



المجلس الوطني لشؤون الأسرة
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FAMILY AFFAIRS

Annual Report 2018

هوية أردنية ... رؤية عالمية
Jordanian Identity ... Global Vision



(His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein and Queen Rania Al Abdullah)

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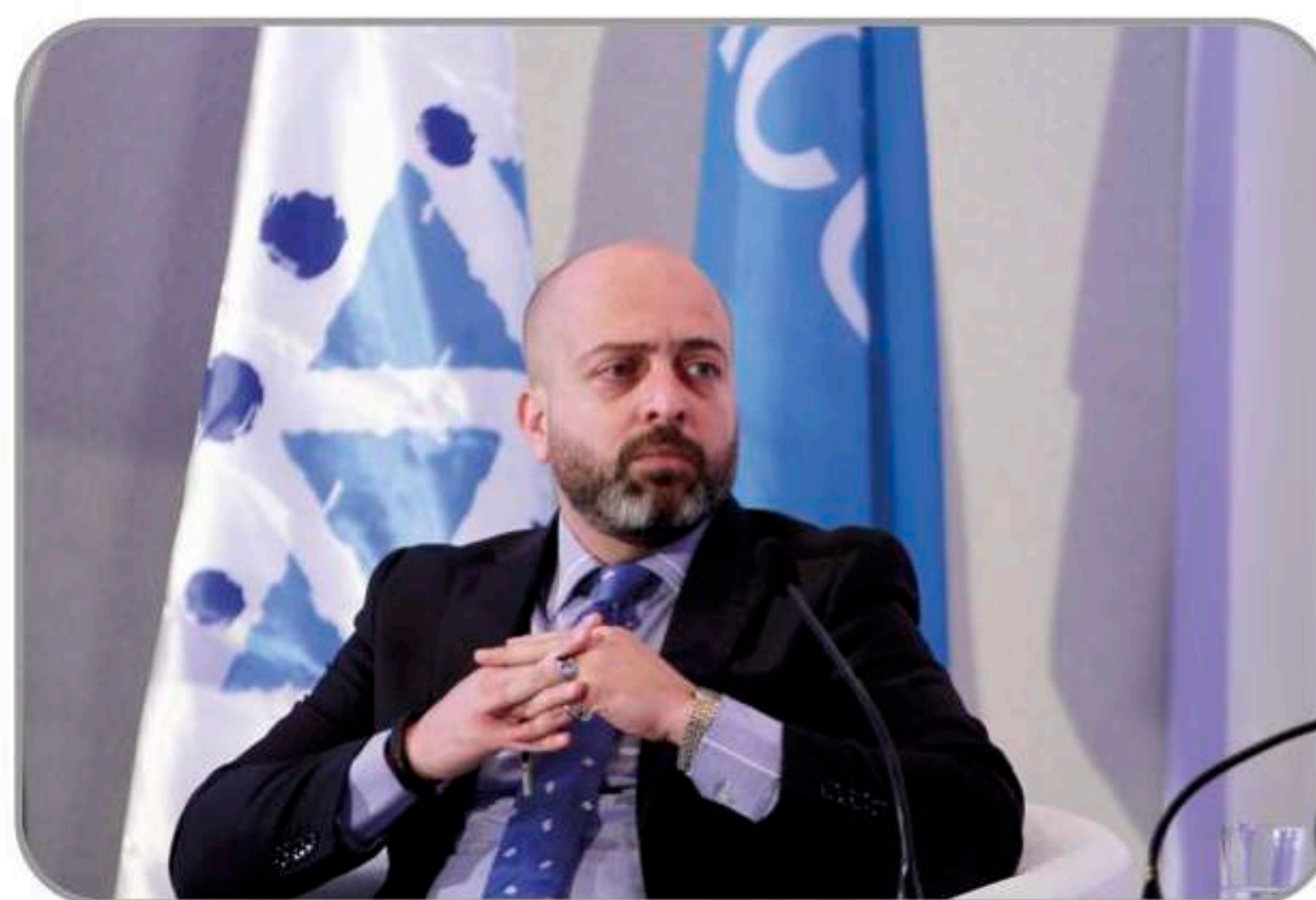
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In the Name of God Most Compassionate Most Merciful

During 2018 and under the continued support of its Board of Trustees chaired by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, to deliver on its mandate to enhance the livelihood of the Jordanian family in all areas of interest. With the help of its devoted staff, NCFA implemented its planned projects, programs and initiatives, emphasizing the important role of the family in our Jordanian community, the first building block of our society and the source of its knowledge, values and principles, under the slogan “Jordanian Identity...Global Vision”.



