

NATIONAL EMERGENCY INFORMATION CENTER FOR ARAB LOCALITIES:

UPDATES AND NEW NEEDS | NOV 30

The Emergency Information Center

Immediately following the commencement of the war, The Authority for Economic Development for Arab Society in the Ministry of Social Equality, in cooperation with the National Council for Heads of Arab Local Authorities (NCHALA) and the municipality of Kfar Kassem, opened the National Emergency Information Center for Arab Local Authorities (EIC). This center serves as a hub that coordinates information sharing between the field, local authorities, and government agencies to improve implementation of emergency response efforts. The EIC functions through a dedicated telephone line for inquiries, supported by a digital system that receives and processes needs from authorities, enabling civil society organizations to provide timely responses (called Tashbik, Arabic for connection).

Center Updates: Over time, the EIC has expanded its scope, initiating training courses within local authorities on topics such as first aid, SAAR (first-response) class training, emergency health (in partnership with the Ministry of Health), volunteer management, and mental first aid using the <u>Ma'ase</u> model. A noteworthy aspect is that a substantial portion of these training programs, approximately 40%, is allocated for women participants, and the majority are funded by the state.

In recent weeks, the EIC has added a goal of addressing economic challenges in Arab society. Webinars and courses are conducted on exercising rights, economic planning, and employment guidance. Complementing these initiatives are three Arabic-language campaigns– "The Most Safe There Is" promoting adherence to safety regulations, "Mental Health," and "Exercise of Economic Rights" advocating awareness of rights and budget management. Furthermore, conferences are organized on scholarships for students in collaboration with <u>AlRowad</u>.

The diverse activities of the EIC facilitate effective responses to emerging needs and ensure seamless communication between state authorities and Arab society. This proactive engagement marks a significant advancement fostering the development of infrastructures for both routine and emergency periods. The EIC has also become a focal point for visits by philanthropic foundations, state representatives, and organizations. Notably, the recent visit by the head of the Bureau for the Elimination of Crime and Violence in Arab Society underscores the importance and impact of the EIC in addressing societal challenges.

New funding needs identified by the EIC:

• Reinforcing Mental Health and Emotional Support in Arabic and Community Resilience Training

Mental and Emotional Support: The ongoing war has imposed emotional stress on Arab society due to the emergency situation and a heightened sense of insecurity, compounded by economic and employment instability. Mental health and community support services operating in Arabic have experienced a surge in demand since October 7. The EIC is seeking \$30,000 to support the following organizations:

- Tamar Association Contact Person: Ibrahim Abu Juma'a. Contact Number: 972-054-5748088
- Crown of Life Association. Contact Person: Abdullah Rayan. Contact Number: 972-52-7334227

Community Resilience Training: The "Mashaabim" organization focuses on training professional teams in mental and community resilience within Arab municipalities. This training, designed for volunteers and community workers, equips them with tools for assisting both children and adults in situation rooms and community centers. An additional \$15,000 is required to conduct 20 more training sessions.

1. Mashaabim Association, Community Resilience Department Contact Numbers: 04-6900600 or 058-6576740

• Support in Responding to the Needs of Early Childhood Care Centers in Arab Society During Emergencies

Yanbua, as the first umbrella organization uniting over 290 educational frameworks for young children (up to age 3) in Arab society, requires additional support during these challenging times. The organization focuses on promoting policies in early childhood education, providing pedagogical support and guidance to educational staff, and strengthening relationships with parents. To support childcare providers for four months, \$50,000 is needed.

Contact Person: Ula Fakhraldin . Email: <u>yanboa2020@gmail.com</u> Contact Number: 050-6290202

• Rescue equipment for local authorities:

Numerous training sessions were organized within local authorities focusing on Primary Self-Assistance and Rescue (SAAR). Over a hundred volunteers and officials from local authorities and the community actively participated in these sessions. SAAR classes cover essential skills related to rescue operations and providing first aid during emergency situations.

To facilitate the operation of a local SAAR classroom, the acquisition of an emergency pickup truck is essential. This truck is equipped with features such as a tow truck, mobile lampposts, and a comprehensive first aid kit. The estimated cost of procuring a Sa'ar trailer is \$6,300. There is a need for at least 10 such trailers.

For more details on these emergency needs, **contact** <u>Michal Barak</u>, Israel Representative at IATF, or <u>Roey Yesod</u>, Authority for Economic Development at the Ministry of Social Equality