities included conducting an analytical study titled *Life at 14 to 16: A closer look at youth challenges in Kafr Aqab*, creating three murals, and producing theatrical reading performances—all of which reflected the challenges faced by Kafr Aqab's youth and addressed community concerns like sanitation and overcrowding. Furthermore, a series of culinary events celebrating Palestinian food culture engaged the women of the town and its surroundings.

In one mural, the city was bisected into two halves: one depicting the harsh realities faced by Kafr Aqab and the other visualizing the community's aspirations. Participants also created a mural that mirrors the human and architectural encroachment across Kafr Aqab, using colors inspired by seaside sunsets. On the theatrical front, the youth delivered reading performances entitled «Kafr Aqab-Jerusalem and Vice Versa,» portraying the challenges, ambitions, fears, hopes, perceptions, and quotidian experiences of the youth in this unique area, such as bullying and leadership. Before an audience featuring decision-makers, these performances were staged at the A. M. Qattan Foundation and Beit

Al Karmeh in Kafr Aqab, with the hope of finding solutions to their concerns. Events celebrating Palestinian culinary culture drew significant participation, engaging participants in the preparation and tasting of traditional seasonal dishes. This allowed them to prepare and savor traditional seasonal dishes, a process that reconnected them with the gastronomic legacies of their ancestors—practices once rooted in the use of wild crops now dwindling due to the encroachment of settlements and urban sprawl.

The project is anchored in robust partnerships with the Kafr Aqab Municipality, local artists, and community organizations, including youth groups. These collaborations have enabled the project to achieve its intended positive impact, cultivating an active and engaging environment that stimulates effective and fruitful participation across various sections of society.

The project also focused on deepening the participants' understanding of the unique features of Palestinian cuisine and its cultural significance. To this end, we organized sessions dedicated to sharing information about traditional Palestinian dining customs such as *Rummāniyya* from Gaza, *Shābūniyya* from Nablus, and *Qidrat Khalīl ar-Rahmān*. The *Sarha* and *Tabqeela* event also highlighted the agricultural practices tied to seasonal Palestinian foods. In our commitment to preserving these culinary treasures, we compiled and documented the recipes developed during the initiative in a publication we entitled *Culture of Food*.

The Cooperation Through Culture and Arts project demonstrated the impactful role that cultural and artistic endeavors can play in sparking and driving social change. Connecting diverse generations within the community, it reinforced cultural bonds and underscored the value of collective contribution.





# Al Saha Program



: A Pillar for Community Empowerment and Sustainability

Dalia Association's vision for community empowerment, mobilization, promotion of the 'awnah value (community and neighborly mutual aid), and the optimization of limited resources is embodied in the comprehensive Al Saha program. Providing diverse spaces for the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and resources, this program integrates Beit Al Karmeh and Dukkan initiatives as well as ecology training courses.

## Beit Al Karmeh: A Vibrant, Inclusive Community Hub

Beit Al Karmeh in Kafr Aqab exemplifies the harmony between community development and cultural heritage preservation. It represents the fruitful collaboration between the Dalia Association, Riwaq - Center for Architectural Conservation, Drosos Foundation, German Cooperative, and the Municipality of Kafr Aqab. Restoring and revitalizing this beautiful Ottoman-era building, this initiative preserved its architectural, cultural, and social heritage and transformed it into a dynamic, free community hub.

Beit Al Karmeh has been instrumental in fostering communication and interaction within the local community through its diverse range of activities. The venue offers spaces for meetings, workshops, and the launch of student projects, establishing itself as a hub for different community groups. Gradually, Beit Al Karmeh has evolved into a center for women's development and support, featuring numerous courses and programs, including a training initiative supported by the Palestinian Family Planning and Protection Association. These efforts have led to numerous success stories and new opportunities for women in the region.

In 2023, Beit Al Karmeh organized various events, including twelve activities under the Cooperation Through Culture and Arts Program. Additionally, the venue hosted bazaars focused on supporting and empowering women and youth. Frequently used for meetings and gatherings, it evolved into a vibrant center and a crucial source of income for the association owing to the revenue generated from its facilities.



