

MIDDLE EAST COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Committee for Refugee Work

DSPR/Gaza Area

Progress Report

01 January – 30 September 2012

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Abbreviations

ACT	Action by Churches Together
ANC	Antenatal Care
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infections
CA	Christian Aid
CBC	Complete Blood Count
CBI	Community Based Intervention
DD	Diarrheal Diseases
EU	European Union
IUD	Intra-Uterine Device
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NECC	Near East Council of Churches
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
PHC	Primary Health Care
PNA	Palestinian National Authority
PNC	Postnatal Care
PSS	Psychosocial Support
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UNRWA	United Nation Relief and Works Agency for Refugees of Palestine
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNWFP	United Nations World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
Hb	Heamoglobin
VTC	Vocational Training Centre

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Executive summary:

This reporting period had witnessed the highest crisis of shortage in medications, fuel and electricity supply in the Gaza Strip; also it showed more Israeli attacks and airstrikes. Benefiting from the experience of the last years, our NECC teams had made a significant progress in relation to continue our ongoing programmes as planned without delay.

The work plan for 2012 was finalized and reviewed with the supervisors of the NECC centers. In this reporting period , focus was directed toward expanding the activities and attracting a larger number of beneficiaries to the clinics in each region but keeping the high quality of services provided inside our centers .

*Regarding the mother and child health services in our clinics during this reporting period ,the number of new registered families was **2983** with a total registered families **27295**. The number of new registered pregnant in this reporting period is **1139**. The number of new registered children in this reporting period was **5553** with a total registered children **57803** child in the three clinics.*

*The total number of antenatal care visits in the reporting period is **10212** distributed as **5390** in Shajaia, **3558** in Daraj and **1264** in Rafah. The total number of postnatal visits to women after delivery in the reporting period is **1320** visits (target 1600 visits in one year) for 915 delivered women.. It is worth to add that NECC is unique in providing postnatal care services and may be the only provider who **regularly** conducts post natal home visits in Gaza for all deliveries.*

*Regarding the well baby clinic program that operated in NECC twice a week to children from birth to 6 years, the total number of well-baby visits to the clinics are **22369** distributed as **8564** in Shajaia, **7517** in Daraj and **6288** in Rafah, The total number of children attending the well baby program were **15,655** (target 15000 children per year). This improvement is possibly due to an increased mothers' awareness about the importance of these visits and the follow-up conducted by our staff.*

*About the Family planning services which are implemented in the two centers of Darraj and Shijaia (800 cases target per year), the number of women who received family planning services in the two health care centers Darraj and Shija'ia in this reporting period had reached **1041** distributed as Shija'ia **510** and Darraj **531 with total number of visits 2133** . The number of patients examined by doctors has been increased and reached **34255** distributed as: **23435** children, **5710** adults and **5110** pregnant women. The number of clients seen by physicians is steadily increasing which indicates on one hand increasing demand for services and on the other hand acceptance of the services by*

clients. Although the number of clients has increased, the quality of services had been maintained. Children represented the major bulk of clients examined by the doctor.

Regarding the anti malnutrition and anemia project started in Nov 2011 and will continue till December 2012 in our clinic as follow up of all cases screened in the last projects in Darraj , Shijaia and Rafah . Continuing referral services for anemic children also took place in this quarter through expanding referral services to the MOH and the Thalassemia Society. However, due to budgetary limitations; it is anticipated that the quantities of the therapeutic milk will not be adequate for the entire of the project. During the first 11 months of the nutrition project(Nov 2011- September 2012) , the number of children attending well baby services was **17219**with a total number of well baby visits was **26703**visits, among them **3557** where found anemic and / or malnourished and therefore included in the treatment program at NECC.

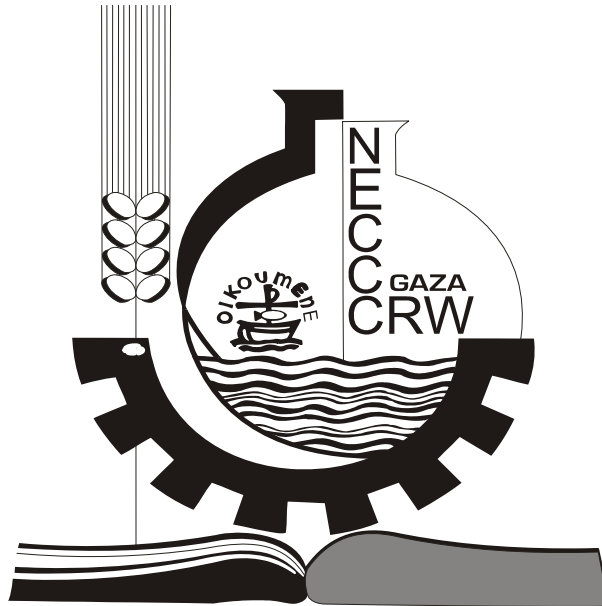
Regarding the dental clinics that continued to serve the three communities in Rafah,Darraj and Shija'ia family health care centers focusing on women and children. The numbers of persons examined by dentist in during the reporting period are **1342** in Shajaia, **1591** in Daraj., **1671** in Rafah with total **4604** (target 4200 cases per year) a patient may receive treatment several times.

NECC staff will conduct health education sessions for women attending family health care centers in the different topics. The total number of health education sessions provided to all categories was **1941** sessions for **37166** participants: of these there were **616** sessions in Darraj for **14566** participants, **725** sessions in Shijaia for **17365** participants and **600** sessions in Rafah for **5235** participants.

It is worth to mention that our PSS program is in continuous progressive improvement. The increase in the number of children and mothers participated in this program can be explained by the efforts and activities done by our psychosocial workers inside the clinics. The number of children involved in the psychosocial support in the clinics are **215** child in Darraj, **227** in Shijaia and **185** in Rafah. and the number of children benefited the PSS from kindergartens are **205** in Darraj, **171** in Shijaia and **139** in Rafah. The number of mothers received PSS are **2834** in Darraj, **3255** in Shijaia and **1025** in Rafah. Home visits conducted for PSS program were **40** in darraj, **29** in shijaia and **35** in rafah. Regarding the lab tests inside the NECC centers , The number of laboratory tests performed were **19352** tests(target 19000 tests per year) .

Despite the closure imposed on the Gaza Strip , the NECC succeeded in securing the required medicines through this reporting period by having strategic reserve in stocks of all medicines being used in each center which was reflected positively on the health of clients.

To conclude, the programs are being implemented according to the action plan in timely manner. All of the activities targets were mostly met according to the project monitoring plan. The main challenges are maintaining accessibility to medical supplies, medications and fuel , and maintaining accessibility to our health centre which is affected by the uncertain prevailing political situations. We need to continue monitoring all activities in our clinics to maintain the high quality of our services and to achieve the target indicators.



HEALTH PROGRAM

Updates from the Gaza Strip:

The situation in Gaza is characterized by continuing poverty, frustration and a sense of hopelessness.

The on-going Israeli-imposed siege on Palestinian civilians, affected their economic and social life during the reporting period. The report addresses the state of the commercial crossings and crossings designated for the movement of persons during the reporting period. This report refutes Israel's claims about the alleged easing of the closure, which has been imposed for 5 consecutive years. (PCHR-State of the Gaza Strip's Border Crossings, August 2012)

The blockade of Gaza continues to stifle economic growth and development and intermittent conflict around border areas perpetuates a climate of fear. Political divisions between the Palestinian and Israeli leaders remain pointed.

Significant gaps still exist in the provision of quality health services in the Gaza Strip and the promotion of health as a fundamental human right remains paramount. In June 2012, the World Health Organization announced that in Gaza, 'Health care has been hindered by restrictions on importation of medical supplies, equipment and spare parts, limitations on movement of patients and health staff, interruptions of power supply and impurities of water supply, insecurity and the permit regime limiting access of Palestinians to health services as well as of the professional development of staff'¹ These issues remain of significant concern to NECC, who as a key health actor in Gaza is confronted by these obstacles on a daily basis.²

- There remains serious shortages in supplies of Essential Drugs and Disposables according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza with many essential medicines reported at diminished and some at zero stock. June 2012, the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza central pharmacy stores report 42% of essential medications are at zero stock, with an additional 13% at low levels sufficient for less than 3 months.²
- The lack of construction materials entering the Gaza Strip prevents the building of new health centers to meet the growing health needs of the population. Tight restrictions remain on the importing and repair of medical equipment.
- Israeli government restrictions on imports have seriously affected power supplies and caused a chain reaction of problems for the population, including a chronic shortage of generator capacity

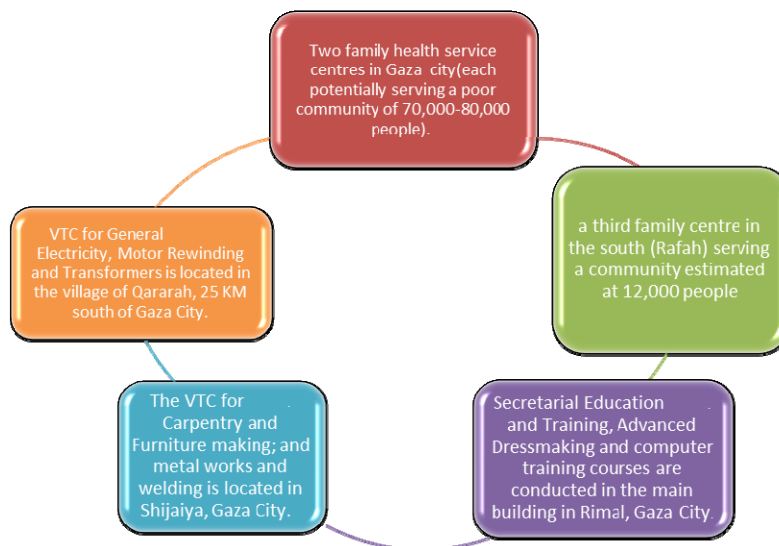
¹ [World Health Organisation - Five Years of Blockade: A Political Determinant of Health in Gaza – June 14 2012](#)

² [A lack of essential medicines in the Gaza Strip is caused by a number of factors including political divisions between the Palestinian authority in Ramallah and Gaza as well as the continuing blockade of Gaza](#)

- Electricity cuts in Gaza have a direct effect on the operating capacity of health centres in Gaza; similarly water and sanitation services are seriously impacted by unreliable water supplies affecting the timeliness and quality of medical services.
- The motivation of MOH employees is low and their productivity has diminished as a consequence of political divisions and a lack of advancement opportunities. A lack of user-pay systems due to the severe economic climate also affects running costs and general productivity.

Patients seeking referrals for health services outside Gaza continue to face long delays and denials in gaining permission from Israeli authorities. Similarly, health staff seeking education, training or work related opportunities outside the Gaza Strip are routinely refused access or hindered unnecessarily. NECCCRW has been operating the health care centres for many years, and it is considered a major health key-player in the community. NECCCRW is a trustworthy organization with a long-term experience enabling it to be aware of the general health needs of the population, in coordination with the community leaders. NECCCRW were able to provide quality primary health care services to vulnerable families and particularly to mothers and children. Moreover, NECCCRW contributed to meeting the health needs for the population and to improving their health status.

Location of projects and target groups:



The followings are the current main programs and services provided by NECCCRW:



Table (1) : The year of establishment of each family care center of NECC:

Family center location	Year of establishment	No. of Beneficiaries
Shijaia	1967	85,000
Darraj	1973	75,000
Rafah\Kherbet El Adas	2002	20,000

Strategic Goal 1 of the Health program:

Contribute to improving the health status in the most needy and marginalized areas.

Objectives:

- 1.1 Provide adequate primary health care services in the poor and overcrowded localities according to priorities.
- 1.2 Promote and enhance the public and environmental health in the targeted areas.
- 1.3 Reduce the level of malnutrition (including anemia) in the target areas.
- 1.4 Achieve high standard of quality in the services provided by NECCCRW's health centers.
- 1.5 Promoting the psychosocial status of the served community particularly women and children.
- 1.6 Enhance cooperation and collaboration with relevant organizations to avoid duplication.



1.1: Provide adequate primary health care services in the poor and overcrowded localities according to priorities.

NECCCRW has been operating the health care centres for many years, and it is considered a major health key-player in the community. NECCCRW is a trustworthy organization with a long-term experience enabling it to be aware of the general health needs of the population, in coordination with the community leaders. NECCCRW were able to provide high quality primary health care services to vulnerable families and particularly to mothers and children. Moreover, NECCCRW contributed to meeting the health needs for the population and to improving their health status.

