Annual Report

This report outlines the activities of Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) during the period from January until December 2013. The report covers the activities of the various departments of UHWC in addition to the public, local and international activities carried out by UHWC throughout the year.

January – December

2015
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UHWC Strategic vision:
UHWC is a leading Palestinian knowledge-based community healthcare organization, contributing to community empowerment in healthcare and promoting the comprehensive healthcare concept in the Gaza Strip.

UHWC Mission statement:
UHWC is an independent and non-profit Palestinian NGO with the purpose of achieving community health empowerment and promoting the comprehensive healthcare concept through capacity development; primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare; culture and health, and community health communication and advocacy programs.

Slogan:
Health Service is a right to whoever needs it
The report for Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) for the year 2015 illustrates the primary and secondary health services that have been provided through Al Awda hospital, and health and community care services that are provided through the five health centers along the Gaza Strip, besides the four cultural centers for children, adolescents and youth where cultural, health and community services are provided.

- The total beneficiaries from UHWC services for the year 2015 were 399,248 beneficiaries as shown below:
  1. The beneficiaries from Al Awda Hospital services were 130,146 beneficiaries.
  2. The beneficiaries from the services of Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs) were 190,156 beneficiaries.
  3. The beneficiaries of the services from UHWC Cultural and community centers were 78,946 beneficiaries.

- UHWC total employees reached 298 employees varied between full time, special contract, awards and Job creation and others, among which female employees represented 50%.

- UHWC staff working at UHWC by Partnership (percentage) were (88 Male and 11 Female).

- UHWC through the previous year was able to implement 13 projects, and continue implementing 12 projects from the year 2014, varied between health projects, women’s health projects, cultural and community projects for children and youth, all were aiming at promoting individuals inside the Palestinian community either on the health, community or cultural sides.
298 employees work at UHWC distributed as shown in the charts below:

**Human Resource:**

50% Female

50% Male

UHWC employees according to gender for the year 2015

UHWC employees according to job classification

- **38** Reaward
- **19** Special Contract
- **20** Discarded Salary
- **5** Daily
- **46** Job Creation
- **22** Projects
- **33** Hours On Call

**115** Full Time
UHWC employees regarding Gender and type of career in 2014 and 2015

UHWC Volunteers in 2015

Male, 30
Female, 45

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<td>38</td>
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Annual Report 2015
Union of Health Work Committees
Al Awda hospital
Al Awda hospital is the biggest facility affiliated to UHWC, it was inaugurated in April 1997 in northern area. The total beneficiaries of the provided hospital's services through the year 2015 were 130,146 beneficiaries.

The chart below shows the beneficiaries from the different hospital's department through 2015:

The most significant achievements of Al Awda hospital through 2015 are as follows:

1. Endoscopic Surgeries, as follows:
   a. 81 cases of ERCP surgeries.
   b. 457 cases of laparoscopic cholecystectomy
   c. 32 cases of interventional endoscopy in urinary tract
   d. 32 cases of Advanced diagnostic and therapeutic Obs. & Gyn. surgeries.

2. Introducing new operations such as:
   e. Prostatic Biopsy without surgery.
   f. Microsurgical Testicular Sperm Extraction (Micro-TESE).
   g. Management of varicocele by sclerotic agents (varico-sclerosis).
   h. Sex Determination (Ambiguous Geuitala).
Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs)
Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs):

UHWC PHCCs provide primary health services alongside with community services throughout UHWC five PHCCs as follows:

1. Al Quds Health and Community Center – Biet Hanoun
2. Al Luhiedan Health and Community Center – Jabalia
3. Al Awda Specialist Health Center – Gaza
4. Al khayria Health and Community Center – Al Nussierat
5. Al Awda Health center - Rafah

The total beneficiaries of UHWC PHCCs through the year 2015 reached 190,156 beneficiaries, the charts below illustrates the no. of beneficiaries in each center:

- Luhiedan Health Center: 59,383
- Al Khayria Health Center: 18,192
- Al Quds Health Center: 17,901
- Al Awda Specialized Health Center: 30,542
- Al Awda Health Center: 64,138

Total: 190,156

The most significant achievements for PHCCs through the year 2015:

1. Moving Al Awda Specialist Health Center to a new building in Al Maqousi area, reflected positively in the work flow of the center, where the center was able to provide services to much more beneficiaries.
3. Start working on establishing operation room at Al Awda Health center in Rafah.
Health and Community Awareness:


2. Holding 75 health awareness session highlighting several issues and aiming at raising the community awareness of disease and how to prevent them, such as: First Aid, Breast Feeding, Chronic Diseases, Home incidents, early detection of diseases, Parasites prevention and treatment methods, personal hygiene and Communicable Diseases, Pregnant Nutrition, Heparin shots and its uses, Breast Cancer, Reproductive Health, Enuresis, Anemia, Meningitis, Hepatitis.