## Dukkan Initiative: An Ongoing Pursuit of Excellence

Dukkan reflects Dalia's vision of community-led development and the efficient use of resources within a preserved, healthy environment. The initiative provides our community with a selection of second-hand items, clothing, and goods in good condition at affordable prices. Contributing to the fight against current environmental challenges, community members donate these items to Dukkan, which then sells them at symbolic prices to encourage recycling and reuse. The revenue generated from Dukkan is reinvested to support community-led development initiatives.

As part of our commitment to enhancing community development, reaching broader sections of society, and promoting the Dukkan initiative, we have inaugurated a new sales point in the village of Ni'lin and have activated an online shopping service.

## Ecology in Community Spaces

Dalia Association is dedicated to embedding the principles of community-based ecology within public spaces. To achieve this, we have organized a series of awareness campaigns and training sessions aimed at developing the skills and capabilities of eco-friendly agricultural programs. Dalia views these activities as investments in our community's future, contributing to food sovereignty and optimizing the use of environmental resources. In 2023, we implemented a series of significant events for cultivating community spaces, including initiatives at Beit Al Karmeh and the Annahda Women's Association.





# Community Philanthropy Through Community Funds



## Community Funds

At Dalia Association, we strive to liberate ourselves from the constraints of conditional funding. To this end, we established several community funds. These funds are a testament to our communities' determination to define their local priorities and pursue economic self-reliance. By strategically leveraging local resources and assets, these funds address specific material needs and promote sustainable development. This approach empowers our communities to flourish independently.

## Gaza Fund

In response to the ongoing emergency in the Gaza Strip and our commitment to enhancing community philanthropy, the Dalia Association immediately activated the Gaza Fund. This initiative is dedicated to collecting monetary and in-kind contributions to address the essential needs of Gazans and improve their living and health conditions in the thick of the current war.

In addition to initiating the Gaza Fund, Dalia also prioritized supporting displaced workers from Gaza stranded in the West Bank by providing essential food and supplies, such as shoes and clothing. In a parallel effort, we plan to establish a civil society committee to identify community needs and priorities for sustainable development. This committee determines the community's immediate needs and long-term priorities, guiding our efforts to fund initiatives that will aid in the post-war reconstruction efforts.

## Jerusalem Fund

The Palestinian community in Jerusalem endures daily violations from the occupation, which persistently endeavors to erase their presence in the city. In response, the Jerusalem Fund bolsters the resilience of Jerusalem's Palestinian community by realizing their priorities in various sectors—including education and agriculture.

Following the completion of the application process, the committee awarded a grant of 8000 dollars to the Beit Al Maqdis Ecology Initiative, part of the Beit Al Maqdis Cooperative Agricultural Society. This grant supports the initiative's mission of promoting ecology and enhancing community engagement among Jerusalemite youth. By focusing on cultivating a diverse range of vegetables and medicinal herbs using eco-friendly and organic methods, the initiative organizes workshops to teach the principles of ecology and markets fresh produce in collaboration with the Bukja Baytak Hometown Harvest) campaign, which offers a wide variety of local products.

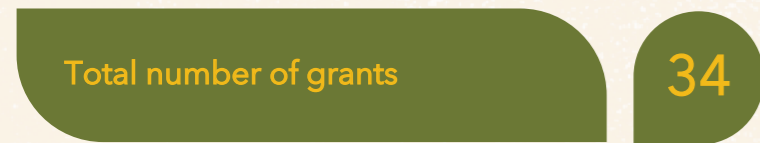




# Grants Summary

Dalia Association utilizes its community funds and distributed grants to achieve sustainability and highest impact possible. We aim to involve various segments of the community in the developmental context, while diversifying our coverage in terms targeted groups, scopes of development, and geography.