Newly registered families, pregnant women and children:

It was noted that, no maternal mortality cases have been reported among the registered pregnant women at NECC family health care centres due to increasing mothers' awareness about the follow up of antenatal visits, the provision of good quality services to pregnant women and early detection of serious signs with prompt referral when needed.

Table (2) : Quarterly distribution of No. of new families, new children and new pregnant :

Activity	Shijaia				Darraj				Rafah				Total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	TOTAL	Q1	Q2	Q3	TOTAL	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total	
No. of new Families	414	416	248	1078	186	171	134	491	595	553	266	1414	2983
No.of new children	674	749	489	1912	389	377	322	1088	1077	964	512	2553	5553
No of new pregnant women	218	215	159	592	148	141	105	394	51	53	49	153	1139

Figure 1: Quarterly distribution of No. of new families

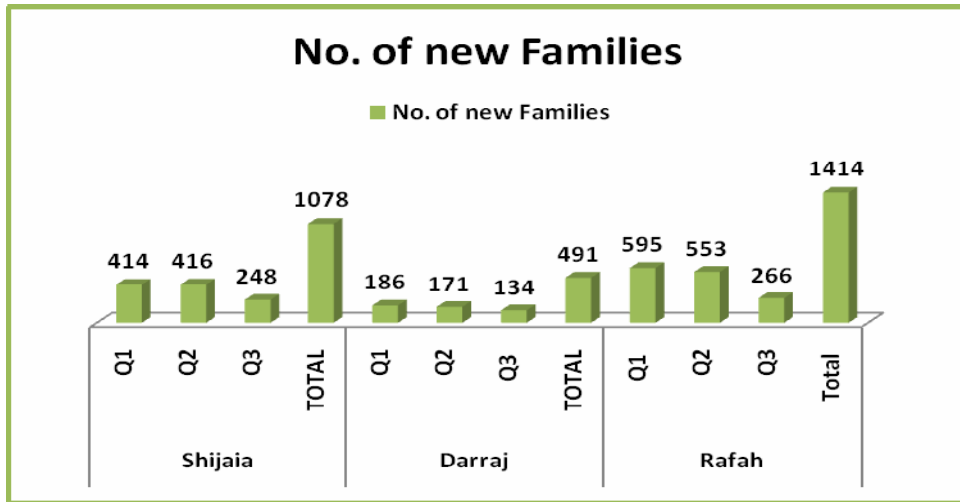


Figure 2: Quarterly distribution of No. of new children:

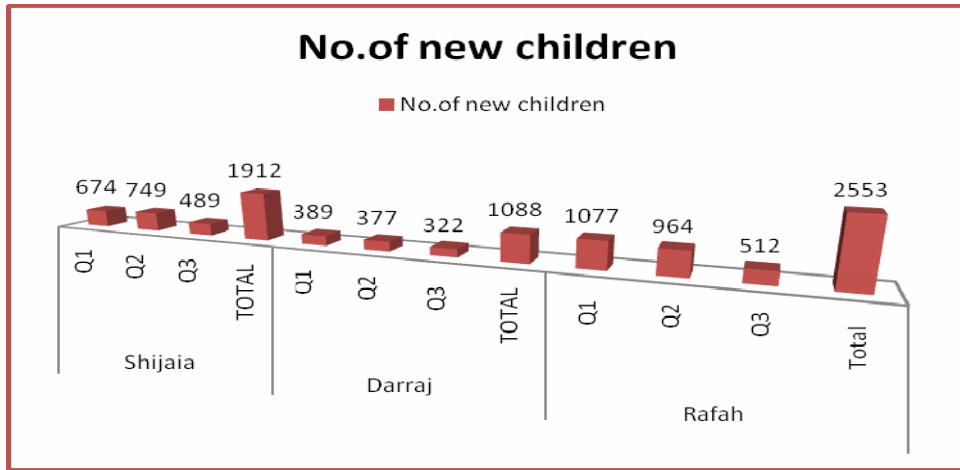
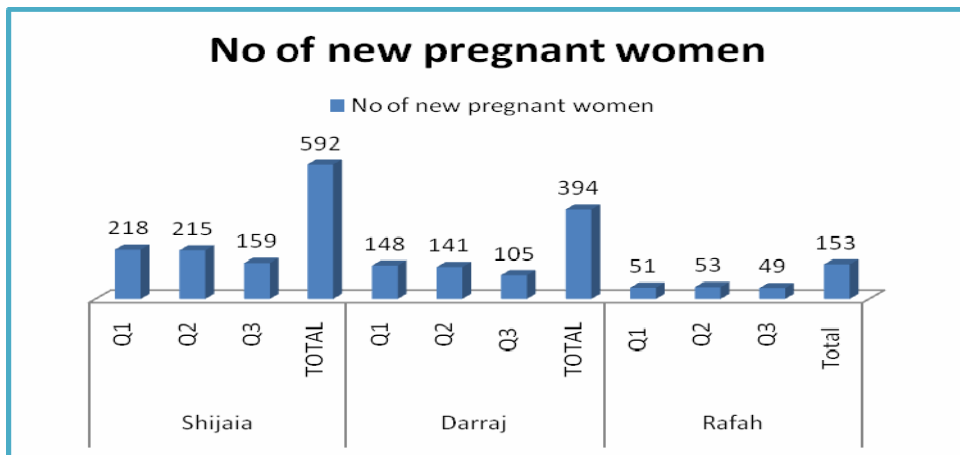


Figure 3: Quarterly distribution of No. of new pregnant:



Pregnant women received adequate primary and procreation health care services.

Pregnant women start visiting the antenatal clinic centers after pregnancy is confirmed. According to the standard of antenatal care from WHO followed by NECCCRW, pregnant women are expected to visit every 4 weeks until 28 weeks of gestation, and then every 2 weeks until 36 weeks, after which weekly visits are recommended until delivery.

Activities:

1. New pregnant registered in the ANC clinic
2. Checkup and follow-up pregnant women during pregnancy.
3. Do lab examination for pregnant women.
4. Carry out group of health education lectures for pregnant women at family care centers.
5. Treat/medicate pregnant women.
6. Perform routine tooth checkup for first time pregnancy.
7. Visit all women after delivery.

A team of midwives, staff nurses, health educators and doctors staff work on the antenatal care clinics. The midwives check pregnant women's blood pressures, palpate the abdomen, check foetal heart auscultation and check the oedema, weight and height of the pregnant women. The midwife will also record social-demographic, obstetric, family history and medical history before referring them to laboratory for routine CBC, Urine, Blood group, Rhesus factor analysis and fasting blood sugar.

The women are then referred with the test results to the Gynecologist, who will review the record and make a general and obstetric examination the Gynecologist writes all medical notes in the record.

All women who follow antenatal care in family health care centers during pregnancy will be seen/visited twice at home after delivery by NECC staff, the first visit within six days of delivery and the second visit during the 40 days after delivery and a third one from the mother to the Family center to register her children in the well baby clinic.

During the postnatal visits , NECC staff checks the mother's blood pressure, temperature, vaginal discharge and perform uterine massage. Additionally they check the baby's weight and perform umbilical dressing. They educate mothers about breastfeeding, family planning, nutrition, baby care, and the importance of follow up in well baby clinic.

Achieved in this reporting period:

The number of newly registered pregnant women for this reporting period was higher than what is anticipated **1139** (**1200** anticipated in one year) with an obvious increase distributed as follows; Shijai'a, **592**; Darraj, **394** and Rafah **153**. This increase reflects a positive signal and indicates an increased awareness about the antenatal care, importance of early registration in the first month, high quality of services and the provision of free of charge services.

The number of antenatal care visits at all the centres was **10,212** visits distributed as; Shijai'a **5390**; Darraj **3558** and Rafah **1264**.

Focusing on antenatal care services the NECC staff adheres to the approved MoH antenatal care protocol in providing the antenatal care services and clients receive timely high quality ANC services. For example, in this reporting period **3036** ultrasound scanning were performed to pregnant women. This reflects improvement of health status of pregnant women possibly as a result of increased awareness and appropriate practices.

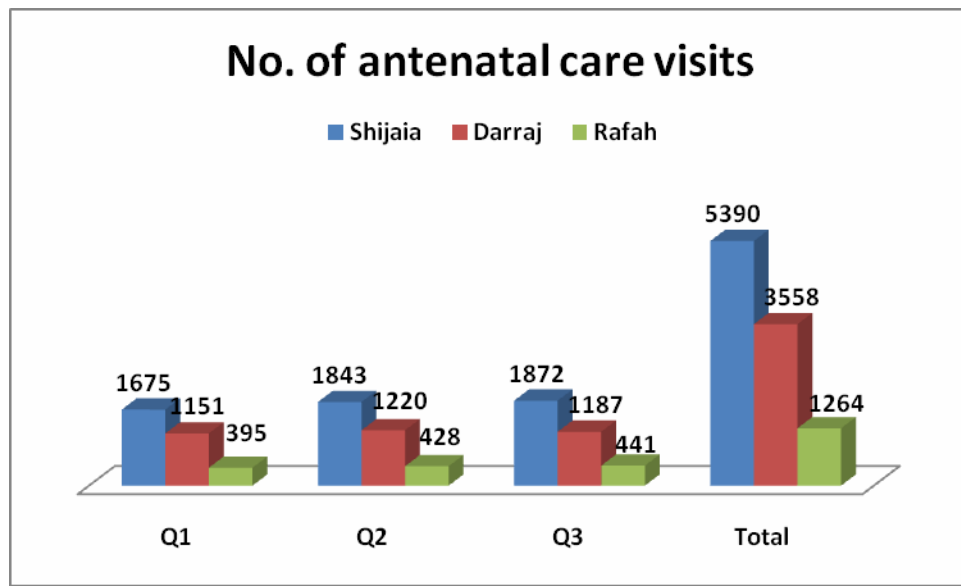
Table (3) : Distribution of antenatal care visits by month:

Antenatal care visits	July	August	September	Total
Shijaia	659	582	631	1872
Darraj	437	416	334	1187
Rafah	173	139	129	441

Table(4): Quarterly Distribution of antenatal care visits:

Antenatal care visits	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
Shijaia	1675	1843	1872	5390
Darraj	1151	1220	1187	3558
Rafah	395	428	441	1264

Figure(4) :Quarterly distribution of antenatal care visits:



Post natal visits:

NECC is uniquely providing post natal care through post natal home visits (one of the first providers in Gaza that systematically provides post natal care visits). Regarding the post natal visits, the number of women who received first visit within 6 days during this reporting period is **734** and another second visit within 40 days was **465**, also **121** postnatal visit conducted as first visit but after 6 days as the mother called the centers lately ,the number of postnatal visit at the center within 40 days was **549**, so the total

number of the postnatal visits during this reporting period was **1320** (The target of reaching **1600 visits** at the post natal period per year has been far met) and the total visits including those of the mother with her baby to the center was **1869**. The number of deliveries reported in our catchments areas during this reporting period is **915** deliveries. Still, NECC is unique in providing postnatal care services according to the international standards and may be the only provider who regularly conducts post natal home visits in Gaza to all deliveries. Typically, in each post natal care visit, the nurse/midwife examines the mother and her baby and gives her the needed advice about her and her baby health such as breast feeding, hygiene, vaccination, nutrition, family planning and so on.

Children received adequate primary health services.

A Well Baby Clinic program is operated in NECC twice a week.

Through this programme the staff nurses provide services to children from birth to 6 years.

Achieved in this reporting period:

As other services, the total number of children attending the well-baby clinic has increased and reached **15,655** cases-(target in one year is **15,000 children**) distributed among clinics as follows; Shija'ia **5725**; Darraj **5126** and Rafah **4804** with total Well baby visits reached **22,369**.

This increase is possibly due to an increased mothers' awareness about the importance of these visits and the follow-up conducted by our staff.

Activities:

1. Follow-up well babies aged 6 months to 6 years.
2. Do lab. Tests for well babies aged 6 months to 3 years and the mothers as well.
3. Conduct awareness lectures for mothers.
4. Checkup well babies' tooth (2.5-6 years).
5. Provide medical treatment services for children up to 6 years.
6. Execute demonstrations for mothers.