3. Conducting 711 workshops about technical and Administrative topics.

4. Organizing 1269 workshops about psychological support for children and their mothers.

5. Visiting 45 of the surrounding schools around UHWC PHCCs and Al Awda Hospital, and providing them with training courses, educational session for the students and their parents.

6. Printing and distributing health awareness brochures to the local community.


8. Implementing 344 community activities through the cultural centers represented by artistic shows at civil society institutions, open days, and commemorating several national and social events.

9. Reproductive health program (Antenatal and Postnatal Care, psycho-social support to pregnant women during pregnancy and after giving birth, legal consultation).

10. Psychological support to children though the implemented project funded by the Spanish organization CREART, aiming at psychological debriefing to children using art (Art Therapy).
11. Diabetic program that is aiming at providing a one station treatment for diabetics, through which the patient is provided with a comprehensive health services through specialized units, as follows:

- Internal Medicine and diabetic Clinic.
- Specialized Ophthalmology Clinic.
- Therapeutic Nutrition Clinic.
- Foot Care Clinic.
- Equipped Laboratory.

Additionally, trained health educators provided lectures, awareness sessions regularly to raise the diabetics, awareness and their relatives and to provide them with correct health tips.
Cultural Centers
Cultural Centers:

Throughout the four cultural centers affiliated to UHWC along Gaza Strip, Cultural and community services were provided aiming at enhancing the comprehensive health definition through active learning techniques, the centers are:

1. Al Quds Cultural center for Children and Adolescents – Biet Hanoun.
3. Al Khayria Cultural Center for Children and Adolescents – Al Nussierat.

The below chart shows the No. of beneficiaries from the cultural centers through 2015:
Projects
Through the year 2015, many development and emergency projects were implemented to meet the current situation and beneficiaries’ needs in the Palestinian society especially (woman and child). The charts below show the No. of projects implemented:

**Projects that have been implemented through 2015**

- 12 projects continued its implementation in 2015
- 13 Projects were implemented in 2015
- 32 project proposals were submitted

**Implemented Projects during the year 2015:**

1. Providing Safe, Confidential, life-saving multi-sectarian prevention and response services to GBV in the most vulnerable areas of Gaza Strip, funded by AECID through APS.

2. Installing of the elevator to the new building of Al Awda Specialist Day Care Center – Gaza City, funded by Moroccan Palestinian Solidarity Association.

3. Healing through playing and reading, funded through MECA.

4. Building the capacity of UHWC through Strategic plan, funded by M3M

5. Support in medicines and medical supplies to ensure emergency and obstetric medical services in the North of Gaza, funded by Municipality of Fuenlabrada (Madrid) through Paz Con Dignidad.

6. Establishing Health Day Care Unit at Al Awda Health Centre – Rafah-Southern Gaza Strip – (OPT)” funded by (Bizkaia) Through (Paz Con Dignidad )
7. Supporting Children through reading and writing activities at Rachael Corrie Cultural Center Library, funded by MECA.

8. Enhancing vulnerable communities to Emergency Services in the Gaza Strip during crisis through UHWC facilities, funded through OCHA/Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF).


10. Eliminating financial burdens of the needy patients at Al Awda Hospital, funded by World Vision.

11. Improving Obstetrics, Gynecology and endoscopic services at Al Awda Hospital, funded by VASCO through PAZ.

12. Promoting postnatal health services for mothers and newborns in the northern area of Gaza Strip – state of Palestine, funded by UNICEF.

13. Comprehensive Protection Response for women at risk and survivors of GBV in the most vulnerable communities of the Gaza Strip, funded by AECID through APS.
Benificaries from projects started in 2014 and continued in 2015

Benificaries from implemnted Projects in 2015
Throughout the year 2015, 19 visiting delegation visited UHWC varied between Medical delegations, delegations to follow up implemented projects, and for networking with UHWC. Therefore, UHWC didn’t receive any solidarity delegations due to the imposed Israeli Siege on Gaza Strip and the closure of borders.