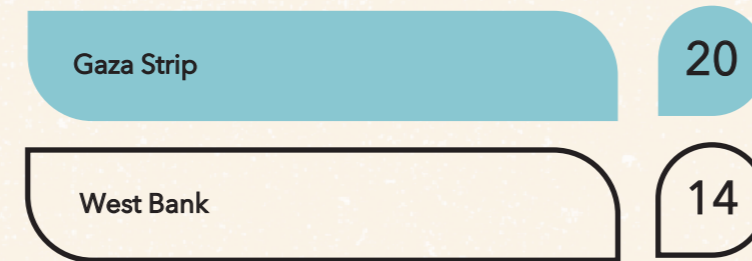
During the grant cycle of 2023, Dalia Association distributed 34 grants in various areas and scopes, including environment and agriculture, youth, women, children, human rights, advocacy, education, culture, and arts.



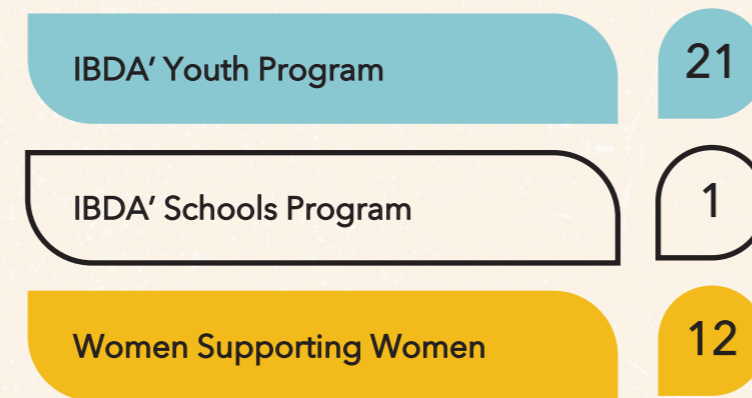
## Grants distributed by donor:



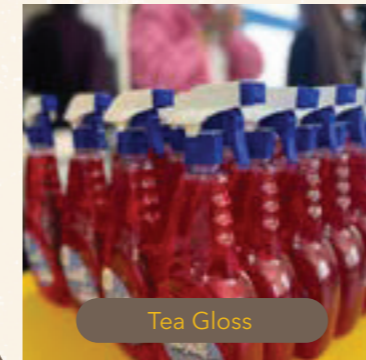
## Grants distributed per area



## Grants distributed per program

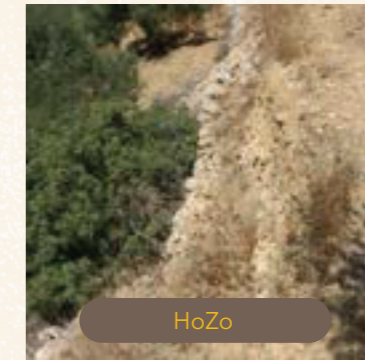


# Distributed Grants



Tea Gloss is an innovative environmental initiative dedicated to producing a chemical-free cleaning product from used tea bags

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Birzeit, Ramallah
- Scope: Environmental



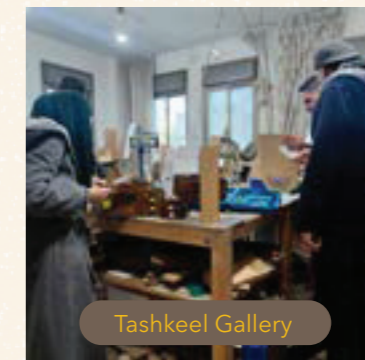
HoZo is a resort that embraces the principles of alternative tourism. Dedicated to providing a serene and natural environment, it features natural products, ensuring an experience free from the distractions of modern life.

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Battir Village, Bethlehem "C"
- Scope: Environmental



Autism Heroes is an initiative dedicated to providing specialized curricula for children with autism, specifically the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS). This program also includes online training for mothers to effectively use the curriculum and master the techniques for working with their children.