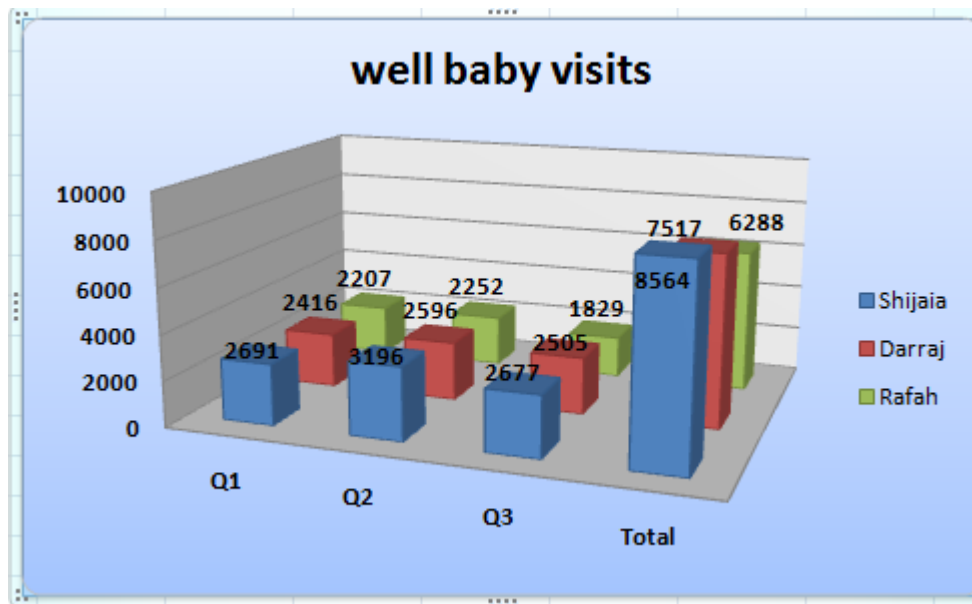
Table (5): Monthly distribution of the well-baby visits:

	July	August	September	Total
Shijaia	962	683	1032	2677
Darraj	841	742	922	2505
Rafah	749	416	664	1829

Table (6) : Quarterly distribution of the well baby visits:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
Shijaia	2691	3196	2677	8564
Darraj	2416	2596	2505	7517
Rafah	2207	2252	1829	6288

Figure(5): Quarterly distribution of the well-baby visits:



Couples received family planning services and awareness.

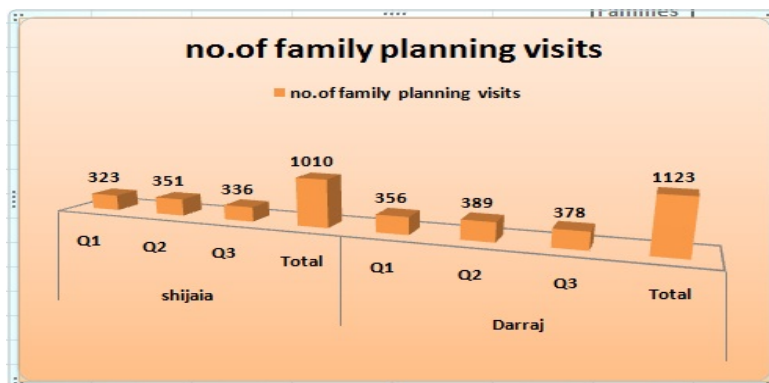
Family planning services were launched at family health care centre in Darraj in 1995 upon the request of the local community. In 2002, family planning services were extended to Family Health Care Centre in Shija'ia. A female gynecologist and staff nurse run the two family health care centres. Most of the family planning methods are available such as intrauterine device (IUDs), pills, injections and condoms.

Achieved in the reporting period:

In this reporting period, the number of women who received family planning services during this reporting period was **1041** women : **510** at Shijaia and **531** at Darraj (target 800 women per year)while number of the visits had reached **2133** (target 2500 per year) distributed as; Shija'ia **1010**; Darraj, **1123**. The most used tool was the male condoms.

We are now working on implementing this activity in Rafah center by 2013, we conducted a meeting with about 20 of the women who benefitted from the center and visited it regularly and we asked them about adding this new activity and how much there is need for it and the results were very positive as they encourage NECC to start this activity as soon as possible, we will conduct more meetings with the community leaders to share NECC the planning and designing phase and later implementation of this new program in Rafah center.

Figure (6): Quarterly distribution of no. of women attending the family planning



People who have dental problems got adequate service.

The dental clinics continued to serve the three communities in Rafah, Darraj and Shija'ia family health care centers focusing on women and children. The dental services are provided 4 days a week in each center. Beside the dental services provided, the dentists also provide screening for all pregnant women who follow antenatal care and children from 2.5 to 6 years in well baby clinics.

Achieved in this reporting period:

Table (7) Distribution of Dental services

	Shijaia				Darraj				Rafah				Total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total	Q 1	Q2	Q3	Total	
No.of patients examined by dentist	493	467	382	1342	527	563	501	1591	392	662	617	1671	4604
No. of children screened on well baby days	367	289	168	824	95	86	88	269	11	61	41	113	1206
No .of pregnant women screened	168	190	218	576	91	128	141	360	19	61	73	153	1089

Patients and sick people received suitable treatment.



Activities:

1. Treat sick people at the out patient clinic.
2. Provide diversified medical treatment(as ventilation, dressings and injections)
3. Carry out lab test for sick people.

Achieved in the reporting period:

Table (8): Distribution of clients examined by doctors by category and centre

<i>Category /location</i>	<i>Shija'ia</i>	<i>Darraj</i>	<i>Rafah</i>	<i>Total</i>
Children	8393	8279	6763	23435
Adults	1367	1156	3187	5710
Pregnant women	2695	1707	708	5110
Total Number of clients	12455	11142	10658	34255

NB. The number of patients represents cases but not actual individual persons (it means that the same patient may receive treatment more than once during the reporting period)

Laboratory services

A laboratory is based in each one of the clinics. The following tests are carried out:

- (i) Hematological tests:
- (ii) Urine and stool analysis tests
- (iii) Biochemistry tests:
- (iv) Pregnancy test

Other unavailable tests are usually referred to be performed outside the clinics as MOH labs and Thalassemia association.

Achieved in this reporting period:

Laboratory tests conducted in the reporting period have reached **19,352 (target 26,000 per year)** distributed as Shija'ia **8570**; Darraj **7057** and Rafah **3725** . those tests not included the lab tests done by hemocus for children enrolled in the nutrition project. No. of tests conducted by hemocues for HB since the start of the nutrition project 1-11-2012 till 30-9-2012 inside the three family care centers were :**10384** tests as following : Shijaia **3706**, Darraj **3698** and Rafah **2980** tests.



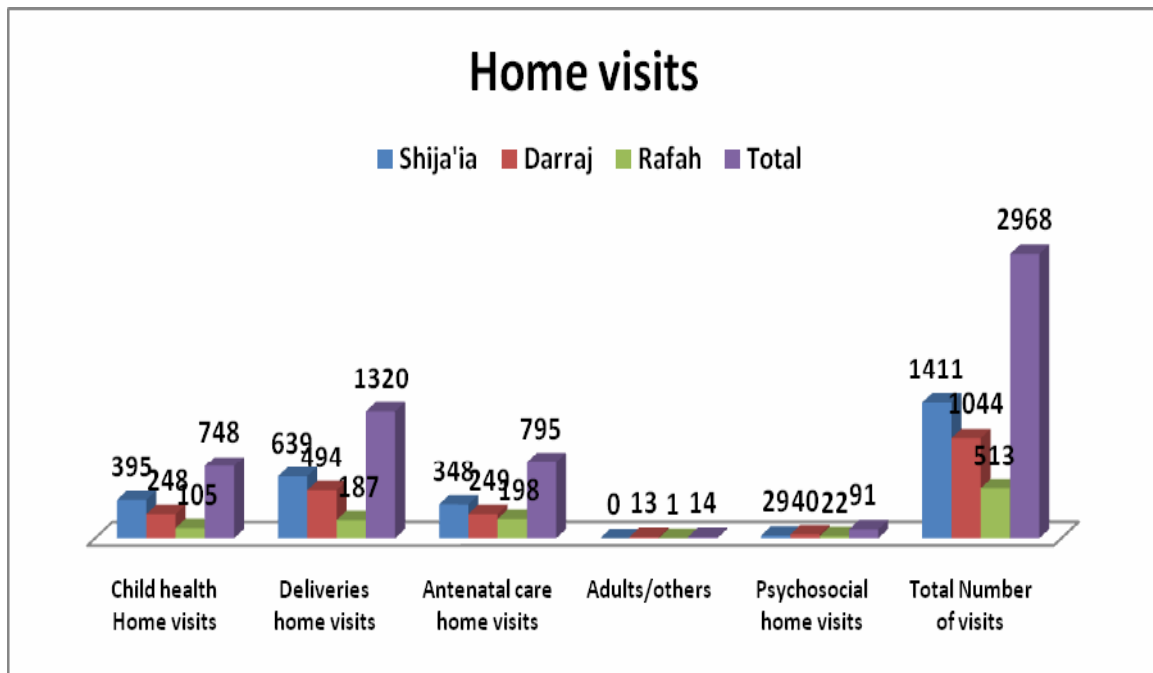
1.2 Promote and enhance the public and environmental health in the targeted areas.

Inhabitants received consultative, awareness and creational health services:

Table (9) Home visits:

Type of home visit	Shija'ia	Darraj	Rafah	Total
Child health Home visits	395	248	105	748
Deliveries home visits	639	494	187	1320
Antenatal care home visits	348	249	198	795
Adults/others	0	13	1	14
Psychosocial home visits	29	40	22	91
Total Number of visits	1411	1044	513	2968

Figure (7): Home visits of the three clinics:



Preventative health measures, awareness raising of local communities :

Awareness raising sessions

NECC staff will conduct health education sessions for women attending family health care centres. To promote healthy practices, health education was provided to families particularly to caregivers .

Achieved in this reporting period:

Our staff continued to intensify their efforts in health education and increasing awareness of the concerned population in topics related to hygiene, breast feeding, environment etc.

Table (10): Distribution of awareness sessions by topics and number of participants

Area of concern	Shijaia		Darraj		Rafah		Total	
	No of sessions	No of attendants	No of sessions	No of attendant	No of sessions	No of attendants	No of sessions	No of attendants
Family planning	21	370	26	1070	-	-	47	1440
Pregnancy	79	2976	76	3044	39	679	194	6699
Children	45	1501	42	1685	3	67	90	3253
Nutrition	414	7179	286	4043	488	3105	1188	14327
Public health	35	1203	11	306	1	25	47	1534
Dental	10	234	15	600	2	26	27	860
Afternoon activities	42	647	51	769	16	308	109	1724
PSS	79	3255	109	3049	51	1025	239	7329
Total	725	17365	616	14566	600	5235	1941	37166

Note:

- * *About afternoon activities, just to know that it included not only sessions but also training courses either in First aid, home accidents, hair dressing, English languages or health education sessions (see page 29)*

1.3 Reduce the level of malnutrition (including anemia) in the target areas.

The Project: Emergency Humanitarian Nutrition and Health Response for Vulnerable Children in the Gaza Strip (November 1st 2011 through March 31st 2012):

To ensure continuity of care, thankfully, DCA supported the process of follow up of all cases screened in the last three projects in Rafah, Darraj and Shijaia. Our team are calling the cases case by case among those who are still under 5 years old. Families are given appointments and their children are assessed. Those who found normal are encouraged to join the well baby program, meanwhile those discovered as anemic or malnourished and enrolled in treatment program.

The intension is to support the well baby services and to ensure that continuity of care is maintained.

Activities:

1. Screening, treatment and follow up of malnourished and anemic cases in the Rafah, Darraj, shajaia areas.
2. Lab. Test
3. Perform home visits and educate families.
4. Coordinate with relevant organizations to follow- up cases.



Achieved in this reporting period :

Table (11) Total results of the screened cases during the project period Nov 2011 to June 2012:

Variable	Shijaia	Darraaj	Rafah	Total
Number of children attending well baby services	6197	5580	5442	17219
Number of new children visited well baby clinic	2220	1352	3002	6574
Number of well baby visits	10083	9075	7545	26703
Percentage of malnourished children among those visited the clinic	14.26	11.39	16.89	
Percentage of anemic children among those examined for hg	23.18	39.20	19.61	
Total Number of those examined and found abnormal and enrolled in treatment program	887	905	1765	3557
Number of those examined and found abnormal and enrolled in treatment program from well-baby visits	834	829	1095	2758
Number of those examined and found abnormal and enrolled in treatment program from previous project	53	76	670	799
Number of telephone calls made	1670	224	8587	10481
Number of home visits done	2377	475	1979	4831

Table (12) :Iron and Milk distributed since start of the new project (through Nov 2011 to June 2012):

Rafah	Amount
Iron	4875
Milk	4501
Oral d drops(Vitamin A&D)	87
Darraaj	
Iron	8067
Milk	1776
Oral d drops(Vitamin A&D)	34
Shijaia	
Iron	7128
Milk	2412
Oral d drops(Vitamin A&D)	45
Grand Total	
Iron	20070
Milk	8689
Oral d drops(Vitamin A&D)	166

NB: We coordinated with ANERA (NGO) here in Gaza to donate Milk formula for the malnourished children; they thankfully agreed with our request and donate Ensure milk formula for the malnourished children.