The most prominent achievements; the demonstrated in the outputs of NCFA’s project “Support and Activation of the Establishment of Nurseries in the Public and Private Sectors” which is one of the projects of the National Employment Strategy implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and supported by the Employment, Technical and Vocational Education Training Fund (E-TVET). Key project outputs included the establishment of (30) nurseries in the public and private sectors including Government Institutions, Ministries, Universities and Hospitals and the provision of (214) job opportunities to Jordanian young women to work in these nurseries. It is to be noted that the project’s key objective is to encourage women to participate in the labour market.

Another success story was the issuance of a child-friendly booklet on Child Rights which was prepared with the participation of Children and Youth to inform their peers of their rights and needs whether they were health-related, educational, social or legal. The booklet was written in a simple comprehensible language through a story told by a grandfather to his grandchildren incorporating articles from the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) under the theme “Do you Know?”.

For the importance issue of Family and Child Protection against Violence, NCFA organized a Family Festival under the title “The Adventures of Looney Balloony” under the kind patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah. The Festival is one of the Activities of the Multi-Sector National Plan of Action for Combating Violence against Children launched by NCFA in cooperation with UNICEF/Jordan and endorsed by the Ministries of Health, Education, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and the Public Security Directorate. This family gathering attended by (40) thousand people complements an ongoing awareness campaign “Allem La Tallem” launched in 2017 on social media and targets the governorates of Amman, Irbid, Zarqa and Aqaba. The festival concluded with more than (4000) family members vowing to work together to eliminate violence against children by committing to the concepts of positive parenting.

With regard to research and studies, NCFA prepared the Second Periodic Report on the “Status of the Jordanian Family” and the “Refugee Family Report”, the latter in cooperation with UNHCR. The reports adopted a scientific methodology aimed at studying the demographic, social, economic, cultural, educational and health-related characteristics of the family and its relations and providing the necessary information to inform the formulation of policies, programs and plans related to the Jordanian and refugee families. Moreover, during 2018, the “Analytical study of Juvenile Justice” was prepared to analyse the juvenile justice system in Jordan and understand its points of strength and weakness with a view to enhance and align it with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and International Standards in this regard. Key study findings included the need to elaborate a national holistic policy based on an analysis of the situation on the ground that includes effective programs covering legislative, regulatory and supervisory aspects which will facilitate the transition to restorative juvenile justice.

Another main concern of NCFA during 2018 was harmonizing work pertaining to elderly issues. In this domain, it concentrated on expanding its networking with International Organizations to enhance cooperation and scale up the level of services presented to this age group; these included: Help Age International, German Agency for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ) and World University Service of Canada (WUSC). Moreover, NCFA was a major contributor in the preparation of the Arab Strategy for Senior Citizens due to be adopted in the Arab Summit which will be held in March 2019 to promote elderly issues in the Arab world.

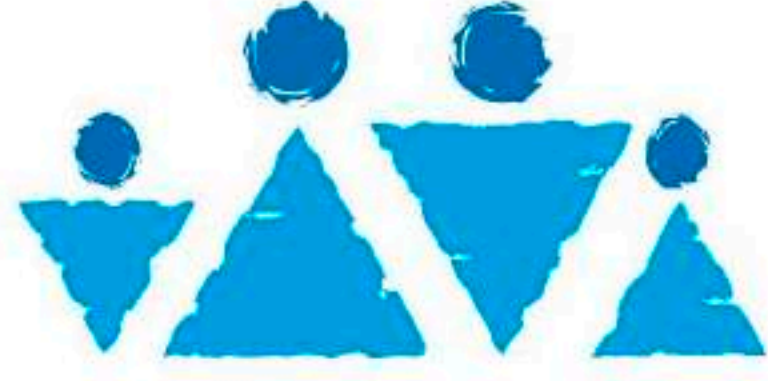
Also during 2018, NCFA implemented several training and awareness programs on issues of interest aimed to raise the capacities and efficiencies of employees in institutions that deal with family members and also benefit from their expertise in the preparation of future manuals and studies.

In conclusion, we hope that this report puts in your hands a detailed synopsis of NCFA’s achievements during 2018. As we reiterate our continued commitment to participatory work with our partners, we would like to extend our gratitude to our Board of Trustees for their continuous guidance and support, praying for Allah the Almighty to help us to serve our dear citizens under the leadership of His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin AlHussein.

May God be our Guide

Secretary-General

Mohammed Fakhri Mogdadi



المجلس الوطني لشؤون الأسرة NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FAMILY AFFAIRS

هوية أردنية... رؤية عالمية
Jordanian Identity ... Global Vision



Establishment:

The National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) was established under Law No. 27 for the year 2001 with the aim to improve the livelihood of the Jordanian family and its members, be they children, youth, women or elderly.

Vision:

An enhanced environment for the Jordanian family to achieve stability and well-being.

Mission:

Contributing to formulate and steer policies as well as support efforts that aim to enhance the status of the Jordanian family, optimize its role and preserve its values and heritage.

Guiding Principles:

- The tolerant provisions of Islamic shariah.
- The Jordanian Constitution.
- Ratified international and Arab conventions.
- National legislation.
- NCFA's Law.
- Royal guidelines and directives.
- Positive social heritage.