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Nablus
- Scope: Human rights



Tashkeel Gallery is an initiative focused on creating an educational game called "The Alphabet of the Four Seasons." This cultural and artistic project aims to develop an Arabic language alphabet themed around the four seasons. The initiative includes four workshops for children under the age of 14 dedicating a session to each season to compile this unique alphabet, ensuring an experience free from the distractions of modern life

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Hebron (H2)
- Scope: Cultural; educational





We Create Through Art

The initiative We Create Through Art is designed to enhance children's academic abilities and cultivate a mentally and psychologically resilient generation. This is achieved through the prism of music, drama, theater, colors, sports, and creative writing as therapeutic relaxation and extracurricular activities for children aged 5 to 12 years. Most of these activities are delivered by fresh young specialists seeking job opportunities.

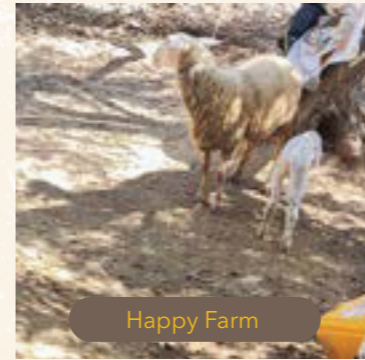
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Aida Refugee Camp, Bethlehem
- Scope: Cultural; educational



House of Youth

The House of Youth is dedicated to equipping young individuals with diverse skills that facilitate future job opportunities. This initiative includes activities such as upcycling wood, recycling glass, and engaging in various forms of artistic work, all aimed at enhancing employability and innovation among the youth.

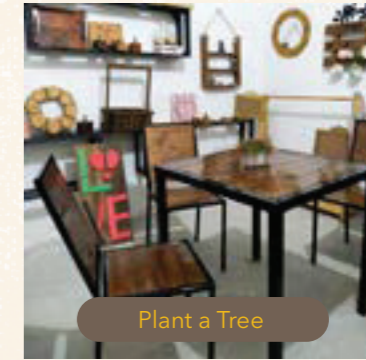
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Nur Shams Camp, Tulkarm
- Scope: Cultural; educational



Happy Farm

The Happy Farm focuses on raising sheep and rabbits and producing animal feed using farm-grown ingredients. It emphasizes natural farming practices by ensuring all animals are fed without chemicals.

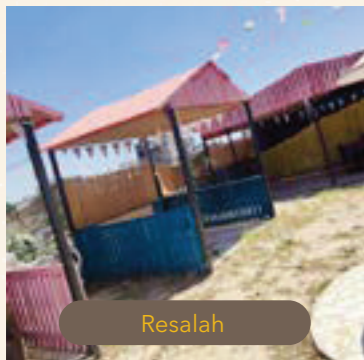
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Agricultural



Plant a Tree

The Plant a Tree initiative aims to make the best use of dead trees by repurposing them and planting new ones in their place. The wood from the repurposed trees is crafted into decorative items and sold to generate income.

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Agricultural



Resalah

Resalah aims to raise awareness about environmental issues, mitigate the impact of landfills, and promote the artistic reuse of discarded items. Creating a supportive environment for women and children, it provides entertainment and art activities.

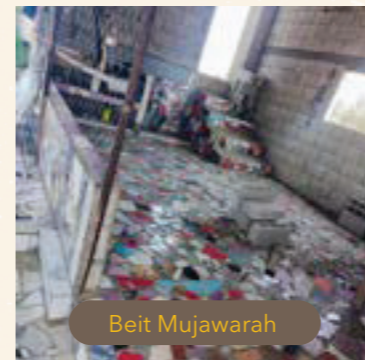
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: North Gaza, Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social



Masaha Amena (A Safe Space)

The Masaha Amena initiative aims to empower youth as agents of change by improving their mental health and providing them with psychosocial support.

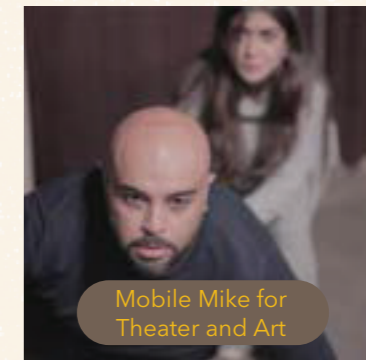
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: Drossos
- Area: Rafah, Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social



Beit Mujawarah

Beit Mujawarah is a multipurpose piece of land designed to host various institutions for events and training. The initiative transforms the space into a communal area where different organizations can gather and conduct activities, creating a rich social experience.