Success Story from Shija'ia Clinic

Our story this time is for the Child Malak Younis Ali Antaz she lives in Shijaia area with her family consists of nine members and an unemployed father and the child has a problem in her eyes that need a specific surgery, but her family cannot pay for the expenses. The girl child used to follow up in NECC family care center in Shijaia.

The community worker took the length, weight measurements and HB that showed that Malak is anemic with HB **9.9**. So the staff nurse gave the mother the instructions and advices about the health status of Malak and the main nutrition needed for her to improve her HB level and also gave her two brochures about anemia and malnutrition and explained to her the contents of the two brochures and the appropriate method to give the Iron supplement to Malak and then the staff nurse gave the mother the card of Malak including the next appointment date for the follow up.

-In the day of the follow up Malak came with her mother to the clinic and the new measurements taken showed an improvement in HB to be 10.4 and then the Nutrition project team gave the mother more advices and support to continue in the same nutrition system with her child and continue give the Iron supplement to Malak as usual and they gave her the next appointment date for the next follow up visit.

-In the time the mother came to the clinic with Malak and the staff nurse gave her the third therapeutic dose of Iron according to the therapeutic protocol and gave her another appointment date for follow-up.

-Due to the difficult conditions of Malak family , she couldn't attend on time for follow up then the health community worker called the mother by phone to find out the reason for the delay then the mother promised to come to the center but again she didn't come and the community worker called the mother again and inform the mother how much is important for her child to attend the clinic for the follow up then the mother came with her child Malak and the measurements showed that her HB became 10.7 and gave her the fourth therapeutic dose and advised the mother to continue follow up and gave her more advices about anemia and the appropriate nutrition.

- **-On 30/05/2012** Malak attended with her mother to the clinic and the HB became 11.4 so the staff nurse gave the mother the first preventative dose of Iron and the importance of the preventative dose of Iron and also she gave her another appointment date after a month. Malak came with her mother on time and took the second dose then the third dose after a month and during all those appointment dates the measurements showed that Malak was recovered completely and now she is healthy and graduated from the nutrition project. So the mother thanked the NECC and

the team of the Family care center for all their efforts to recover her child health status and she said that she appreciated that too much and hope that NECC continue providing those services to the children in need.



Referral system for the NECC clinics

One of the success factors for project was the coordination and the integration with the relevant health providers such as the MOH, Thalassemia association and Ard El Ensan which provided back up referral sites .

Follow up of defaulters and bringing them back to the project constituted a real challenge. However, efforts to bring defaulters including contacting them via phone twice and then carrying out an additional home visit was somewhat successful in bringing defaulters back to the program with high success rate. The most frequently reported reasons for not coming included internal family issues, the clinic is perceived as too far from place of residency and families conduct follow up with other health providers. Families' compliance with the treatment (iron) and the response of severe cases to the treatment also constituted a real concern. Also, referral services and counselling among the areas that require more attention in future projects.

Table(13): Referral system:

Referral place	Shijaia	Darraaj	Rafah	Total
Thalassemia association	63	50	40	153
MOH hospitals or other hospitals	102	89	17	208
MOH PHC clinics	5	3	-	8
Total	170	142	57	369

SMS use inside the PHC clinics:

NECC decided ; as a part of continuous development of the health services provided to the beneficiaries in the three targeted areas ; to start use the SMS services to be sent to the beneficiaries regarding one of the health services provided in the centers either pregnant women, children, or others, mainly they are used to let the beneficiary(the pregnant, the mother of the child) remember the appointment date to the center and as a way to follow up the defaulters also.

The pilot phase was in the end of 2011 by sending 13 SMS , then by May 2012 we started the service successfully , since that date till 30\9\2012 , **9521** SMS sent from the three clinics(Shijaia, Darraj and Rafah) distributed as following: Shijaia **3483** SMS, Darraj **2516** SMS and Rafah **3522** SMS.

This new service was highly appreciated by the beneficiaries even through their comments or through the high percentage of attendance to the centers following the SMS sending process.

1.4 Achieve high standard of quality in the services provided by NECCCRW's health centers.

Unified and effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system applied in NECCCRW's health centers.

Monitoring supports the NECC staff and management to comply with their scope of work and to timely meet their objectives. Monitoring helps NECC tracking the progress of activities and achievement made in reference to the concerned and relevant health indicators and objectives.

Achieved in this reporting period:

Generally, NECC enjoys effective and rigours monitoring system that has many facets including;

- Monitoring outcomes of the services provided by the organization
- Monitoring inputs and processes and linking that to the outcomes
- Monitoring management and administrative related processes
- Monitoring clients perspectives and the degree of clients centeredness of services

To perform the monitoring function effectively, NECC uses many monitoring tools including;

- Designing Performance Management Plan (PMP) focusing on outcomes
- Regular supervisory visits
- Effective reporting system
- Computerized database
- Regular meetings with staff and community
- Monitoring clients perspectives through questionnaires
- Monitoring staff performance through administering supervisory checklists
- Conducting pre test post test measurements
- Reviewing records and conducting audit
- Clear action plan (Gantt chart)



Community involvement:

One of the key philosophies of primary health care is community involvement and involving the community in the planning, the implementation and the evaluation of services. This approach is also supportive to the concept of shared ownership of the health services and lies at the heart of quality. Community meetings involve people from the served areas and usually include women and men from different backgrounds and different characteristics. Additionally, community meetings are usually attended by community leaders from the area. NECC staff and senior management regularly attend the community meetings. Records and minutes of the community meetings are maintained at the NECC facilities. During community meetings various issues are discussed such as the quality of the services provided and community perceptions about them, community requests for new services, approaches to delivering services and community suggestions for improving the provided services. Community requests and opinions are usually discussed within the medical committee of the NECC and tentative decisions are taken accordingly. The Ministry of Health is actively involved and their approval/support is essential before introducing any new services as discussed in the community meetings.

During this reporting period, 3 community meetings were held in Darraj , Shijaia and Rafah clinics in presence of the health programs coordinator of NECC with group of women from the three targeted areas, the meetings involved discussions about the quality of services of the NECC clinics, their satisfactions, their demands and needs for new programs or activities, the women were very satisfied about the high quality of the health programmes inside the Family centers, also they were satisfied about the staff performance , they were very happy about the PSS program specially for their children and they look for sustainability of this program , also they asked about new hair dressing training courses, first aid training, English language training in the afternoon activities, regarding this, NECC coordinate with one of the friend of Darraj clinic who is specialist in hair dressing training to conduct a series of training for the women in Darraj and Shijaia centers, also NECC coordinate with MoH in Gaza for a first aid training for women in the afternoon activities inside the center, Also they asked for family planning services in Rafah center and we started working on this to be implemented by 2013.

1.5 Promoting the psychosocial status of the served community particularly women and children.

Appropriate psychosocial services are provided to needy Populations

A psychosocial support training for 14 of the NECC staff started in 15th September and expected to be finished in 10th October. It includes many activities and sessions including but not limited to



Activities:

1. Implementation of PSS activities for school children aged 6-10 years attending NECC PHC clinics
2. Implementation of PSS activities for 4-6 years old children of kindergartens located in the vicinity of PHC clinics
3. Implementation of home visits for special cases of children and in need of PSS
4. Organizing awareness lectures and guidance on child protection, mental health, life skills for mothers attending the centers
5. Individual counseling to mothers who attend the centers
6. Implementation of collective guidance for a group of women attending the centers
7. Give lectures and educational courses and professional education for women by Women institutions in the afternoon activities.

Table (14): Main achievements of the PSS program during this reporting period:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Shija'ia</i>	<i>Daraj</i>	<i>Rafah</i>	<i>Total</i>
Children from clinic	227	215	185	627
Mothers	3255	2834	1025	7114
Home visits	29	40	35	104
Children from Kindergarten	171	205	139	515
Afternoon activities	522	789	308	1619
Lectures	86	109	51	246
Individual counseling	267	102	55	424
Group counseling	1 group of 9 women for 4 meetings 1 group of 8 students female 11-13 years low performance 3 meetings	1 group of 7 women for 3 meetings	1 group of 8 women for 3 meetings	4 groups counseling

Success story from Darraj Family Care center :

I am **Zakaria**, I'm 8 years old in the primary school, I live in Darraj area, Jaffa street, the number of my family members is 7. I love my school and my teachers but I always feel afraid that the other students will hit me at school specially when I see them fighting each others, also I am afraid of the darkness especially when the electricity cut off as I feel suffocating and that there are scary creatures then I run away to my mother hug and I stuck to her for long time.

My mother decided to take me to the social worker Heba in Darraj center who sat with me and explained to me that it is a natural feeling that we are all afraid of the darkness and that she feel afraid too, she also let me seat with other children who were afraid of the darkness and we talked together, we draw our concerns and dreams, we used to go to miss Heba weekly , now I feel better and I can now walk up and down the stairs in our house even in darkness but using a handle lamp for lighting.

I really love the activities we do inside NECC clinic with miss Heba every Friday with the children ,now I have many new friends through those meetings and activities and I hope to continue to attend and participate in the this program to draw, dance, sing and play.

My mother is happy now that I am able to pass through the fear feelings and I can go to buy from the shop when she asked me to do that. My mother told Miss Heba that I will continue participating in the psychosocial support program.



Afternoon activities

Afternoon activities coupled with health education are also provided to women by NECC. NECC family centres act as social clubs where mothers from the served areas come to the centre in two specified days per week for approximately 3 hrs per each day at their convenience. No formal invitations are sent but generally mothers are familiar with the services provided within this evening program. The NECC encourages women to meet, talk, learn, develop fine arts and establish small income generation businesses such as sewing and socialize in such meetings. Health education activities as well as other social activities are provided at the meeting.

Achieved during reporting period:

In this reporting period, a number of community afternoon sessions and training courses were held with **1619** women attended and participated in the afternoon activities directed towards women empowerment (NB the woman can join the same activity more than once). The topics of women empowerment include, women rights, sharing in the family decision making, gender and training of skills in hair dressing and first aid, and so on which could help a number of them to produce articles for sale to generate income.

Note: the afternoon activities was stopped during Holy Ramdan" (Fasting month for Muslims) as usual and started again at the first of September.

The total training courses in the afternoon activities as following:

Shijaia center:

- A first aid training conducted by NECC staff nurses for 15 women for 8 separated days.
- Another first aid and home accidents training for 30 women for 8 separated days conducted by MOH staff in the NECC clinic.
- English language course for 15 women for 8 separated days.
- A workshop about the "Women rights in the Palestinian law" conducted by Zakher organization in our center for 30 women for one day.

- Several psychosocial sessions and health awareness session conducted for 10 women regularly twice days weekly other than the days of the training courses
- During September 15 women attended 8 meetings for hair dressing course

Darraj center:

- Hair dressing course conducted by a specialist from UNRWA inside our center for 16 separated days for 20 women.
- Another advanced hair dressing course conducted by a specialist and friend to the center for 24 separated days for 13 women.
- A first aid training course conducted in September for 18 women of Darraj area in 7 meetings, this course conducted by MOH specialized staff.

Rafah center:

- Hair dressing training course conducted for 16 separated days for 25 women. We are working now for new training courses for the women in the next months.

1.6 Enhance cooperation and collaboration with relevant organizations to avoid duplication

Cooperation mechanism adopted and followed with relevant parties.

NECC is known as an effective player in coordination in order to maximize coordination and eliminate as much as possible duplication of services. NECC coordinated with the relevant parties and stakeholders at different levels including:

Activities:

- Exchange visits with relevant organizations
- Participate in external activities.
- Exchange information and expertise with relevant organization.

- Officially informing the MOH about the programmes activities including monthly reports about the family planning clinic and postnatal visits.