NCFA Roles:

- Policy formulation.
- Management of research and data resources.
- Coordination and Networking.
- Management of research and data resources
- Monitoring and evaluation.
- Organizational development.
- Advocacy



Members of NCFA Board of Trustees during the reporting period:

- H.M Queen Rania AL Abdullah / Chairperson.
- H.E.Dr. Rajai Muasher / Vice-Chairman.
- H.E Minister of Education.
- H.E.Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.
- H.E.Minister of Social Development.
- H.E.Minister of Planning and International Cooperation.
- H.E.Minister of Health.
- H.E. Senator Dr. Mohammed Hamdan.
- H.E.Director of the Public Security Directorate
- H.E. Mr. Nabih Shuquem.
- H.E. Mrs. Laila Sharaf.
- H.E.Dr Sawsan Majal.
- Dr. Mou'men Al-Hadedy.
- Dr. Tahseen Al-Qatawneh.
- Dr. Adab Al-Saoud.
- Mrs.Muna Adrees.
- Dr.Abeer Dababneh.
- Mohammed Mogdadi - Secretary General.

The General Secretariat

It functions as NCFA's executive body and is supervised by the Secretary General. (To attain the goals and mission of NCFA, a multidisciplinary team of staff undertakes the responsibility of executing NCFA works and activities).

Our Accomplishments

First

Family Protection Against Violence area



- **Conducting a (ToT) for approximately (40) male and female Trainers from various National Institutions in the Northern Region on the use of the Standard Operating Procedures Guide.**
- **Training (218) male and female Trainees from various National Institutions on the system of automated procedures for handling Family Protection Cases.**

During 2018, NCFA continued its work on the various protection programs. Partnering with UN Organizations (UNICEF/UNHCR/UNFPA) and International and National Governmental and non-Governmental Organizations and under the supervision of the National Team for Family Protection Against Violence, NCFA prepared a Standards Document that harmonizes the work of entities concerned with the protection system pertaining to Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Family Violence (FV) and Child Protection (CP). The document under the title “Standard Operating Procedures for Prevention of and Response to Gender-based Violence (GBV), Family Violence (FV) and Child Protection (CP)” will serve as a National Reference Document that enhances the effectiveness of the National Policies on the ground in the area of Protection Against Violence.

In this respect, a training program regarding the document was implemented for employees from the North Region working in Governmental Institutions, Civil Society Organizations and International Organizations concerned with Child and Family Protection. The program included four training courses targeting (40) male and female Trainees of whom (20) were chosen to attend a (ToT) training with an average of (75) training hours. The chosen Trainers will form a nucleus for a training team for other employees in their own institutions.

On a related note, NCFA continued working on its National Project “Automated Procedures for Handling Family Violence Cases” yielding the following key outputs:

- Launch of the system’s pilot phase in the capital Amman with the participation of five key institutions concerned with Family Violence Cases (Family Protection Department, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education and Jordan River Foundation).
- Programming of the first version of the system and the launch of its pilot phase in five Institutions in Amman.
- Conducting of (4) training courses for all system users in partner institutions covering the total number of (220) male and female Trainees.

- Establishment of infrastructure and logistics at the Family Protection Department/Center Office.
- Development of an interactive electronic platform for monitoring users' feedback and providing technical support on how to use the system.
- Conducting of (25) technical field visits to the system's implementing bodies. The total number of cases registered in the system reached (2467).
- Hosting of the system by the National Information Technology Center and ensuring its sustainability.
- Conducting of (18) meetings for the technical committee to discuss the progress of the project and the system and their related challenges and operational procedures.
- Preparation of a final list of all observations and the adjustments that need to be installed in the system based on the system's pilot phase.
- Follow-up and coordination with the company responsible for developing the system to address the errors in the programming as they emerge.
- Preparation of a statistical reporting document to be introduced to the system to help guarantee follow up on case response and evaluation procedures.

On a related level, NCFA continued its efforts in the enhancement the family protection system and the principle of collaborative work among National Institutions to determine National Priorities for tackling challenges and loopholes that confront institutions concerned with this system. To this end, NCFA held a retreat for all entities involved in the area of Family Protection to study and discuss their perspective on the system in terms of bottlenecks, gaps and solutions. The retreat, supervised by the National Team for Family Protection Against Violence and attended by representatives from all entities at the Decision-Making Level, aimed to come up with a set of recommendations and lessons-learned and determine the necessary measures, programs, opportunities and priorities that need to be set and subsequently translated into executive plans of action and/or project proposals. Key National Priorities set out during discussions were mainly focused on: updating the National Team's work mechanisms to allow it to carry out its mandate by virtue of the National Team By-law No. 33 for the year 2016; enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of service providers from various disciplines; regulating and harmonizing training programs in the area of protection at the national level; and setting frameworks and implementation mechanisms that regulate financing operations at the national level in a manner that helps achieve National Priorities and avoids duplicity of efforts in this area.