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Al Qarara, Gaza Strip
- Scope: Environmental



Mobile Mike for Theater and Art

The Mobile Mike for Theater and Art is a theatrical initiative that seeks to create a space where young people can actively engage with the challenges they encounter. By fostering social connections and illuminating their inner thoughts and feelings, it aims to provide a platform for personal growth and self-expression.

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural

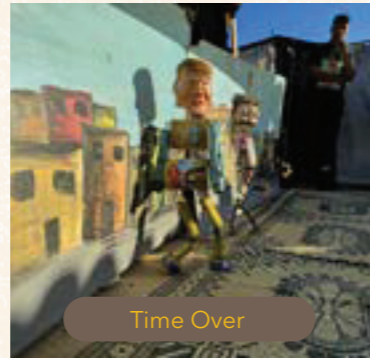




Juha wa al Mesbah

The Reem Bana initiative is a creative initiative dedicated to reviving Palestinian cultural heritage through the prism of Reem Bana's evocative music. This initiative aims to preserve and share Palestinian histories and quotidian life by blending traditional songs with contemporary visual storytelling in a recorded performance.

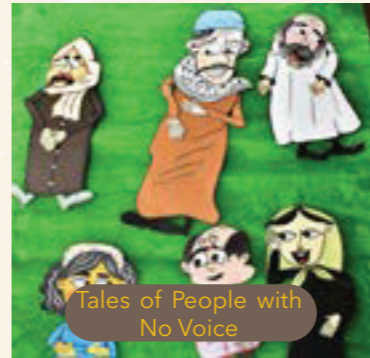
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural



Time Over

The Time Over initiative aims to draw attention to the overuse of smartphones and technology, emphasizing their psychological effects. By using marionette puppet shows, the project seeks to educate children and promote healthier tech habits in an engaging and memorable way.

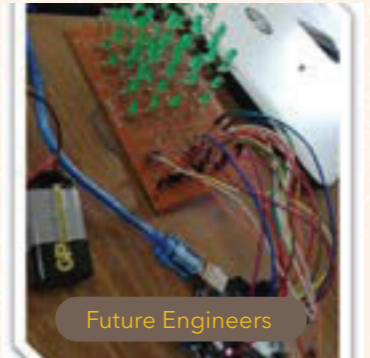
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural



Tales of People with No Voice

The Tales of People with No Voice initiative seeks to economically empower seven deaf women by training them in digital marketing, enabling them to effectively promote the animation films they create

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural



Future Engineers

The Future Engineers initiative aims to enhance the opportunities for children in marginalized areas to participate in non-formal educational activities. This is achieved through a mobile scientific and laboratory camp, which brings hands-on learning experiences directly to these children

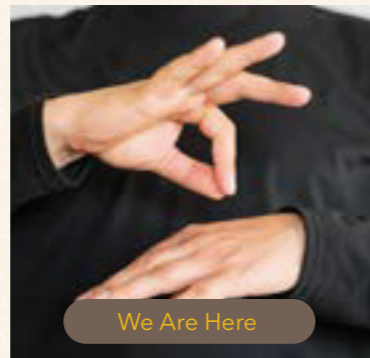
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural



Haya Podcast

Haya Podcast is a cultural and social initiative designed to strengthen social connections among youth through a series of engaging and thought-provoking podcast episodes.

- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural



We Are Here

The We Are Here initiative provides economic support to individuals with hearing disabilities in marginalized areas of Khan Younis. By providing them with skills for branching out into freelancing platforms and digital advocacy, this project empowers them to advocate for themselves and raise awareness within their communities.