- Coordination with the MOH regarding the fuel crisis in Gaza to facilitate providing fuel quantities to our clinics from the stations.
- Using the MOH health and referral protocols and guidelines.
- Sharing the experience of the database information system that implemented in our PHC clinics and with the other NGO's providing the same health services.
- Contacting the MOH to provide NECC with specialists in training for the first aid courses.
- Sharing the Nutrition project plans with the MOH and Ard El Ensan- a specialized NGO in nutrition.
- Coordination with the MOH to conduct further investigations and appropriate management of the referral cases at their hospitals is taking place. This includes carrying out cultures, advanced lab tests and specialized care even hospitalization. The MOH agreed to free of charge treat the severe cases referred from the NECC clinics in the MOH premises (Al Nasser Hospital, Al Durrah hospital, Rantisi Hospital, Gaza European Hospital and for MOH laboratories).
- Coordination with Thalssemia organization to conduct electrophoresis for special cases of anemia non responding to Iron supplementation.
- Contacting UNICEF in terms of including our staff in the training of postnatal care that will be conducted in the next months with MOH staff.
- Contacting ANERA to number of items of medications including prenatal multivitamins for pregnant women.
- Coordination with WHO – Health nutrition cluster regular meetings
- Child protection regular meetings with UNICEF
- GMHP involved two of our social workers in a professional training about PSS and integration of mental health in the primary health care clinics. This training is a part of a project to improve the performance of all staff working in the mental health psychosocial support field.

- Cooperation with a number of NGO's local or international in terms of cooperation and avoid duplication of work.
- Referral system as it is a part of NECC coordination even to MOH hospitals, GCMHP clinics for mental or psychosocial cases needed more interventions, Arab Ahli Hospital for mammography if needed, Thalassemia association for electrophoresis for special anemic children.
- Coordination with "Atfaluna" an NGO for deaf children that has a project for early diagnosis and intervention, we cooperate to conduct a screening for hearing of children attending our well baby clinics in the three served areas of NECC. We started in Shijaia and the screening of 58 children was done during the well baby clinic by specialist from Atfaluna using the mobile clinic. We have a schedule for the screening days during the well baby clinics days inside the family care centers during July. We are working now with Atfaluna to have this screening as a programme inside our centers , we will send three of our nurse staff for training with Atfaluna on how to use the devices for screening the children hearing for early diagnosis when we will get the invitation of the training.



Training

a. Community workers training

It is anticipated that Community worker training will be provided at the three served communities; El Darraj El Shija'ia, Rafah\Kherbet Aladas. Community workers training will be provided to up to 30-40 trainees per year divided into two cohort groups. Each group will receive training for 4 months, 3 days per week, 5 hours per training day. The lectures for training will be about health, social and psychosocial issues. Also they will be trained about how to fill pre and post questionnaires in the targeted area of the center to measure the awareness of the people living in our targeted areas..

Achieved in this reporting period:

During the first quarter, we prepared for the first training course which was organized in Darraj. It started on 2nd April 2012 and completed in 17th July 2012. Most of students were from Darraj and Shijaia area.

During the first three months of the course , we provided to the students number of lectures with different topics according to the schedule of NECC training course, we contacted many other NGO's to send specialists to do the lectures, and with MOH for the first aid training at the end of the course.

20 students enrolled in the course since April 2012 and 19 of them graduated with one student dropped out.

A new training course for another 15 female students started on 15-9-2012 in the shijaia area. This training expected to be finished in 15th December 2012.

Two of the student were dropped out one of them got a job opportunity so she became unable to attend the sessions d the second one had her personal issue.



b. Capacity building activities:

Courses are organized fortnightly by NECC staff and external consultants in the following topics:

- Counseling
- Nutrition
- Health Education
- Psychosocial support and mental health
- Management

Trainees will include General Practitioners, Gynecologists, Midwives, Nurses, Laboratory technicians, Dentists, Pharmacists, Assistant Pharmacists, Health Educators/nurses, Social Workers and Clerks. Most of the trainees are staff at the three centres, though further staff will be trained by other local NGOs stakeholders and the Ministry of Health.

Achieved in this reporting period:

Table (15) Training days conducted during the reported period as following:

Date	Topics	Lecturers	No. of Attendants
25-3	Reports writing skills	NECC project coordinator and NECC health program coordinator	16 of NECC supervisors
8-4	Provide Training on Managing and follow up of defaulters	Enaam Abu Rukba(supervisor of Rafah center)	20 of NECC health staff
24-6	Provide technical advice on Health education and health promotion	Lubnah Sabbah(Supervisor of Shijaia center)	23 of NECC health staff
9-9	Provide training on advanced management of malnutrition	Dr. Mustafa Khalil	37 of NECC health staff
23-9	Surveillance of communicable diseases	Dr. Majdi Dheer and Mr. Khaled Abu Ali. (MOH)	29 of the Family Care Centers with participation of two staff nurses from MOH



More trained days will be conducted during the next months with cooperation with MOH for infection prevention protocols, also another 2 training days related to the nutrition project will take place.

Staff Capacity building organized by the other organizations

To avoid duplications (efficiency wise) and also to increase interactions with other health care providers, the NECC is keen to send participants to the relevant trainings organized by other parties.

NECC staff members including doctors, nurses, paramedical and administrative staff have also attended days of capacity building workshops organized by other parties such as the Ministry of Health, DCA, ACT and UNICEF in a variety of technical and administrative subjects related to our activities i.e Child Health, nutrition, Breast feeding, Psychosocial interventions and others.

Most training sessions were evaluated through pre and post tests which indicate remarkable progress in the level of knowledge of participants of training and were required to share the skills learned with their colleagues and also to apply the acquired skills in the field. Evaluation tools such as checklists confirm the improvement of performance as a result of the training received.

Table (16): Workshops, sessions, meetings and training courses :

Date	Implemented party	Topic	Number of days	No of NECC participants
10/01/2012	PNGOs	Empowerment of NGO's contribution in rules in the Gaza Strip	6	2
17/01/2012	WHO	Health Nutrition Cluster Meeting	1	1
18/01/2012	UNICEF	Child Protection working group meeting	1	1
26/01/2012	ACT	APF Meeting	1	2
26/01/2012	MOH	Family Planning	1	1
31/01/2012	MOH	Postnatal Visits Prog.	1	1

Date	Implemented party	Topic	Number of days	No of NECC participants
07/02/2012	UNICEF	Mainsteering disability in Emergency Responses	1	1
18/02/2012	ACT	Sphere 2011 Accountability in Practice	3	7
12/02/2012	WHO-MHPSS	Monthly Meeting-Code of conduct	1	1
15/02/2012	UNICEF	CPWG Meeting-Aggressive behaviour among school children	1	1
22/02/2012	WHO	Health Nutrition Cluster Meeting	1	1
27/02/2012	GCMHP	Cope -ADHD	2	3
29/02/2012	GIZ	LET Council Meeting	1	2
08/03/2012	ATFALUNA-for deaf children	Early diagnosis and intervention for the deaf children	1	1
08/03/2012	DCA	Discussion of the first quar. Report	1	4
10/03/2012	Woman Health Center-Jabalia	Training course about the postnatal visits	4	3
11/03/2012	General Union of Disabled Palestinians	Disables management	5	1
14/03/2012	WHO	HNC Meeting-Discuss the cluster advocacy strategy and activities	1	1
21/03/2012	UNICEF	CPWG Meeting	1	1
12/03/2012	GIZ	LET Council Meeting	1	2
15/03/2012	Terre Des hommes	e-toolkit on ECD Arabic version	1	1
18/03/2012	WHO	Meeting MHPSS	1	1
19/03/2012	Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Gaza	Risks that threaten the Gaza Strip - the Shijaia area	1	1
25/03/2012	GCMHP	Advanced training course for the staff working in the mental health psychosocial support field	10	2

Date	Implemented party	Topic	Number of days	No of NECC participants
26/03/2012	PCHR	Drugs shortages in the Gaza Strip: causes and solutions	1	1
01/04/2012	Islamic relief	The palestinian child day	1	1
11/04/2012	PNGO	Advocacy and lobbying campaign to reduce the age to run for the presidency of age 30 years and the membership of the Legislative Council to enact 25	1	1
22/4/2012	MOH	Family planning	1	1
5/5/2012	MOH	Home visits	3	2
8/5/2012	MOH	Home visits	3	2
13/5/2012	UNICEF	IASC TOT training	6	1
13/5/2012	ALquds opened University	Palestinian refugees and the right of return	1	1
16/5/2012	UNICEF	CPWG monthly meeting	1	1
23/5/2012	UNICEF	Health and nutrition cluster monthly meeting	1	1
24/5/2012	Electricity distribution company	installation Project of prepaid meters and its social impact on the Gaza Strip	1	1
26/5/2012	Arab Ahli Hospital	Pain management in medical practice	1	1
18/6/2012	MOH	Supply chain management	1	1
19/6/2012	PNGO	Enhance the contribution of NGOs in supporting the rule of law in the Gaza Strip	1	1
20/6/2012	MOSA	Delivery of a database limited to the field of the organizations working in the field of child protection to the MOSA	1	1
26/6/2012	MOH	Supply Chain management for family planning tools	2	1
27/6/2012	UNICEF	HNC monthly meeting	1	1
27/6/2012	MOH	Integrated health service for children who	1	1

Date	Implemented party	Topic	Number of days	No of NECC participants
		suffer from endocrinal diseases		
27/6/2012	WHO	Humanitarian updates from the cluster partners	1	1
15/7/2012	MOH	Supply Chain management for family planning tools-No.2	2	1
15/7/2012	MOH	How to connect th computerized system of the clinics with the other organizations	1	1
19/7/2012	UNICEF	Child Protection Working Group	1	1
25/7/2012	PNGO	Referral system and the challenges faced and the effects of it on the patients.	1	1
21/8/2012	MOH	Health education strategy	1	1
29/8/2012	UNICEF	Management system for the child protection	1	2
29/8/2012	MOH	Postnatal visits	1	1
30/8/2012	UNICEF	The youth world day	1	1
5/9/2012	WHO	Health Nutrition Cluster	1	1
10/9/2012	PNGO	CAP 2013	1	1
20/9/2012	ALWEDAD association	Youth for Human rights	1	1
27/9/2012	PCHR	World Association of Democratic Jurists	1	1
Total			90	76

Table (17) Statistics of Family Health Care Centres Activities:

Family Health Care Centres

1/1 - 30/09/2012

No.	Activity	* Shii'a	Darraj	Rafah	Total
1	No. of registered families	6982	15365	4948	27295
2	No. of new families	1078	491	1414	2983
3	No. of registered children	10729	38967	8107	57803
4	No. of new children	1912	1088	2553	5553
5	No. of children attended well-baby clinics	8564	7517	6288	22369
	5.1 No. of new under weight children	325	174	588	1087
	5.2 No. of repeated under weight children	718	425	520	1663
	5.3 No. of Children become normal	0	0	0	0
6	No. of registered pregnant	2562	22623	1248	26433
7	No. of new pregnant	592	394	153	1139
8	No. of antenatal care	5390	3558	1264	10212
	8.1 No. of antenatal follow in the last week before delivery	337	223	79	639
	8.2 No. of new high risk pregnancy	79	40	14	133
	8.3 No. of repeated high risk pregnancy	625	403	139	1167
	No. of deliveries	479	313	123	915
9	9.1 No. of postnatal visit within 6 days	351	286	97	734
	9.2 No. of first postnatal visit at home after 6 days until 40 d	74	24	23	121
	9.3 No. of second postnatal visit at home after 6 days until 40 d	217	185	63	465
	9.4 No. of postnatal visit at the center within 40 d	289	196	64	549
10	No. of abortions	49	33	13	95
11	No. of Ultrasound Scan	1548	1073	415	3036
12	No. of cases examined by doctors	12455	11142	10658	34255
	a- Children	8393	8279	6763	23435
	b- Adults	1367	1156	3187	5710
	c- Pregnants	2695	1707	708	5110
13	No. of laboratory tests	8570	7057	3725	19352
14	No. of home visits	1411	1044	502	2957
	a- home visits of deliveries	639	494	187	1320
	b- home visits of pregnancy	348	249	198	795
	c- home visits of children	395	248	105	748
	d- home visits of adult	0	13	1	14
	e- home visits of psycho social	29	40	22	91
15	No. of Health education	597	287	524	1408
16	No. of women attended Family planning	1010	1123	0	2133
17	No. of afternoon women participants	852	269	308	1429
18	No. of referred cases	153	127	59	339
19	No. of psycho social counseling	265	104	55	424
20	No. of psycho social session for group of women and ch.	86	109	59	254

* Noting that the centre was shelled on Saturday, 10/1/2009

* Various activities were resumed on 2 May 2009

Table(18) Statistics of Dental Health Clinic Activities

Activities of Dental Health Clinic
1/1 - 30/9/2012

No.	Activity	Shija'ia	Darraj	Rafah	Total
1	No. of persons examined by dentist:	1342	1591	1671	4604
	a- First Visit	569	570	637	1776
	b- Repeated Visit	329	411	785	1525
	c- Consultation	544	610	249	1403
2	Scaling	73	105	106	284
3	Extraction	127	220	154	501
4	Amalgam Filling	346	537	265	1148
5	Composite Filling	4	20	8	32
6	Fisher Sealant	0	0	0	0
7	Minor Surgery	0	0	0	0
8	Follow Up	339	390	234	963
9	Medication	829	966	1225	3020
10	Referrals	63	200	203	466
	10.1 Specialist	63	195	203	461
	10.2 X-ray	0	5	0	5
11	No need for treatment (mixed)	11	0	37	48
12	Screening of Children on Well-Baby Clinic days (2.5-6 years)	824	269	113	1206
	12.1 No Need for Treatment	638	154	46	838
	12.2 Needed Treatment	186	114	67	367
13	Screening of pregnant	576	360	153	1089
	13.1 No Need for Treatment	112	24	17	153
	13.2 Needed Treatment	464	336	136	936
14	X ray in the center	0	0	0	0















Background

Education under siege, closures, and restrictions remains a huge challenge. Although education is free and government-funded, its quality is questionable leading to drop out and children labor in dangerous duties (children labor is around 5%) The learning environment in most schools does not meet the children's development needs. Schools are not in good shape; the number of well-appointed classrooms is inadequate, sanitation facilities are woefully inadequate and there are insufficient recreation playgrounds.