With respect to the best interests of the child principle, NCFA conducted a National Conference Titled "Child's Right to Protection Against Violence/ Observance of 'the best interests of the Child' Principle" under the kind patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania AlAbdullah. The Conference hold in cooperation with the Public Security Directorate/Family Protection Department, UNHCR and UNICEF discussed the Strategies available for furthering the principle of the Child's best interests and Protection Against Violence, including among refugees. It also discussed ways that can help Governmental and non-Governmental National Institutions adopt and implement regulations, policies and measures that reinforce the achievement of this principle. the conference were attended by more than (100) representatives from entities working in the areas of Family and Child Protection, Refugee Affairs and Protection Against Violence including Governmental and non-Governmental Institutions and relevant International Organization.

In line with NCFA's vision to enhance the bonds of cooperation and partnership and create effective regional and international alliances to exchange expertise in the area of family protection, NCFA hosted an Iraqi Delegation representing Governmental Bodies and International Organizations working in the area of Gamily Protection Against Violence in Iraq and Kurdistan. The visiting delegation gained a closer look at the Jordanian experience in the area of Family and Child

Second

Family Counseling area



- **Conducting awareness lectures on Family Relations and the concept and importance of Family Counseling in various Family Counseling Centers located in Amman, Karak, Irbid, Balqa and Ma'an targeting approximately (100) Community members.**
- **Training representatives from Family Counseling Centers from various Governorates on Case Management.**

In collaboration with UNFPA, NCFA implemented a performance evaluation of (10) Family Counseling Centers established by the Council in cooperation with several National Institutions and associations in various Jordanian Governorates. The evaluation included an assessment of the centers' infrastructure and the tools used in service delivery. It also measured beneficiaries' satisfaction with the quality of these services. The objective of the evaluation was centered on identifying gaps and hurdles that stand in the way of offering the best of services to its beneficiaries.

Along the same lines and with a view to raise the capacities of Family Counseling staff, a "training course on case management in family counseling" was organized to train center workers on the concept of case management as well as referral procedures to the appropriate concerned entity. (20) Male and female trainees were targeted representing various centers in the kingdom.

In the area of awareness and under agreements signed with Civil Society Organizations working in this area, NCFA conducted several awareness programs in various Jordanian Governorates. Under its agreement with the Society for Protecting Family Violence Victims, awareness lectures were held in NCFA's Family Counseling Centers located in Amman, Karak, Irbid, Balqa and Ma'an targeting around (100) local community members on themes related to Family relations and the concept and importance of Family Counseling. Another specialized awareness lecture was organized in cooperation with the Justice Center for Legal Aid targeting workers from Family Counseling Centers. The lecture focused on the issue of bullying in society and the importance of joining forces to combat this phenomenon in society.

Moreover, as part of its cooperation agreement with Tkiyet Um Ali and Osraty Association, a range of awareness workshops and training courses were held in several associations across the Kingdom. More than (15) lectures were held across governorates on Family-related issues and Family and Religious Counseling. Furthermore, a National Initiative called "An hour without the Internet" was launched in cooperation with "Osraty" and "Society Development" Associations to promote and encourage communication and dialogue among Family Members. The initiative's key recommendation concentrated on developing a mobile application under the name "Osraty".

Third

Senior Citizens area



- **Organizing three panel discussions on Health, Legal and Social issues related to the Elderly for members of the National Committee on Senior Citizens**

As part of its continued coordination with members of the National Follow-up Committee on the Implementation of the National Strategy for Senior Citizens, a visit was organized to Amen FM Radio Station run by the Public Security Directorate marking the “International Day for Older Persons”. During the visit aimed to shed light on the importance of highlighting elderly issues by media outlets, Committee members were honored for cooperating with NCFA and for implementing the activities stated in the Action Plan of the National Strategy for Senior Citizens 2018-2022.

NCFA also worked to expand its partnerships with International Organizations to work together in implementing the strategy’s activities and advancing the quality of services provided for this age group. As such, in collaboration with Help Age International, a panel discussion was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Health and the National Center for Human Rights titled “The status of the elderly and future prospects”. NCFA also cooperated with World University Service of Canada (WUSC) to implement a community awareness campaign in order to advocate for senior citizen issues.

Also in this regard, NCFA cooperated with the Supreme Judge Department to conduct a specialized workshop under the title “Protection and care of senior citizens: Legislative framework and practical implementation- Shariah judiciary as an example”. The workshop targeted members of the National Committee on Senior Citizens. Moreover, a seminar was held in cooperation with the Freedom Center for Development and Human Rights on the Rights of the Elderly to Health care. One of the seminar’s key recommendations was the need to have a law that protects senior citizens in their communities in various areas.