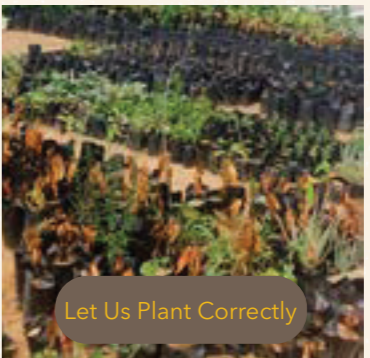
- Program: IBDA' Youth Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Human rights



Seasons Of Women Collation

The Seasons of Women Collation is a women's agricultural cooperative.

- Program: Women Supporting Women Program
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Agricultural



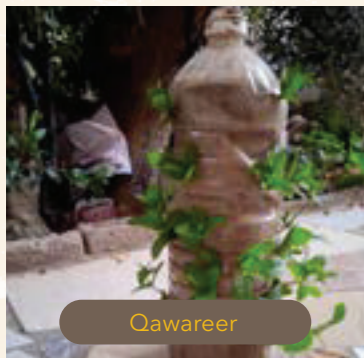
Let Us Plant Correctly

The Let Us Plant Correctly initiative advocates for the use of ecology and natural, environmentally friendly products and fertilizers

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Agricultural



Tea Gloss is an innovative environmental initiative dedicated to producing a chemical-free cleaning product from used tea bags



Qawareer

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Agricultural; environmental

Happiness Pieces is an environmental initiative focused on repurposing metal and plastic waste to create accessories



Happiness Pieces

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Environmental

Qaderat is an initiative that economically empowers women with disabilities by equipping them with skills in design and tailoring



Qaderat (Capable Women)

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Human rights

The Folk Tales on Strings initiative focuses on using puppetry and theater in kindergartens, along with creating a manual for implementing theater and drama in early childhood education.



Folk Tales on Strings: Puppetry and Theater for Kindergartens

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Social; arts; cultural

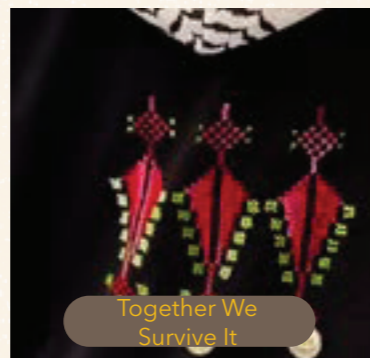
Eshtar is an initiative dedicated to creating artistic pieces and decorations from solid waste



Eshtar

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Environmental

Together We Survive It 4 is an initiative focused on redesigning traditional cultural costumes into modern attire suitable for daily wear.



Together We Survive It

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Gaza Strip
- Scope: Environmental

In 2018, the Al Hafasi Volunteer Youth Group of Kafr Al-Labad was founded with a mission to integrate marginalized communities into meaningful local youth and community activities. This group aims to uplift these areas culturally, health, and heritage-wise, acknowledging their historical significance in the Palestinian struggle. Despite numerous challenges and a lack of resources, the -18member volunteer collective is dedicated to improving their communities and advocating for essential services. Their unwavering commitment is driven by a determination to secure a better future for the youth amid the ongoing adversities.



Al Hafasi Volunteer Youth Group of Kafr Al-Labad

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Kafr Al-Labad, Tulkarm
- Scope: Agriculture cooperatives





Ard and Zar' Cooperative  
(Soil and Sown Cooperative)

The Ard and Zar' Cooperative is dedicated to creating an alternative economy driven by agriculture

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Burin, Nablus
- Scope: Agriculture cooperatives



Dayr al-Sudan Females  
Entrepreneurs for Herbs  
Planting

The Dayr al-Sudan Female Entrepreneurs for Herb Planting Cooperative is committed to empowering rural women by providing economic support, thereby elevating their status and societal position. This initiative offers women = social and psychological assistance and equips them with the skills and resources necessary for achieving independence

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Dayr al-Sudan, Ramallah
- Scope: Agriculture cooperatives



Hope Cooperative

The Hope Cooperative is dedicated to protecting the land of Madama, a village located in Area C, from confiscation. It also aims to create a sustainable source of income to support its activities.

- Program: Youth Programs
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Madma, Nablus
- Scope: Agricultural cooperatives



Ritaj Cooperative

The Ritaj Cooperative is dedicated to protecting our land from settlement expansion and creating job opportunities for housewives and unemployed university graduates. To this end, it produces a set of natural agricultural products.

