



جمعية أصدقاء المريض الخيرية - القدس

Patient's Friends Society – Jerusalem

Annual Report 2014

Patient's Friends Society (PFS) Jerusalem

A registered charitable organization

a. In Israel no. 58-000266-5

b. In Jerusalem at the Union of Charitable Societies no. 559

Members of



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About PFS

Patient's Friends Society – Jerusalem (PFS) is a Palestinian registered non-profit charity, non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in 1980 by Palestinian academics and health professionals. We focus our work on public health and in particular women's health, through health education and counselling, early detection of disease. The Society is located within Augusta Victoria Hospital on the Mount of Olives, Jerusalem.

We are members of:

- The International Union against Cancer (UICC)
- The Reach to recovery international RRI
- Mediterranean Task Force for Cancer Control (MTCC).
- The Union of Charitable Societies.
- Max Foundation

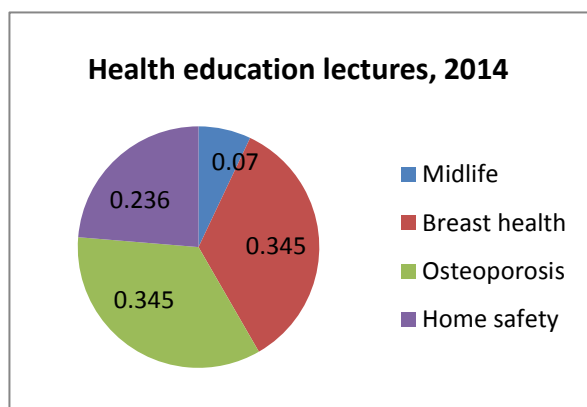
And in 2006 we received the International Achievement Award from the American Cancer Society for being an exemplary model of excellence in partnership in the global fight against cancer. Also in 2011 PFS director was chosen by the American Cancer Society (ACS) to an ambassador for Palestine.

Organizational Structure

Members of the Society:	Dr. Nabil El-Jabari – President Dr. Omar Abdul Shafi – Vice President Mr. Rajai Shurafa – Treasurer Ms. Samira Zaitoun - Secretary Dr. Radwan Barakat Ms. Firyal Bazbaz Ms. Inas Abu Shilbayeh Ms. Samira Abu Taá Mr. Haythem Rabi
Staff:	Ms. Carol El-Jabari – Director Ms. Muna Tirhi – Office Manager Ms Sundos Obied –Office assistants Ms. Suhiela Karean –Projects Coordinator Ms. Maysoon Rajee – Health Educator
Auditors	Saadi, Orfaly, Daher (<i>PriceWaterhouseCoopers</i>)

Our work

- **Community health education** has been one of our major outreach activities since 1991. We target women ranging in age from 14 to 80 years. Our main topics are breast health, osteoporosis, the midlife woman and prevention of unintentional injuries through home safety lectures. During 2014 we offered 55 lectures in different locations in Jerusalem and the West Bank especially Ramallah and Hebron.



- **Training workshops and specialist lectures.** We offer lectures, workshops for the public, patients, cancer survivors and health professionals to increase knowledge and upgrade communication skills. Topics are:
 - Health rights, advocacy and empowerment**
 - Palliative care**
 - Home safety**
- **Bone density screening:** We have reached more than 150 persons around West bank and Jerusalem with our bone density testing for osteoporosis
- **Producing educational materials:** PFS produces many health education leaflets, brochures, booklets, and posters that are distributed freely in the community: at clinics, hospitals, schools and women's associations and at our lectures. There are numerous topics which may be accessed on our website (all are in Arabic) at www.pfsjerusalem.org

Activities in 2014

Psychosocial cancer support Project

In the year 2000 the “Sunrise Group” was established in Jerusalem by PFS. It is the first and only group in Palestine providing psychological and social support for *women living with cancer* ranging in age from 30 to 75 years. We provide facilitation, guidance and advice for the women and their families. In 2011 PFS expanded the service and another office in Hebron offering psychosocial support for women diagnosed /surviving cancer was opened. We chose this area because it is the largest city in the West bank and there are many rural areas near this city. We provide an access to support and information for many women who are unable to reach Jerusalem in particular.

They meet at least twice a month to discuss scientific information, meet newly diagnosed women and support each other through advice and guidance and they participate in some recreational or social events.

The objectives of the cancer survivors is to ‘break the silence’ about cancer and change the point of view of society about cancer. They are also keen educators and advocates who work hard to promote the importance of health education and awareness for early detection of cancer.

Some of their achievements are:

- Member of the International Reach to Recovery Program. In this program volunteers from ‘Sunrise’ undergo a training program aimed to provide them with information about breast cancer and develop communication skills so they may give psychological and social support for women and their families.
- A telephone *hot line* service through which the volunteers respond to questions about breast cancer in particular and cancer in general.
- Sunrise survivors are interviewed on local radio to encourage, educate and support women and families.
- The women participate in activities at other centers such as women’s groups, health centers, speaking about their personal experiences to cope with the disease and the importance of family support. From time to time, they attend and participate in cancer conferences.
- The Group holds charity events and a program for self-support to establish a network of public relations and community interaction such as cancer awareness event (annual, since 2009). The proceeds from these events help cover the costs of the Sunrise activities, support needy women to get mammograms, maintain the hot line.

Annual cancer awareness event:

We did six awareness events in 2014

1. **Hebron University.** We reached students, staff and employees on two occasions. We gave lectures, survivors presented and a sketch entitled ‘that disease’ was performed by Hebron U students.
2. **Business Women’s Forum** we included a lecture, survivors talking about their experiences followed by discussion.
3. **YWCA in Jerusalem.** The audience included students (from the vocational training course) and staff. Included on this day: a lecture about cancer in general, prevention, self examination
4. **Najah University Nablus** - medical students reached out to us to train them about raising awareness in their University and in the community. We provided them information and skills training.
5. Al Najah School in Tuffoh, near Hebron. The event was organized so that mothers of students attended. there was a lecture about breast health followed by a talk from a cancer survivor.



Pic: sketch ‘that disease’ @ awareness event in Hebron Univ

Plans for 2015

- We will continue offering lectures for men and women in different underserved communities in the country.
- Arrange workshops, seminars about cancer in cooperation with other institutions.
- Produce and distribute new health educational materials.
- Expand support services for women living with cancer in the West Bank and Gaza
- Produce new sketches about cancer

Donors 2014

We wish to recognize the generous support of the following people and groups during 2014. Thank you for making our work possible.

H. Areqat	Hebron University
Shabat school	Bet Oula school
Ireqat family	Elina Salgato
Poor patient society, Hebron	Kitkat bakery

Bank account:

Bank Hapoalim: Address: Azzahra St, Jerusalem. Account # 313413: Bank # 696: Swift code: POALILIT

Contact Address and Information

Patient's Friends Society - Jerusalem, PO Box 51089 Jerusalem
Tel.: 00972-2-6264674
Helpline Tel. 00972-2-6277990
Fax:00972-2-6264673
Email: pfsjer@yahoo.com, info@pfsjerusalem.org
www.pfsjerusalem.org