In addition, through its efforts to harmonize the issues of the Elderly at the National level, NCFA has contributed in the preparation of the National Arab Strategy for Senior Citizens under the auspices of the Arab League in cooperation with UNFPA/Regional Office. The strategy, which benefited from Documents prepared by NCFA and its partners, will benefit Older persons in the Arab countries.

Fourth

Early Childhood area



- **Operating (30) on-site nurseries in the Public and Private Sectors.**
- **Providing (214) Job Opportunities for young Jordanian women in the established Nurseries.**

During 2018 and under its project “Monitoring Childhood-Related National Policies (Child Friendly Budgets”, NCFA finalized a Child Budget Analysis for the Budgets of the National Aid Fund (NAF), the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MoMA) and the Municipalities of Greater Madaba and Sahab in cooperation with UNICEF/Jordan. In addition, the capacities of (17) workers from NAF, MoMA, Greater Madaba and Sahab Municipalities, General Budget Department (GBD) and Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation were raised in the area of Child-Friendly Budgets and related issues including follow-up and evaluation. In this regard, a workshop was organized to raise awareness on Child Budgets attended by concerned individuals from the aforementioned entities. Another three awareness workshops were also held in cooperation with GBD attended by representatives from all ministries and government entities to mobilize and lobby support for the inclusion of child budget allocations within the General Budget Law.

In addition, NCFA signed a cooperation agreement with Plan International under which a taskforce on Early Childhood Development was formed with the membership of representatives from (39) different International, Governmental and non-Governmental Institutions. The objective of the taskforce was to establish networking among all entities working in the area of Early Childhood in Jordan to ensure collaboration and joining of efforts with regard to current and future plans and programs related to this sector. Key team outputs during 2018 included the organization of a consultation meeting to agree on the formation and roles of team members as well as the creation of a data collection matrix on Childhood projects carried out by member entities to be later on used as a database for an analytical report that highlights gaps and opportunities in the programs and outlines national priorities in this regard. Two sub-working teams were also created the first of which on parental care programs and the second on data matrix analysis. It is to be noted that the first and second parts of the training program for team members on early childhood sciences were conducted in cooperation with the Arab Network for Early Childhood Development-Arab Resource Collective.

Under NCFA's Project "Support and Activation of the Establishment of Nurseries in the Public and Private Sectors" (one of the projects of the National Employment Strategy) aimed at encouraging women to participate in the labor market, the following outcomes were achieved:

- Signing of (53) cooperation agreements to establish on-site Nurseries (crèches) in the Public and Private sectors in all Jordanian Governorates (13 in the North Region, 23 in the Central Region and 17 in the South Region).
- Operationalization of (30) on-site nurseries in the Public and Private Sectors.
- Creation of (214) job opportunities for young Jordanian women in the project's established nurseries.
- (820) Of the employee's children are benefiting from Nursery Services in a wealthy, developmental and educational environment that complies with the standards adopted by NCFA in the area of contemporary early childhood development.
- Training of (468) girls registered in the Civil Service Bureau's job seekers' lists on Early Childhood skills and nursery work in several Jordanian Governorates.
- Implementation of (337) field visits by project's team members to all Jordanian Governorates for the purposes of physical inspection, monthly technical follow-up and furnishing of the nurseries.

Fifth legislation area



- **Training (60) Public Prosecutors on Child testimony techniques through a training workshop held in the three regions: the North, the Center and the South.**

During 2018, NCFA continued its collaboration with UNICEF in the preparation of a Child Rights Draft Law. After the Draft Law was finalized, NCFA contracted with a National expert to review the Jordanian Juvenile Law in effect and to examine its conformity with the new Drafted Law.

Also in cooperation with UNICEF, an Analytical Study was conducted on Juvenile Justice and was launched during a workshop attended by relevant entities. The phased study started with conducting several meetings with stakeholders including the Juvenile Police Department, Judicial Council and several others to determine challenges facing probation officers and discuss and suggest amendments and ways to enhance the Juvenile Law.

The study aimed to analyze the system of juvenile justice in Jordan and understand the points of strengths and weaknesses so as to enhance and align it with the (CRC) and international standards. The study's key finding focused on the need to set a comprehensive National Policy based on an Analysis of the current situation. The new Policy should include effective programs that cover legislative, regulatory and supervisory aspects that facilitate the transition to restorative Juvenile Justice.

With regard to violence against children, NCFA prepared two draft by-laws the first of which deals with the alternative to custodial measure and the other for informant and witness protection. The two draft by-laws were sent to the Ministry of Social Development to go through the proper channels for endorsement. Also in this regard, NCFA began preparing a Training Guide on the Protection Against Family Violence Law the first draft of which was finalized. It also prepared the best interests of the Child Guide to be rolled out later on to the Jordanian Judicial Council and the Supreme Judge Department in a bid to harmonize standards among judges on related issues; the guide is awaiting endorsement by the relevant entities.