Moreover, growing up in a context of continuous social, economic and political crisis, under the constant threat of bombardment brings not only physical health challenges due to a lack of services, but also has dramatic effects on children's psychological well-being. Also, the weak economy and the heavy enrolment in academic education also limit job opportunities especially for those who dropped out of schools.

Although a lot of challenges are facing the education services in regards to frequent electricity cuts and fuel shortage due to Israeli and Palestinian conflict escalation and movement restriction imposed on Palestinians ; the Near East Council of Churches Committee for Refugee Work (NECCCRW) is working on enhancing the status of the male and female youngest who enroll our centers (2 for males “ Carpentry, metal and aluminum works , and electricity and motor rewinding , 2 for females “ advanced dress making , and secretarial studies and English language center “) by acquiring them practical knowledge and experience to connect them to the local market. Vocational training equips marginalized youth with the skills to enter the job market and become economically stable. It also vastly improves their self esteem, having important knock-on effects for their families and their future

This report highlights some achievements have been conducted in this reporting period though the external constraints

NECCCRW invests its energy, networks and fund on how to seize opportunities to translate its strategy into the reality of the context we live in.

Introduction

The Gaza vocational Center for carpentry and furniture making , Metal and Aluminum Works and Welding started its activities in 1958; targeting drop out school students to provide them a space for adequate educational opportunities , open the bath for a decent career life and to link their skills and capabilities to labor market. The vocational center gives the opportunity for 35 students to enroll the center per year.

The course runs for 3 years.

Al Qarara vocational center for electricity and motor rewinding started its activities in 1982; targeting 10th grade male school students to provide them a space for adequate educational opportunities, open the path for a decent career life and to link their skills to labor market.

The secretarial studies and English Language Center launched its activities in 1964 to train qualified and skilled secretaries as means to support the Palestinian women and provide them with a chance to be an active participated and self independent. It targets female secondary school graduates; and it runs for one year.

The Advanced Dress making Center launched its activities in 1964 to train qualified and skilled women to promote their participation in the Palestinian community and to help them to support their families and be financially independent. It targets female preparatory school; and it runs for one year.

NECCRW launched its Welfare and Relief Program since 1952 , to provide assistance to needy people. The program aims at offering financial support for needy families , that enable them to have their basic needs. And through assist unemployed graduates of the Palestinian families through securing temporary job opportunities to create more efficient means to employment seekers with respect to their humanity and dignity. In addition, this program provides educational loans for university students. During this reporting period , No financial assistance “ cash grant for families “ introduced because it wasn't funded in that period.

The latest job creation opportunity project for our graduates, funded by the Pontifical Mission, ended in June, and still seeking the availability of fund to have new opportunities for our youth.

The educational loans project launched in 1975 funded for only 4 years. The project proved its effectiveness and success through its solid continuous cycle; as the students are fulfill to their loans payments which supported the project to become a self-funding.

At first the project only offered educational loans for the Bachelor students who live in the Gaza Strip .

On 1997 the project started to offer educational loans for Masters students.

Gaza VTC's Carpentry and Furniture Making, Metal and Aluminum Works and Welding

Overall objective

To increase the technical skills and potential for employment for poor and marginalized male students in the Gaza Strip.

Specific objectives

- Enhance the capacities and skills of dropped out male school students aged 14 to 16 ; either in carpentry and furniture making or metal works and welding through their enrollment for three years course at the centre.
- Create a communication mechanism to link the graduates with the local market.
- Monitor the graduates to find decent job opportunities.
- Create an active and healthy youth sector through the psychosocial interventions; who will serve the community in a better way by using their gained skills and knowledge.
- Increase general health awareness.

The students selection based on the following criteria/

- The priority is given to the students whom their social and financial situations are deteriorated.
- The ability to undertake the responsibilities and duties related to the field.
- The students motivation and ambition beyond applying
- The target students are those who dropped out their educational system.

The following states the main activities , and outputs obtained , for the three-years students in the reporting period 1st of June , 2012 to 30th of September,2012/ August month was a vacation to students in VTC's Centers.

Expected Result/ Output 2.1.1: Male youth received vocational training in Carpentry/Furniture Making, Welding and Aluminium Work (39 students each year).

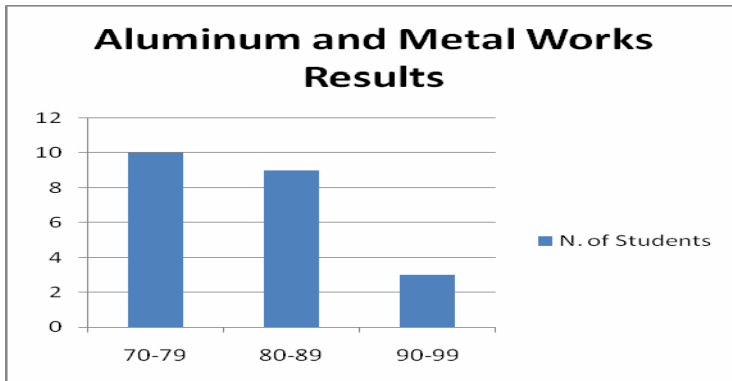
Output Obtained:

36 Male Students have been graduated from NECC Gaza VTC's (22 graduates of Carpentry and Furniture and 14 graduates of Metal / Aluminum Works) in Gaza VTC'S and delivered their results and credited certificates.

Activities Implemented:

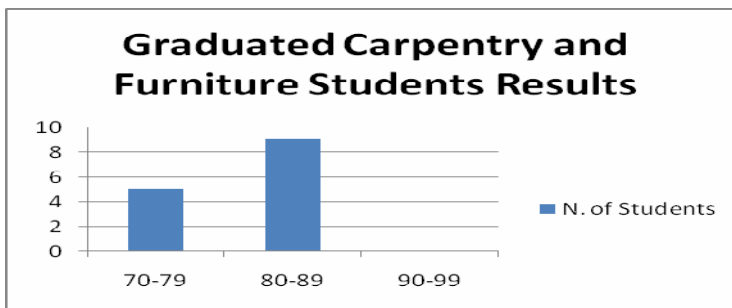
- Final Exams were conducted to the third-year students in both departments
- Students' certificates have been awarded.

Figure 8 : Graduated Aluminum/ Metal Works Students Results



#	percentage	N. of Students
1	70-79	10
2	80-89	9
3	90-99	3

Figure 9 : Carpentry and Furniture Students Results



#	percentage	N. of Students
1	70-79	5
2	80-89	9
3	90-99	0

Impact of VTC Course on Graduates

To measure the impact of the course training on students, an evaluation sheet distributed among the students (22 graduates of Carpentry and Furniture and 14 graduates of Metal / Aluminum Works) to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the

three- year training course and provide us with their suggestions and feedback to develop the theoretical and practical curriculum based on the students perceptiveness, and in a manner that fit the needs of labor market.

The results were as follows:

- All graduates stated that their enrolment to the Gaza VTC Center based on their desire.
- All graduates clarified that the center's education and training methodologies are convenient to them.
- All graduates explained that they are ready to start working in the field; one of them explained that the theoretical information he got is more than the practical.
- All graduates stated that the curriculum was easy to understand; except two of them explained that he found difficulties in understanding Arabic and Math.
- All of the Carpentry graduates stated that they have the ability to use all the carpentry machines , and think that the practical training period is convenient.

Students Recommendations:

- To expand of Metal Works Department.
- To accept more number of students in the center.
- To provide transportation fees for students
- To increase conducting recreational trips.
- To teach English Language within the curriculum.
- To increase the number of theoretical classes.

External Training

36 students of the third year ended their practical training as they were distributed on different workshops along the Gaza Strip for 2 months training. The students followed up by NECC staff through the field visits observations as the trainers of NECC conducted 65 visits to the workshops to meet the owners and follow up the students.

The following clarifies the workshop owners evaluation of students performance:

The workshop owners' evaluation for the students' performance was as follows:

- All students were committed to the working Hours attendance.
- All students were committed to the supervisor directions.
- All students were observed the rules of public safety.
- All students were committed to punctuality.
- All students' interaction with others is good.
- All students personal behavior such as activeness, cooperation, health, hygiene , commitment, and ethics are very good.

Workshop Owners Recommendations Regarding Carpentry :

- Students need more training on Wood Engraves.
- Some students still need more practical experience in labor market.

Workshop Owners' Recommendations Regarding Metal Works:

- Students need more training enable them of conducting big iron works such as Zippers electronic doors.
- Students need to be able to estimate material works.

Workshop Owners Recommendations Regarding Aluminum Works:

- Students need to know more kinds of aluminum in the labor market and visit exhibitions.
- Students need to train more on Aluminum 7000 and how to collect it.

*Generally, all workshop owners are satisfied from our student's performance in the external training stating the importance of their training to have good future instead of being dropout students.

Output obtained:

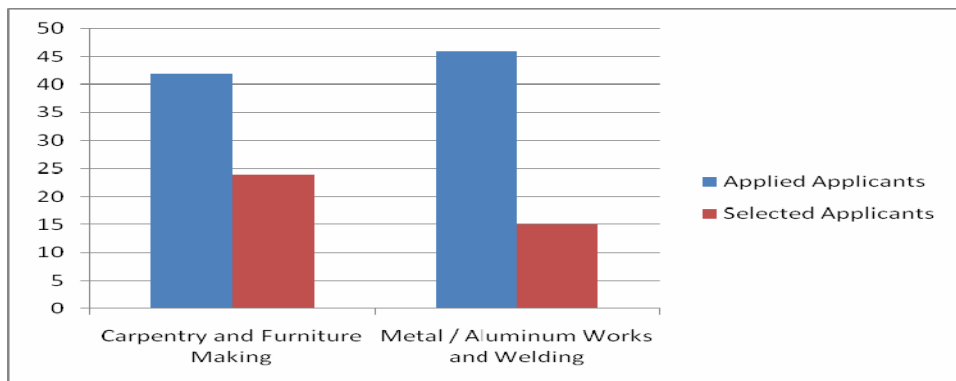
2012-2013 Students Enrolment in the VTC's / 24 male aged between 14-16 years " school dropouts" enrolled in Gaza VTC's Carpentry and Furniture Making course , 15 male aged 14-16 " school dropouts" enrolled in Gaza VTC's Metal/Aluminum Works and Welding and started study systematically (illiteracy lectures , practical and theoretical training, and health and cultural awareness) in the first of September 2012.

Activities Implemented during the reporting period /

• **2012/2013 First Year Students Registration and Enrolment**

- NECC announced and advertised about the course in local News papers and distributed to 182 related organizations, clubs, universities, women and youth centers, and municipalities to be informed.
- NECC opened the registration process for students in which the condition to join was that the male school dropout-students had to apply an enrolment application not later than the deadline and should meet the criteria of each course clarified in the announcement.
- A total of 88 applications “42 applicants applied for the carpentry and furniture making course, and 46 applied for Metal Aluminum Works and Welding”.
- 39 males selected out of 88 applicants “ 24 in Gaza VTC’s Carpentry and Furniture Making course , and 15 in Metal/Aluminum Works and Welding, as shown in the figure below

Figure 10 No. of Applied and Selected Applicants in VTC Gaza



- The selected students went under medical examination in the NECC’s clinics to check up on their health and provided them with needed help if required.
- **2012 Second and Third-Year Upgrade** Students “39 students (24 Carpentry and Furniture Making , 15 Metal / Alluminum Works) have been upgraded to second year; and 37 students (23 carpentry and Furniture Making, and 14 Metal/ Alluminum Works) have been upgraded to third year.
- The 1st , 2nd , and 3rd years students in both departments “ Carpentry Furniture Making and Metal/Aluminum Works and Welding “ were enrolled to illiteracy lectures . The students are now learning writing and reading in Arabic and Math; each course conducted twice weekly to enhance their education level.

