



THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE
OF JERUSALEM

CONCLUSION REPORT

ENTERTAINMENT GAMES AREAS FOR CHILDREN WITH
DISABILITIES AT OLOPC IN AMMAN

JORDAN

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
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ENTERTAINMENT GAMES AREA FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AT OLOPC IN AMMAN, JORDAN

*“The Lord reserves a special place in His heart for whoever has a disability,
and so does the Successor of Peter”.*

(H.H. Pope Francis)

THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE

The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) was restored in 1847, and since then is promoting the best interests of the local communities it serves. Today, the Patriarchal Diocese oversees about 180,000 faithful in four countries, Palestine, Israel, Jordan and Cyprus, covering a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, religions and traditions. Serving all with special emphasis on the support and care of indigenous Holy Land Christians remains the enduring mission of the Mother Church, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

OUR LADY OF PEACE CENTER (OLOPC)

Our Lady of Peace Center was established in 2004, one of the first in Jordan to respond to the high percentage of disabled people who were unable to obtain services at the public centers. The Center provides free comprehensive daily services specialized in rehabilitation and special education for people with disabilities. The services vary from physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, early intervention, prosthesis and orthosis, special education for children with down



syndrome, mental disability and autism. All these services are provided in a loving environment for those with disabilities, regardless of religious, social or nationality. Every year, the center and its branches welcome around two thousand people with disabilities. Our Lady of Peace remains one of the few centers for rehabilitation in Jordan that caters to the marginalized and needy.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

OLOPC did not have a proper outdoor playground for the children with disabilities to play and spend some fun time. The Latin Patriarchate became aware of the fact that outdoor playing is essential to development since it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and youth. For this reason, OLOPC together with LPJ planned to establish an external playground and entertainment area for the children at the center to help develop their physical coordination, strength, and flexibility, as well as providing entertaining activities and enjoyment to the children and families.

WORKS IMPLEMENTED

OLOPC with the LP technical and project teams renovated one of their outdoor areas and made it the new playground for the children. The playground is designed to include accessible recreational equipment such as the seesaws, swing sets, slides, spring toys, houses and tunnel slides with benches and gazebos. Accessible play equipment not only helps children with disabilities socialize and make new friends, it also allows them to stay active and helps them build the necessary social skills while playing with others. This increases positive attitudes and interaction between all children and enhances the necessary social skills to handle different circumstance.



With the generous donations received, the outside playground area was renovated, and appropriate maintenance was made. The new playground is painted in colours to create a joyful and colourful atmosphere for the children. Moreover, the project included planting some flowers and trees to add value to the outdoor playing environment. New toy units were bought and now the playground is a great addition to the centers' safe places for children with disability. Around 200 children with disability can now access the playground each week, their ages range from 3 years to 14 years. The playground has the capacity to have around 10 children at a time for around 1 hour.

BENEFICIARIES

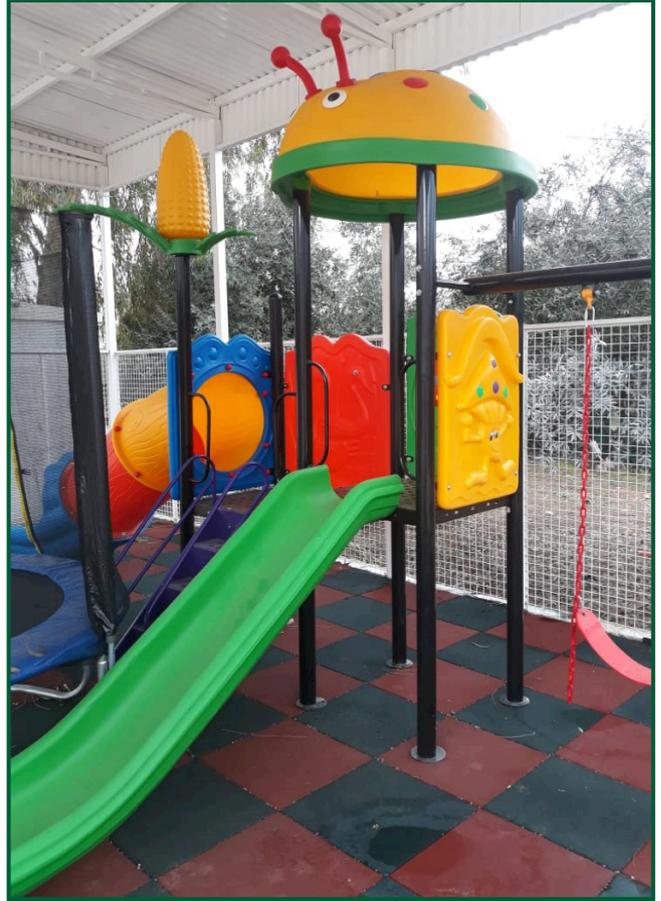
The direct beneficiaries of the project are the children with disabilities that are treated in the center. They are now able to play, have fun and stay physically healthy and active. In addition to that, the playground offers an ideal opportunity for the parents to engage with their children and play with them. The indirect beneficiary of the project is the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) that strives to provide the best for its children, help in shaping a new skilled generation and to allow the continuity of the LPJ biblical mission in serving its communities in the Holy Land.



DURATION

The work was managed and supervised by the Latin Patriarchate project and technical teams. All the works and renovations lasted for four months for the playground to become accessible for the children at OLOPC.

PHOTOS





LATIN PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM

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