- Program: Women Supporting Women
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Nablus
- Scope: Agricultural cooperatives



Happiness O2

The Happiness O2 initiative is an environmental project that engages the local community in sorting solid waste through dedicated events. The waste is then transformed into art pieces, which are sold in local and international markets. The initiative aims to fund volunteer activities and support small business owners and artists

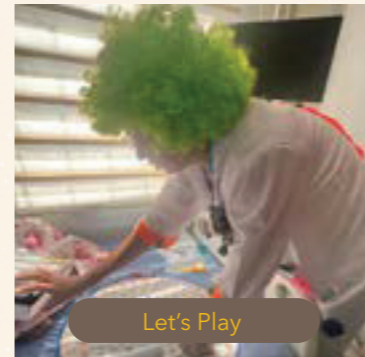
- Program: Youth Programs
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Hebron
- Scope: Environmental



Rihanna Youth  
Group

The Rihanna Youth Group initiative aims to advance the concept of hydroponics by offering both theoretical and practical training courses. These courses are designed to impart the principles and applications of hydroponics, with the goal of implementing this innovative system within Beit Jibrin Camp (a.k.a. 'Azza Refugee Camp). This initiative specifically targets 35 young individuals from the camp, aged between 18 and 30, providing them with valuable skills and knowledge to enhance their community's agricultural practices.

- Program: Youth Programs
- Donor: GFC
- Area: Beit Jibrin Camp, Bethlehem
- Scope: Agricultural cooperative



Let's Play

The Let's Play initiative aims to provide psychological support services to children with cancer who reside in the Retno Hotel and are receiving treatment at H-Clinic

- Program: IBDA' Schools
- Donor: MADRE
- Area: Ramallah
- Scope: Children



# Highlights of Dalia Association's impact through philanthropy and community mobilization during 2023

## Revival of Palestinian Cuisine at Beit Al-Karmeh

In September and October of this year, Dalia Association organized multiple events related to Palestinian cuisine and the revival of recipes from our heritage at Beit Al-Karmeh guest house. These events included a Za'tar Manaqish event on 1st September, where a Palestinian chef baked the Manaqish in a wooden oven outside the guesthouse, and covered it with seasonal Za'tar and olive oil. The guests enjoyed the Manaqish with their friends and families at our outdoor space, which achieved our goal with this event: to strengthen the community bonds in areas such as Kufor Aqab.

The second food-related event at Beit Al-Karmeh was a Handmade Maftoul event on the 5th of October, where our chef made the Maftoul by hand in front of the guests, and served it at our outdoor space. The guests also had the option to take the food home to their families.

Finally, on the 24th of October, Um Samer prepared the Palestinian national dish Musakhan for us, by baking the bread in a wooden oven, then dipping it in seasonal olive oil, and grilling the chicken to go on top. The event was met with a great turnout from Kufor Aqab and other close-by neighborhoods.

Dalia Association is very proud of the efforts of these women in reviving Palestinian heritage and local recipes, and women's economic empowerment in Kufor Aqab.



## Kafr Al-Labad Pools - From a Health Hazard to a Public Park

With joy, the children of Kafr Al-Labad - Tulkarm and their families spent a Friday at the archaeological pools park, rehabilitated through the initiative of "Walk on Your Land and Claim It." After years of deprivation, the initiative supervised by Dalia Association in partnership with the Kafr Al-Labad Municipality and the Kafr Al-Labad Sports Club succeeded in transforming the archaeological pools, which had become a health hazard, into a public park.

The initiative, funded by "Giving for Change" project, worked tirelessly over five months, gathering volunteers from the local community to clean and rehabilitate the area. They added children's play equipment, wooden benches, and planted fruit-bearing and native trees.

The park was inaugurated in December, 2023, with the presence of partners and representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Tourism and Antiquities, Local Government, and Agricultural Relief in Tulkarm Governorate.