- The center distributed financial incentives to the third-year students on monthly basis to cover their transportation and minimal personal needs , to support and encourage them to complete their studies
- Conducting 11 classes weekly in theoretical topics including Math, Engineering Drawing, Arabic, industrial studies, psychosocial programs, and sport, and 31 classes conducted weekly to students in practical training including Carpentry and Furniture Making , Metal/ Aluminum Works and Welding.
- Health and cultural awareness was conducted to all students in order to advocate them in different topics as “shown clearly in the table below”.
- **Table 19: *Health and Cultural Awareness topics, time, implemented Party , Target Students , and number of participants.***
- **Health and Psychosocial Awareness to 1st, 2nd, 3rd Students**

#	Subject	Month/2012	N. of Participants	Target students	Implemented party
1-	Protection and Safety Methods	September	39	1st year	Protection and Safety Society
2-	Accepting Others	September	39	1 st year students	NECC Center
3-	Anger	July	54	1 st , 2 nd years	
4-	Anxious and Stress	September	39	1 st year	
5-	Psychological Stress	July	54	1 st , 2 nd years	
6	Trauma	September	54	1 st , 2 nd years	
7	Stress	September	39	1 st , 2 nd years	
8	Fear – Sadness	July	54	1 st , 2 nd years	
9	Family Problems	September	39	1 st year	
10	Professional Health Programs	September	39	1 st year	

Table 20 Cultural Awareness Sessions for 1st, 2nd, 3rd year students during this reporting period

Subject	Month	N. of Participants	Target Students	Implemented Party
Relations with others	July	54	1 st , 2 nd years	NECC
Labor Law and Workers	July	36	3 rd year	
Intellectual Intolerance	September	39	1 st , 2 nd years	
Life Skills	September	39	1 st year	

Recreational Activities

An entertaining trip was conducted to 47 students and 24 trainers in Gaza Strip where they felt satisfied and asked for more trips especially that it reinforces the relation between students and their trainers.

Monitoring and Follow-up

Meetings with parents and local community leaders

During the reporting period, 2 meetings with the students' parents and local community leaders were conducted:-

- 32 parents and local community leaders were met in the center in July ,2012 discussing the topic of “ How to reinforce the relation between the student and External workshops' owners to find a job”.
- 34 parents and local community leaders were met also in September ,2012 , discussing the topic of “ How to help weak students to improve reading and writing at Home” .
- 20 parents of the first new year were met with 5 of the VTC staff in September 2012, discussing how to value the student at home and protect him.
- 3 meetings conducted between the consultant of VTC and the staff for monitoring and evaluation the workplan, and 3 other meetings conducted between the staff.

Maintenance and Renovation

2 new devices ((LCD) , and Printer) were purchased, and 5 machines have been maintained .

Success Story of Asaad Al Othmani

Asaad Mohammed Al Othmani

Second year carpentry,

Vocational Training Center – Gaza

Asaad lives with 11 family individuals, his father is workless long time ago, he used to be a tailor, but now he works from time to time in a supermarket.

Asaad used to work in the supermarket to help his family, and to cover the expenses of school where he used to go before he joined the VTC. He left school according to his father's advice specially he didn't like studying, reading and writing, and to bosses a profession to benefit him in the future.

After his departure from the VTC, he is working now at a carpentry shop which develops his craft, and gives him a simple allowance he spends to his family.

Asaad is so happy that he joined VTC carpentry department, because he feels so confident and independent. Looking to his future with a brighter look, especially he is eager to help his family more and more.

Asaad is wishing after graduation to start a carpentry project with his father, but he admits that the financial situation is very difficult to start such a project, but he is praying to start a new, small one at first.



Difficulties Encountered :

Due to continuous closure imposed on Gaza, lead to the following:-

- Lack of some materials needed .
- Frequent electricity cuts .
- scarcity and high prices of fuel.

General Electricity and Motor Rewinding

Overall objective

To increase the technical skills and potential for employment for poor and marginalized male students in the Gaza Strip.

Specific objectives

- Enhance the capacities and skills of the students through their enrollment for two years course at the centre.
- Create a communication mechanism to link the graduates with the local market.
- Monitor the graduates to find decent job opportunities.
- Create an active and healthy youth sector through the psychosocial interventions; who will serve the community in a better way by using their gained skills and knowledge.
- Increase general health awareness.

The students selection based on the following criteria/

- The priority is given to the students whom their social and financial situations are deteriorated.
- The ability to undertake the responsibilities and duties related to the field.
- The students motivation and ambition beyond applying
- The target students should have at least 10th grade certificate.

The following states the main activities , and outputs obtained , for the two-years students in the reporting period 1st of June , 2012 to 30th of September,2012/ August month was a vacation to students in VTC's Centers.

Expected Output 2.1.2 / Male youth received Vocational training in general electrical skills and motor and transformer rewinding

During the reporting period, the students graduation hasn't been achieved yet because it will be in October, and the enrolment of the new students for 2012-2013 training course will be in November according to the action plan.

The main activities implemented during the reporting period/

First and second -year students are studying and implementing activities systematically according to the plan:

- The 20 second-year students were distributed in to external workshops to be trained practically for a month training . The students followed up by NECC staff through the field visits observations.
- for the 1st year students , 18 classes weekly conducted on theoretical classes including Electrical Science, Math, English Language, sport, Drawing electrical Circuits, and psychosocial program in the reporting period, and 26 classes conducted weekly on practical training including Generators and Engines , Air Networks ...according to plan.
- for the 2nd year students , 16 classes weekly conducted on theoretical classes including Electrical Science, Math, English Language, sport, Drawing electrical Circuits, and psychosocial program in the reporting period, and 28 classes conducted weekly on practical training including Generators and Engines , Air Networks ...according to plan
- Monthly exams conducted for students to follow-up their performance and passed with good results.
- Final exams conducted for the 1st year students, and ended in 30 September,2012; the results will be prepared.
- Health and cultural awareness was conducted to all students in order to advocate them in different topics as "shown clearly in the table below".

Table 21 Health and cultural awareness in VTC Qarah.

Table: Health and Cultural Awareness topics, time, implemented Party , Target Students , and number of participants.

Health and Psychosocial Awareness to 1st, 2nd years Students

#	subject	Month /2012	N. of Participants	Target Students	Implemented party
1	Fear	July	26	1 st year	NECC
2	Anger	July	26	1 st	
3	Accepting others	July	20	2 nd	
4	Stress	July	26	1 st	
5	Intellectual intolerance	July	20	2 nd	
6	Labor Law and Workers	July	20	2 nd	
7	Trauma	September	26	1 st	
8	Psychological pressure	September	20	2 nd	
9	Sadness	September	26	1 st	
10	Safety and protection	September	46	1 st , 2 nd	Protection and Safety Society

Recreational Activities

An entertaining trip was conducted to 46 students and 10 staff trainers in Gaza Strip where they felt satisfied and asked for more trips especially that it reinforces the relation between students and their trainers.

Preparations for the first year students 2012/2013

Al Qarara Center “Electricity and Rewinding Course” opened its door for registration process for the new-year students that will start in November, 2012:

- Announcements “Including the course title, enrolment conditions, and its deadline” have been advertised in local newspapers , and distributed to 182 related organizations , clubs, universities, women and youth centers, and municipalities to be informed.
- The condition to join was that males aged 16-23 had to apply an enrolment applications not later than the deadline and should meet the criteria of each course clarified in the announcement.
- 294 applications have been distributed and the exams will be in October2012.

Meetings with the Staff

3 staff meetings during the reporting period were conducted for monitoring and evaluation the work plan.

Maintenance and renovation

12 new devices were purchased.

Difficulties Encountered:

- Unavailability of some needed materials due to continued siege and closure that resulted in lack of materials and its high price.
- Frequent cut of electricity
- Lack of fuel for the generator due to closure.

Success story of the student “ Mohammed Nouh El Zayan”

Mohammed Nouh El Zayan is living in Nusairat City in Gaza Strip. His family consists of 6 members; his father is unemployed.

He wasn't desirous to continue his school studying, so he seeks for job to secure his future. His father encouraged him to register in a Vocational Training Center for electricity to learn its skills as it is a decent job for his future.

He wishes to finish his study in the VTC'S and to find work to secure himself and his family.

Mohammed is now working from time to time in the field of electricity to get experience qualifies him for the labor market after his graduation from the center.

Through his enrolment in the VTC's for electricity, he formed good relations and friendship with his colleagues inside the center and deals with all respectively.

Mohammed is satisfied from the VTC's education and programs that increase his knowledge and experience.

He hopes to have the high school secondary certificate after being graduated from the center and to get suitable career for his future.



Secretarial Studies and English Language Course

Overall objective :

To increase the technical and language skills for poor and marginalized women in the Gaza Strip.

Specific Objectives:

- To graduate qualified secretaries
- To promote the role of women in the community.
- To pay attention to building up and enhance self reliance and capacity of women in order to find and occupy jobs to support themselves and their needy families.

Main criteria for selection

- Female high secondary school graduates
- To pass English language written test
- To devote herself for the course training.

The following states the main activities , and outputs obtained , for the one-year students in the reporting period 1st of June , 2012 to 30th of September, 2012

Expected Result 2.1.3/ Female youth received Vocational training in secretarial and office work

Output Obtained: 21 students have been graduated from Secretarial Studies and English Language center /2011-2012

Activities Implemented:

- Final exams conducted for the students
- 21 Certificates were awarded to the 21 students.

Table 22: Results of Secretarial Studies and English Language Students

Management Principles	90-100	7
	90-80	6
	80-70	4
	70-60	2
	60-50	2

English Language	90-100	1
	90-80	9
	80-70	2
	70-60	1
	60-50	8
Office Practice	90-100	8
	90-80	2
	80-70	3
	70-60	6
	60-50	2
Arabic Correspondence	90-100	17
	90-80	4
Arabic Language	90-100	13
	90-80	7
	80-70	1
Book Keeping	90-100	9
	90-80	5
	80-70	5
	70-60	2
	60-50	0
Arabic Speed word per minute	40-60	4
	30-40	16
	20-30	1
English Speed word per minute	40-60	2
	30-40	18
	20-30	1
Arabic Accuracy	90-100	8
	90-80	9
	80-70	4
English Accuracy	90-100	11
	90-80	9
	80-70	1
Arabic Layout	90-100	13
	90-80	8

English Layout	90-100	14
	90-80	5
	80-70	2
Arabic Word Processing	90-100	5
	90-80	11
	80-70	4
	70-60	1
English Word Processing	90-100	11
	90-80	8
	80-70	2

External Training :

- 21 graduated students were distributed to external organizations for training to increase their experience practically .

Table 23 The dates and number of distributed Secretarial students on external training

Departement	N. of Students	Start Date	End Date	N. of Workshops	Geographical location
The secretarial Studies and English Language Center	21	1/8/2012	15/9/2012	17	Gaza City

Course Evaluation

In order to measure the students' feedback to the course as well as the strengths and weakness points of the course, an evaluative questionnaire was distributed to the 21 graduates' students.

The table below shows clearly the students feedback (A stands for excellent and E stands for weak).

Table 24 The Students feedback and evaluation in Secretarial Centre

#	Subject	A	B	C	D	E
1	English Language	8	7	4	2	
2	Arabic Typing	10	7	3	1	
3	English Typing	9	6	5	1	
4	Office	9	9	8		

#	Subject	A	B	C	D	E
	Management					
5	Accounting	12	5	4		
6	Computing	15	4	2		
7	E-mailing	13	8			
8	Arabic Correspondence	12	9			
9	Extra Curriculum	7	7	5	1	1

Students Recommendations

- To increase the period of the training course .
- To increase the recreational activities
- To have more external training hours.
- To provide job opportunities for all students,
- To develop the computing hall.

Difficulties Encountered

7 of students faced difficulty in securing their transportation fees due to their bad economic situation.

SUCCESS Story

My name is Nour Khaled Saleh Abu Hamda, I'm 20 year old, lives in Al Remal Street. My family consists of 8 individuals. My father has 2 wives. He refused to let me join the university. So, I joined the secretarial center regarding to the good reputation of the NECC , and for the difficult social and financial situations we face. Though, we pay nominal fees with an authorized certificate.