With respect to capacity building in the area of legislation, NCFA developed its capacities with regard to implementing the observations of the International Committee on the Rights of the Child. To this effect, the Council prepared the Child Rights Friendly Booklet which reflects the recommendations sent by the Committee to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It is to be noted that the booklet was prepared with the help of children and youngsters who attended two workshops organized for this purpose. Their views and suggestions expressed throughout the work

shops were noted and observed during its preparation. As the booklet is intended for children, it was written in a simplified comprehensible language by mixing a grandfather story with child rights under the slogan “Do you know?” to give our children the chance to know their rights.

One of the key achievements in this area during 2018 was the training of a number of public prosecutors on child-witness interview techniques. In this regard, (3) workshops were conducted targeting (60) public prosecutors with an average of (20) prosecutors for each of the three Jordanian regions. This was followed by a follow-up meeting for members of the technical committee to evaluate the training workshops and select the appropriate trainers so as to sustain training on this type of cases.

Also during 2018, NCFA took part in the preparation of the Third National Report for the Universal Periodic Review to take stock of the National achievements in this area in terms of legislation, programs, training and awareness-raising and provide the necessary report annexes to be submitted along with the Report to the Jordanian Commission in Geneva. NCFA also worked to follow up on the responses of government bodies to the recommendations contained in the 2017 report of the National Center for Human Rights. All recommendations were addressed prior to the launch of the report in mid-2018 and were compiled in a form of a matrix which was rolled out through the Prime Ministry to concerned authorities for review and follow-up.

Sixth

Studies and Research area



- **Targeting (100) participants from different entities and institutions working in the area of the Family Affairs to take part in the agenda of the International Conference titled “Family and Societal Harmony”.**

During 2018, NCFA launched two specialized Reports on the Situation of the Family the first of which reflected the Situation of the Jordanian Family and the second reviewed the Situation of the Refugee Family in cooperation with UNHCR. The two reports aim to evaluate the situation of the Family and study its Demographic, Social, Economic, Educational and Health-related characteristics. They also attempt to understand Family Relationships, attitudes and trends toward certain issues with a view to fill the gaps in the data and information regarding the status of the Family and provide the necessary information that can inform the development of policies, programs and plans pertaining to the Jordanian and Refugee Families based on scientist tools and priorities set by the families themselves.

On another level, NCFA in cooperation with UNICEF carried out the update of the National Framework for Combating Child Labor. In this regard, a technical committee was formed with the membership of: the Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, Juvenile Police Department and International Labor Organization. The updated framework will rely on the National Framework for Family Protection against Violence as a reference model for case management. It will also be informed by the Juvenile Law in force and its amendments and the Child Engaged in Unlawful Activities By-law which is still being formulated by the Ministry of Social Development. The committee agreed on the case management levels and this was followed by a workshop which defined roles and responsibilities of the concerned entities. The updated framework was finalized after passing various stages of review and follow-up with concerned entities and is waiting to be endorsed officially by the year 2019 after finalizing the endorsement of the Child Engaged in Unlawful Activities By-law.

During 2018, NCFA created a specialized multi-sectoral technical team in cooperation with UNICEF to review child deaths. The team, which is the first of its kind in the Arab Region, is expected to periodically examine visible and invisible causes of death for Children under 18 years of age with a view to draw up recommendations that help set prevention programs to decrease Child fatalities. A technical review committee was formed consisting of: the Ministry of Health, the National Institute for Forensic Medicine, Civil Defense Directorate, and the Judicial Council. The initial project report was prepared including the methodology and the proposed project phases.

Consequently, the first phase of the project was initiated with a study of the Situation of Child Death Registration using special research tools including field visits to institutions working in this field as well as several hospitals. The first draft of the study was prepared next.

Moreover, programs and international teams specialized in this field were reviewed to draw on their success stories and best practices and design viable options for developing a child deaths tracking system in Jordan.

In the area of violence, NCFA continued its project on studying violence against children. The project aims to review the reasons behind violence and the extent of its prevalence in households, schools, places of work and the local community. It also seeks to study the phenomenon and its related risk factors within the justice system with a view to propose explicit recommendations for taking action to combat and stop violence against children. In 2018, the project's technical committee approved a preliminary report on the study's qualitative and quantitative methodology, objectives and phases, and specialized research tools were set targeting children (including those with special needs and children deprived of parental care), refugee children, workers, parents/guardians, counselors, school principals, decision-makers, media personnel and representatives of the local communities.

On a related note and under the patronage of the Prime Minister, a conference under the title "The Family and Societal Harmony" was organized in cooperation with the Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Research Centre with a view to exchange Jordanian, Arab and international experiences in areas related to promoting family formation and relations. During the conference attended by specialists and representatives from Governmental and non-Governmental Institutions from Jordan, the Arab region and foreign countries, multi-disciplinary papers were presented that shed light on the role of institutions in enhancing Family values and relations.