Given the environmental and historical significance of the area, Nadiya Rajab, President of the Kafr Al-Labad Sports Club, stated: "The archaeological pools area is among our top priorities. It was a neglected area turned into a health hazard, yet it holds historical value. We approached Dalia Association to collaborate on rehabilitating it for conversion into a public park. I appeal to decision-makers to fulfill their responsibilities by supporting the development and preservation of this project."

Highlighting the place's historical and natural beauty, Hassan Shtayyeh, Director General of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in Tulkarm, expressed their commitment to register and connect the site with surrounding historical trails, encouraging people to visit.

Ragheb Abu Diyak, Director General of Local Government in Tulkarm, praised the effort and vowed to approach funding entities to include this site in the 2024 budget to achieve the desired goals.

Additionally, Aahed Zanabieh, Director of Agricultural Relief, emphasized the importance of their presence in supporting environmental and agricultural aspects of the project, pledging full support for its development.





# Dalia's Collective



Rooted in Dalia's commitment to integrated action and the cumulative build-up of collective knowledge and experience in fostering community resilience and liberation, all units of the association join forces to optimize the use of Dalia's energies and resources—human, material, and intellectual—in a dynamic and holistic modus operandi. Dalia's vibrant team, general assembly, board of directors, volunteers, donors, and friends feature a diverse spectrum of experiences, qualifications, and backgrounds. Through concerted and effective engagement, this diversity is geared toward the association's core mission: empowering Palestinians to control their resources.

## Board Members

Aisha Mansour, Fidah Mousa, Melia Tannous, Rami Hinnawi, Yara Abdulhamid, Sandra Rasheed, Rahaf Rifai.

## General Assembly Members

Hazem Abu Hilal, Benaz Batrawi, Jack Nassar, Sally Shami, Yara Dowani, Marwa Al Tamimi, Hiba Awaida, Eyad Rayahi, Zaha Hantoush, Arda Shamshoum, Alia Nassereddin, Naila Ayish, Fatima Abu Kata, Sami Alul, Fida Touma, Hekmat Bessiso, Rami Hinawi, Siham Rashid, Yanal Hammouda, Abdullah Abu Kishk, Luna Saadeh, Soraida Sabbah, Nader Dagher, Ashira Ramadan, Riyad Ayassi, Yara Abdulhamid, Fareed Taamallah, Fida Mousa, Aziza Musa, Melia Tannous, Lina Odeh, Aisha Mansour, Lilliane Corbesier, Rahaf Rifai, Tumadhur Shalneh, and Rand Khatri.



## Team

Noor Nusseibeh, Executive Director; Ala' Sajdeyeh, Human Resources and Administrative Officer; Mohammed Abdullah, Financial and Procurement Officer; Aya Badha, Al Saha Program Officer; Saja Shami, Community Programs Officer; Milad Al Hayek, Communication and Fundraising Officer; Suha Aql, Beit Al Karmeh Program Coordinator; Alia Al Rosan, Field Coordinator; and Georgette Rizqallah, Field Coordinator.



Gaza Strip Team



West Bank Team

## Jerusalem Fund Committee Members

Fadya Salfiti, Mohammed Amous, Samar Awad, Salma Al Khalidi, Rawan Awni, Ashraf Khatib.

## Volunteers

At Dalia Association, we fully recognize the significant value of our volunteers' contributions to reinforcing our mission and achieving sustainable development. Hence, we extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all our volunteers for their ongoing and inspiring efforts. These contributions significantly enrich our endeavors with invaluable virtues and contribute to the establishment of a laudable model of community cooperation and philanthropy.







## Acknowledgments

### Our Donors

Dalia Community Association extends our sincere gratitude to our dedicated donors from Palestine and across the diaspora. Your genuine belief in our mission and your generous community contributions enable us to continue serving our Palestinian community and addressing its needs as defined by its members.



### Our Volunteers

Dalia Association would also thank our volunteers who have dedicated their energy to supporting our programs and community initiatives. Volunteering is the cornerstone of community philanthropy and resilient community development—without your support and volunteerism, Dalia would not be able to meet our community needs.

*Thank you*