The most significant achievements for the year 2015 are as follows:

1. Reactivation of the Needy Patient Support Fund to help the needy and poor patients to pay the fees of the services provided at Al Awda Hospital, especially the cost of the surgical operations in general and the specialized surgical operations that are not available at the Ministry of Health hospitals in particular, in addition to the maternity, emergency and supportive (Laboratory and Radiology) services, knowing that the cost of these services are less that their cost price.

Throughout the Fund, we were able to support 649 needy patients during the period from July- December 2015, and to cover the fees of the surgical operations besides providing partially or totally treatment, all are shown in the following column chart:

**Services provided to needy patient through Needy Patient Support Fund between July - De. 2015**
2. International Campaign “We Hear You”, which was launched by Prof. Norman Finkelstein, in cooperation with Byline website during July – August 2015, aiming at raising fund to Al Awda hospital to improve its provided services.

3. Producing 59 Audio-Visual reports, about UHWC and its implemented activities, in addition to the cooperation between UHWC and media channels, radios, media agencies and different local newspapers to cover UHWC activities.

4. Bringing the Australian Medical delegation in his 10th mission to Gaza Strip, to conduct complicated pediatric urological surgical operations at Al Awda hospital, where they screened 200 children and conducted 36 complicated surgical operations, besides providing in-services training to the local medical staff inside the operations room at Al Awda hospital.

5. Renew the contract with UNRWA to buy:
   - Hospital maternity, surgical services, and Mammography services, to the female refugees in northern area of Gaza Strip.
   - Endoscopic services to all UNRWA registered refugees along the Gaza Strip.
   - UHWC medical services for summer games project.

6. Visiting a lot of local and regional organizations for networking and submitting projects proposals and start joint cooperation, such as: Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Al Watan Voice media Agency, Al Quds Bank, Islamic Relief, World Vision, Jawwal, PalTel Group, Arab Medical Union, Emirates Red Crescent, Qatar Red Crescent.

7. Starting a campaign with cooperation with Al Watan Voice and the social media (Facebook) to market the services of Al Awda hospital and UHWC affiliated PHCCs.

8. Signing a contract with many community organizations and Unions to provide health services to its members with charitable prices, such as:
   - Culture and Free Thought Association (CFTA).
   - Palestinian Football Association.
   - Some Unions: Palestinian Bar Association, Union of Hair Dressing.
• Al Aqsa Broadcasting Channel.
• Residents of Al Redwan building.

9. Cooperate with Human Recourse development of Ministry of Health (MoH) to train the fresh graduates at UHWC affiliated PHCCs.

10. Cooperate with Islamic Relief and Al Fakhoura program to receive job creation workers inside UHWC affiliated PHCCs.

11. Continue the cooperation with many universities and education institutions to train students from:
• Islamic University.
• Al Quds Open University.
• Al Azhar University.
• Al Aqsa University.
• Palestine University.
• University College of Applied Science.
• Palestine Polytechnic University.

12. Continue representing UHWC in a lot of local coalitions such as: Amal Coalition to combat violence against women and Hemaya Coalition which is a jointly coalition between PNGO woman sector and PNGO rehabilitation sector.
UHWC procurement is responsible for implementing purchase orders to all UHWC centers and departments, either it is within the implemented/ donated projects budgets or from UHWC budget. The following column charts illustrates numbers of tenders and offer prices that have been done during 2015:

**No. of UHWC Offer Prices through 2015**

- Procurement through offer prices: 50
- Offer Prices from UHWC Budget: 51
- Offer Prices from Projects: 35

**UHWC Tenders throughout 2015**

- Projects tenders: 21
- Tenders from UHWC budget: 11
Supportive Services:
UHWC is providing the following services:

1. Supply and Warehouse.
2. Information and Technology- IT.
3. Ambulance and Transportation.
5. Laundry.
6. Kitchen
7. Oxygen Station.

Technical Development:

1. Inauguration of Al Awda Health Specialist center and Administrative Office of UHWC in Gaza.
2. Equipping Al Awda Health Specialist Center - Gaza and Al Awda Health center in Rafah with new Dental Units, and developing dental clinics in the other UHWC PHCCs.
3. Providing Al Awda Hospital- Jabalia, and Al Awda Health center in Rafah with Computer Radiology (CR) Unit, and re-functioning of X-Ray device at Al Khayria Health center – Al Nussierat.
4. Updating the Ultrasound devices at UHWC PHCCs, and providing the PHCCs with up-to-date equipments such as: Patient Monitors and ECGs.
5. Rehabilitation of Emergency Department at Al Awda Hospital, and equipping it with necessary medical equipments.
6. Replacing the old elevators of Al Awda hospital with new ones.
7. Developing the Emergency Rooms at five UHWC PHCCs through providing them with needed medical equipments and instruments to better deal with casualties during times of crisis.
8. Providing Ambulances and Transportation Unit at Al Awda Hospital with ICU Ambulance.