During 2018, NCFA carried out a series of seminars and panel discussions which it holds annually to review indicators and issues pertaining to the Jordanian family report. As such, a specialized seminar headed by the Minister of Education was organized titled "School bullying" to shed light on the issue, its size, causes and possible solutions. The seminar was attended by various relevant entities and came up with several recommendations which were discussed with the Ministry of Education to draw on while preparing its plan pertaining to this problem. Another seminar titled "Divorce" was held by NCFA and headed by the Supreme Judge to tackle the issue from different aspects and come up with a set of recommendation on how to address it, understand the causes of this problem and define the roles of concerned parties.

With a view to prepare a reference guide for the process of the ethical review of research in social sciences involving children, the youth and marginalized groups, NCFA formed a technical committee (research ethics review committee) in cooperation with UNICEF with the membership of the Ministry of Higher Education, the German Jordanian University, the University of Jordan (Women Research Center), King Hussein Cancer Center, Department of Statistics, Higher Population Council and King Hussein Foundation. The Guide will contain National Guidelines including Standards, Procedures and Formats for the process of Reviewing Social Sciences Research. Committee members along with other representatives from concerned entities were trained on the ethical standards of scientific research. Moreover, a questionnaire was designed to monitor the status and directions of institutions in the process of ethical review of research in general and in the field of social sciences in particular. By the year 2019, the committee is expected to finalize the study and start the preparation of the proposed standards and procedures to lobby support for its endorsement at a later stage.

Sevnth

Communication and Mentoring area



- **Targeting (4000) members from the local community at “The adventures of Looney Balloony” Family Festival who pledged to eliminate violence against children.**
- **Targeting (40) thousand participants to attend “The adventures of Looney Balloony” Family Festival from the governorates of (Amman, Zarqa’, Irbid and Aqaba) with a view to promote positive educational values to curb violence against children in the Jordanian community.**

NCFA continued working on the Multi-Sector National Plan of Action for Combating Violence Against Children which was announced at the beginning of the year. The action plan’s activities for the years (2019-2022) were approved by the Ministries of Education, Health and Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and the Director of Public Security Directorate.

One of the key outputs of the plan of action was the launch of the Family Festival “The Adventures of Looney Ballony” under the kind patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah. The Festival is part of a wider ongoing campaign “Allem La Tallem” launched last year in Jordan in cooperation with UNICEF to reduce Violence Against Children and promote the values of dialogue and positive upbringing among Family members in a friendly way. The Festival, attended by more than (40) thousand people, targeted several Jordanian regions including the capital Amman, Irbid, Zarqa and Aqaba and concluded with (4000) people pledging to help curb Violence Against Children by committing to the positive Child rearing approaches.

With regard to the enhancement of communication and media outreach, several short films and videos were produced during 2018 on NCFA and its work. Moreover, one of the salient accomplishments in this regard was the broadcasting of a regular segment called “The culture of a family” within a family radio show broadcast on Farah An-Nas Radio Station. Ten episodes have been presented covering family issues tackled by NCFA.

On a related matter, NCFA cooperated with a social media specialist who updated NCFA’s Facebook page and succeeded in boosting the number of page followers to (50) thousand. The page has now regular informative posts.

Eight

Institutional Development area



To fill the gap between the outputs resulting from research and those resulting from the work of National Institutions in terms of Strategies, Policies, Legislation, Programs and Services, NCFA' library hosted several lectures presented by researchers whose papers have been published in refereed Jordanian journals. One of the papers was presented by Dr. Amal Al-Awawdeh under the title "Assessment of social workers' intervention mechanisms in gender-based violence cases", the second was titled "Social problems resulting from chronic diseases (Renal failure and cancer)" by Dr. Shurouq Issa Hamour and the third by Lieutenant Imam Mahmoud Hijazy/Armed Forces/ Ifta' Department on the Traditions of Prophet Mohammad (Peace be Upon Him) in his household.

To develop NCFA's on-site nursery services, a nursery procedures manual was developed containing necessary details for regulating work within the nursery covering administrative and educational aspects; enhancing the role of parents; on-going evaluation of the child's progress and creative daily programs and detailed monthly plans. Moreover, NCFA introduced the concept of volunteerism among the children of NCFA's staff aged 6-13 during summer vacation where they would help perform targeted activities for nursery children under the supervision of nursery staff. This would promote the spirit of volunteerism among children and spread an atmosphere of joy and diversity, not to mention the transfer of skills from older children to the younger which helps make them more mature.

Furthermore, NCFA continued its efforts to enhance the capacities of its staff and promote continued development at all levels. In this respect, it engaged its staff in a range of training courses in different areas including: ToT courses, Management and Development of Work Teams, Team Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, MS Project, Scientific Research and Statistical Analysis, Excel, and English language. (34) Staff members underwent training in 2018.