After the year of studying at NECC secretarial center I advice all women to study in it, I got much benefit whether socially and mentally. I gain new friends, and have a broad knowledge in different subjects.

I'm single, so this certificate is a good weapon for me to face the difficulties of life, and live a decent life with an honorable certificate.

At the center, we trained to work hard, bear the pressure of work, do all our loads of work without tension. So I feel so powerful with the capacities I gained from our teachers.

I would like to say thanks to my beloved teachers, specially my typing and computer teacher whom taught us the language of the century which is (computer) and how to deal with easily.

Thanks to every teacher taught me a word, thanks to NECCC which let me have this important opportunity by joining them. Now I'm looking forward to have a good job to support my family and improve myself.



2012-2013 Secretarial Studies and English Language Students Enrolment:

39 female secondary school graduates joined an intensive English Language Course for three months, started in September 2012 to select the most qualified for the secretarial training one -year course .

Activities Implemented:

- Announcements “including the course title, enrolment conditions, and deadline” have been advertised in local newspapers, and distributed to all related organizations, clubs, universities, women and youth centers, and municipalities to be informed.
- The condition to join was that the females had to apply an enrolment application not later than the deadline and should meet the criteria of each course clarified in the announcement.
- 52 applicants applied for the Secretarial Studies and English Language course.
- Personal interviews for 42 candidates conducted to ensure selecting the most qualified students meet the criteria.
- 39 female selected out of 42 applicants to have an intensive English Language Course for 3 months during September, October, November 2012 because the students English Language level was lower than the required.

Advanced Dress-making Center

Overall objective :

To develop and enhance the livelihood conditions for poor and marginalized women in the Gaza Strip ; through developing their tailoring skills.

Specific Objectives:

- To train qualified and skilled tailors.
- To promote the role of women in the community.
- To pay attention to building up and enhance self reliance and capacity of women in order to find and occupy jobs to support themselves and their needy families.

Criteria for selecting students based on the following:-

- Know the minimum knowledge of reading and writing.
- Principles of sewing

The following states the main activities , and outputs obtained , for the one-year students in the reporting period 1st of June , 2012 to 30th of September, 2012

Expected Result 2.1.4:

Female youth received Vocational training in advanced sewing

Output Obtained: 14 students have been graduated from advanced dressmaking center

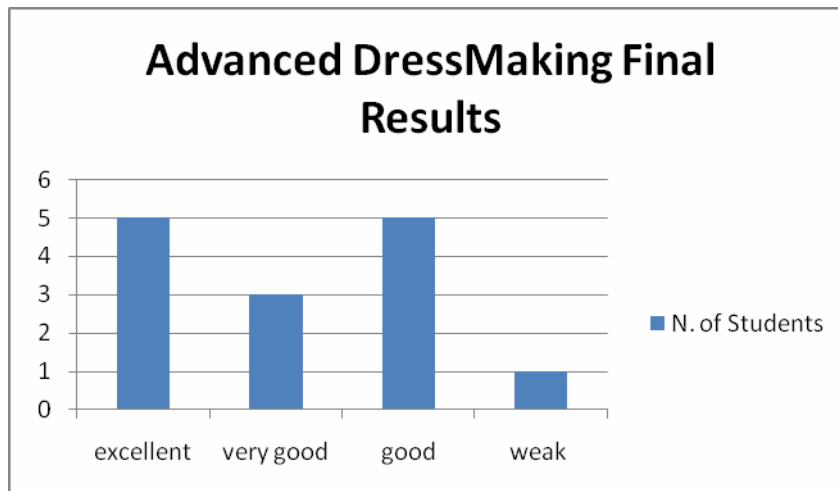
Activities Implemented :

- 14 out of 18 have conducted final exams “ 4 have been drop out as they got married”.
- 14 certificates have been awarded.

Advanced Dress Making Graduates Results

Degree	Excellent	Very good	good	weak
N. of Students	5	3	5	1

Figure 11 Advanced Dressmaking Final Results



Impact of the 2011-2012 course on the graduates

In order to measure the impact of the course on students , an evaluation questionnaire have been distributed and filled by 14 graduates.

Building the capacity of beneficiaries /

- **A life –enriching Experience**

All students stated that this course acquired them several abilities intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, and socially. During the life of this course the students got experience in theoretical principles of sewing, and enhanced their experience practically via sewing on machines and equipments. The one year course introduced students to an intensive dressmaking course that reinforce their capabilities and train them to be qualified.

- **Promoting the role of women in community**

This course targets marginalized women who can't afford to school and university study. This course opens door in front of students to be independent, self-confident, and producer through their participation in the community. From the start of the course , all students stated that they felt independence in which the course allowed those students to integrate according to their willingness and desire .

- **The effectiveness of the students**

13 of students stated that they have the enough effectiveness to work in tailoring and sewing. They are qualified to practice the career of sewing. They clarified that this course opened new sight for students in future to have projects in sewing such as opening tailoring shop.

- **Improving the livelihood of students**

The course enhanced the livelihood conditions for poor and marginalized women through developing their tailoring skills and domestic work. It helps to increase access and opportunities for women and girls in career and technical education. "Educating women equals educating families and thus building a society ".

Therefore, the course had positive impact on the beneficiaries that all of the graduates stated that the course had very good level in teaching and treatment. That's why they encourage their friends, relatives to integrate in the center.

Meanwhile, they recommend increasing the time of the practical course, and providing it always with valid and well-equipped machines.

2012-2013 Advanced Dressmaking Students Enrolment:

20 female had principles of sewing, and accounting, knowledge of reading and writing enrolled in advanced dressmaking center course, and started study systematically in the first of September 2012.

Activities Implemented during the reporting period:

- Announcements “including the course title, enrolment conditions, and deadline” have been advertised in local newspapers , and distributed to all related organizations , clubs, universities, women and youth centers, and municipalities to be informed.
- 35 applicants applied for the Advanced Dress making course.
- 35 have been conducted sewing tests and interviewed in the center by the center consultant
- 20 female selected out of 35 applicants in advanced dress making center
- 4 theoretical subjects have been conducted to students and applied practically on Tailoring machines.

Maintenance and Renovation

- 7 tailoring machines have been maintained during the reporting period.

Success Story

Reem Omar Doghmoush

Advance dress making Center.

My name is Reem Omar Doghmoush, I am 16 years old, lives in Gaza City/ Thalathini Street, with my 28 individual's family.

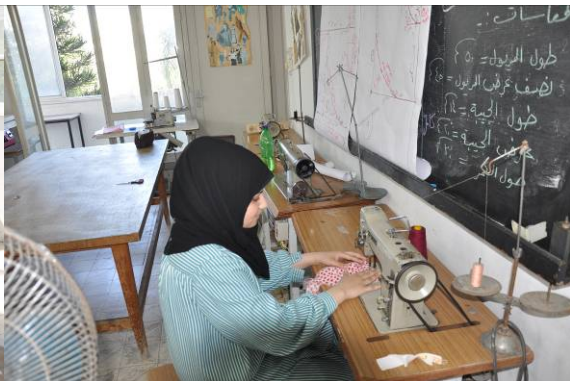
My father used to work in Israel. But now he is unemployed because of the current circumstances and the siege.

I didn't complete my education because I wasn't able to write and read very well. So my only way to rescue myself of being lost is joining the NECC Advance dress making course, to learn a craft which will make me able to have a decent job in which it would be a source of living for me and my family.

Being not able to write or read led me to drop out from school, but through joining NECC Advance dress making course, I was able to read and write very well.

I wish from sponsors to cover the fees of the course for the students, also the cost of raw materials which they use during the course. Moreover, to give each student a sewing machine at the end of each year to start her living and life, and to help her to survive in her bad economical circumstances, a way of enhancing their families lives.















Recreational Activities

An entertaining trip was conducted to **30** female students from Secretary and advanced dress-making and **12** of their children, and 20 staff trainers in Gaza Strip where they felt satisfied and asked for more trips especially that it reinforces the relation between students and their trainers.

Welfare and Relief Program

Introduction

The basic socio-economic context remains the same where Palestinians experienced severe disruption to family life: the loss of livelihoods in which the head of the family lost his source of income, the average income becomes less than \$2 per/person, lack in the basic services such as electricity, water, and sanitation.

Despite marginally reduced movement restrictions, the oPt economy remains restrained by the policies of an occupying power and vulnerable to Israel's tactical and strategic political objectives. Most pressing is the degree to which Palestinian external trade is hampered by the policies—stated and unstated—. This is further exacerbated by the unpredictability of openings and closures of Rafah crossing and the underground tunnel. In August 2012, in the wake of the Sinai attacks and the subsequent security measures taken by both Egyptians and Hamas Authorities, activity of the underground tunnels is still being disrupted and the volume of goods transferred was reduced for a four week period.

The employment situation in Gaza went from bad to worse under the impact of the total blockade which has virtually strangled all regular economic activity. This was reflected in a steep increase in unemployment rate in Gaza. Another measure of the scarcity of employment is the dependency ratio: on average, one employed person supports 8.8 persons in Gaza. The average daily wage in nominal terms barely changed, rising only 0.1 percent to NIS 91.9 (about USD 23.8 at the average USD/NIS exchange rate of 3.85). The average number of days worked on a monthly basis rose 0.8 percent, the result being a 1.2 percent increase in the average nominal monthly wage in the oPt to NIS 2,059 (about USD 578.3).

NECC Graduates were referred to the Islamic Relief Project

Meanwhile, 29 of NECC Graduates were referred to join the Islamic Relief Project “Economic Empowerment for Youth”, after being coordinated with them to have job opportunities.

Brief Summary of Islamic Relief Project

Islamic Relief is now implementing a project of “Economic Empowerment”, funded by the Islamic Bank for Development.

This project targets Diploma Graduates in Gaza Strip.

It aims at providing Capacity Building for 200 students in” How to make Feasibility Studies for micro-generating projects”, and then selecting the most appropriate feasibility studies conducting by youth beneficiaries to have 100 students creating their own micro-generating projects.

Educational Loans Project

Activities Implemented during the reporting period:

2012 / 2013 Educational Loans Preparation

- NECC announced about the educational loans in local papers, and distributed it to **180** related organizations, clubs, municipalities, and universities...
- **179** applied for educational loans till the date of this reporting period (**56** for Master students, and **123** for Bachelor students), and still the registration door is opened till October.
- **12** applied for 2012/2013 educational loans Renewal and still the registration is opened for students.

Collect the installment due from debtors

- **Table 25 : The number of students who already paid their loans and the mechanism they used to pay from July to September 2012**

#	Mechanism of Paying Loans	Per Person
1	Through NECC Office	13
2	Through Bank of Palestine	0
Total		13

- **Table 26: the number of current students who still pay their loans and the mechanism they used to pay during the reporting period**

#	Mechanism of Paying	Per Person
1	Through NECC Office	106
2	Through Bank of Palestine	9
Total		115

Employment and Income Generating Co-operative “ Self-Help”

10 women at the self support sewing are continuing their performance in producing garments of all kinds and earned monthly income of **\$ 150**.

Advocacy

NECC Advocacy program aims at mobilizing and empowering Palestinian and other relevant communities to seek just and equal human rights. NECC advocating it's served community beneficiaries through conducting Health, Culture, and Psychosocial awareness.

Moreover, community training is provided about health, social, and psychosocial issues. Women's empowerment through conducting awareness lectures; encouraging women to meet, talk, learn, and defend their rights.

Furthermore, community involvement in the planning, the implementation, and the evaluation of health services. Regular Community meetings with community leaders to assess the quality of NECC services and improve them. Health Education brochures distributed to community. NECC Students Participation in Coalitions Campaigns to defend captives' rights and disabled rights.

And finally NECC applied the advocacy policy of “Referral of NECC served Communities Children aged 0-6 to have all health services for free within governmental Hospitals “, as approved by the Ministry of Health.

Meanwhile, the continued restrictions and closures had been imposed on the entry of foreigners to Gaza and many had been denied entry including a number of donors' agencies representative, church delegations and even diplomatic corps.

Community Development Activities

During the reporting period NECCRW implemented several community development activities:

- NECC provided the “Red Crescent “in Gaza with Stationary to conduct their illiteracy programs in Gaza Strip.
- NECC supported “IOCC” with handicrafts implemented by Gaza Center Students.
- The students of Gaza Vocational Training center “Carpentry and Furniture Making” repaired all of YMCA furniture.
- The students of Gaza Vocational Training center from both departments repaired some of Al Amal Orphans Institute”.
- NECC\VTC Gaza made some repairing for the Baptists church school in Gaza.
- NECC\VTC continued supporting the needs of the NECC family health centers.