**Administrative Development:**

1. Building the Capacity of UHWC Doctors and Nurses, through the following training courses:
   b. Advanced Trauma Life Support, within the project that is funded by VASCO through Paz Con Dignidad.
   d. Newborn Care Protocol.
   e. Principles of Nursing.
   f. Clinical Supervision to Maternity Department.
   g. “Post-Natal Health Care for Mothers and Newborns” training targeting 15 of Doctors and Nurses within the project “ Promoting postnatal health services for mothers and newborns in the northern area of Gaza Strip – state of Palestine” that is funded by UNICEF.
   h. Training in “Obstetrical and Neonatal Emergencies Guideline and Protocols” within the project” Improving Obstetrics, Gynecology and endoscopic services At Al Awda Hospital”, funded by VASCO through PAZ.

3. Training 10 social workers within the implemented project “Psychosocial Support through Art” in all 5 UHWC cultural centers on the psychological interventions in times of crisis.

4. Training the APS project team on Case Management and Case Management & Caring of Child Survivors, which was implemented by NRC through APS.

5. Training 16 facilitator within the project “Strong Social Movement for the right to health” on facilitation skills, moderate meetings, local community analysis, design and implement the intervention projects” Community Initiatives”, advocacy, and how to use the social media to promote health community related issues.

6. Implementing 8 technical support meetings to facilitators within the project “Strong Social Movement for the right to health” to link the gained concepts and knowledge from trainings with practices.

7. Training 60 volunteers from cultural centers on Training of Facilitators in Educational, psychological and social aspects.
Challenges and Obstacles:

1. Israeli Occupation and the imposed siege on the Gaza Strip since 2006, that resulted in:
   - Banning or delaying the entry of some of the medical equipments, medications, disposables that are needed to develop the provision of services at UHWC.
   - Banning or delaying the entry of needed spare parts to the functioning of the medical equipments at UHWC.
   - Shortage of the needed amount of fuel to run the electrical generators at Al Awda Hospital and UHWC PHCCs, due to power cut for long hours reaching 20 hours per day, which might resulting in threatening lives of patients.

2. Closure of borders and crossings, resulted in:
   - Inability of UHWC medical staff to travel outside Gaza Strip for trainings and attending scientific conferences.
   - Decreasing in number of the visiting medical and solidarity delegations to UHWC.
   - Bad economic situation on the Gaza strip and its reflection on the provision of developed services.
Future Needs:

1. Building the administrative capacity of UHWC through developing the internal system and policies.
2. Building the capacity of UHWC administrative and technical staff through training program.
3. Implementing Health Information System at all UHWC facilities.
4. Improving the health services through introducing new services and equipping UHWC PHCCs with up-to-date medical equipment and securing spare parts for equipments.
5. Securing strategic backup quantities of medication and disposables.
6. Continue providing UHWC PHCCs and Al Awda Hospital with needed amount of fuel.
7. Trying to install solar cells to operate UHWC facilities, or securing needed amounts of fuel due to power cut for long hours.
8. Bringing medical delegations to conduct sophisticated surgical operations.
Union of Health Work Committees addresses

Union of Health Work Committees: Gaza, Al Maqousi – next to Civil defense
P.O.Box : 5123 - Phone no: 2895988 / 2895987 – Fax: 2895989
Email: info@uhwc.ps 
website: www.uhwc.ps
UHWC Youtube channel UHWC-GAZA UHWC Facebook: UHWC.GAZA

Al Awda hospital: Jabalia, Tal Al za’atar
Phone no: 2457678 - 2457674
fax: 2457733

Central Drug Store
Jabalia, Al za’atar – Al Awda hospital
Phone no: 2454740

Al Quds Health and Community Center
Biet Hanoun, Al Wald St.
Telefax: 2482199

Al Quds Cultural center for Children, Adolescents and Youth – Biet Hanoun
Telefax: 2488981

Al Luhiedan Health and Community Center – Jabalia
Telefax: 2485335

Al Assria Cultural Center for Children, Adolescents and Youth – Jabalia
Telefax: 2484949

Al Khayria Health and Community Nussairat, Al Herthani land
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