Our Future Trends

- Launching the Standard National Procedural Manual Guide for the Prevention of and Response to Gender-based and Family Violence and Violence against Children, and get training.
- Developing an evaluation study for case management in institutions providing services for Family Violence Cases.
- Expansion of tracking system for handling Family Violence Cases.
- Finalizing of the second part of the NCFA Family Counseling Centers Evaluation Study.
- Organizing a Regional Conference on Senior Citizens Issues.
- Developing of Parental Care Programs and activities guide for workers with children as a web-based interactive application.
- Conducting a study to test the Quality Assurance Standards in public and private kindergartens based on the Kindergarten Accreditation Standards Manual.
- Advocacy for the endorsement of the Child Rights Law.
- Developing of a training manual for the Protection against Family Violence Law.
- Preparing of the sixth periodic report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Conducting of a National Study on Violence Against Children in Jordan.
- Updating of the National Framework for Combating Child Labor and its procedures manual.
- Conducting of a study on children's use of the Internet.

Family Indicators

First: Key Jordanian family indicators introduced by “The Status of the Jordanian Family Report” (2018):

Family size reached (4.8) per family.
34% of Jordanian citizens are below 15 years and 62% are between 15-64 years old.
Percentage of elderly citizens (65 years or older) reached 4% of the population of Jordan.
98% of families are nuclear families as opposed to 2% rate of extended families.
58% of Jordanian families indicated that they feel happy at the current time, 45% of families consider themselves near-perfect families and 54% are completely satisfied with their life.
62% of families own their houses while 35% live in rented dwellings.
35% of families have an average monthly income of (366) JOD or less, followed by families earning between (401-500) JOD at an average of 17% , then families earning between (501-750) JOD at 17% rate, and those earning between (367-400) JOD 15.8%, and lastly between (1250-1500) JOD as well as those who earn more than (1500) JOD at the averages of 0.9% and 1% respectively.
Husbands and wives share household expenses in 54% of the families.
60% of the families prefer to work in the public sector and 48% believe that job opportunities in the public sector are not enough.
86% of school-age children are enrolled in schools while 14% are not.
A third of the Jordanian families do not have health insurance (36%) which used to be 21% in the previous report. Families with public health insurance reached (28%), with military insurance (23%), and those with private insurance reached (8%).
56% of families are aware of the free health insurance for the elderly, 57% of the sample knows about the health insurance for pregnant women, and 65% are aware of the health insurance for children under 6 years.

Second: Key family indicators introduced by “The refugee Family Status Report (2018) :

Average refugee family size reached 3.8 per family.
83% of families are headed by males while 17% are headed by females.
49% of families do not have mothers working outside the house, 5% have mother working from the house while only 1% have mothers working outside the house.
29% of families monthly spend (1-100) JOD on housing, 42% spend (101-200) JOD monthly, while 5% spend more than 200 JOD.
56% of family members surveyed were between 16 years or more; 27.5% of which have attained secondary education, 2.4% have a basic primary education level, 1.7% are literate, 3.5% hold a bachelor’s degree, 2.4% hold a diploma degree while 13.5% are illiterate.
Most refugee families (92%) (741 families) stated that their asylum request was for safety reasons followed by political reasons (6%) while only 9 families indicated that their request was for economic reasons.

Our Financial Resources

NCFA's financial resources according to Article (14) of NCFA Law No. 27 for the year 2001 were as follows:

- A. Income of movable and immovable funds owned by NCFA.
- B. Returns of funds, projects and programs managed by NCFA.
- C. Jordanian government's grant.
- D. Donations and contributions approved by NCFA provided that approval of the Cabinet shall be obtained if such donations are from a non-Jordanian source.
- E. Any other resources approved by NCFA.

Our 2018 Sponsors

To whom we extend our deepest appreciation and gratitude for their support and cooperation in the implementation of our programs and activities:

- The Jordanian government.
- Employment- Technical and Vocational, Education and Training Fund (E-TVET).
- Arab Gulf Development Program (AGFUND).
- UNICEF.
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- UNHCR.

NCFA Publications

- NCFA Annual Report 2017.
- Refugee Family Status Report.
- The Status of the Jordanian Family.
- Analytical study of Juvenile Justice.
- Multi-Sector National Plan of Action for Combating Violence against Children.
- Child Friendly Booklet.



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Acknowledgment

At the end, we wish to thank all Governmental and non-Governmental Institutions for their dedicated support for NCFA which paved the way for these accomplishments, hoping that all our efforts are in the best interests of the Jordanian Family.

Committees and teams working with NCFA:

- National Team for Family Protection against Family.
- National Team for Early Childhood Development.
- National Follow-up Committee on the Implementation of the National Strategy for Senior Citizens.
- Technical Committee for Family Counselling Centres.
- Technical Committee on the Child Rights Draft Law.
- Technical Committee for Restorative Justice.
- National Committee for the Safe Use of Communication Technology.