

Progress Report



The Karma Development Women's Center was launched on 17th September 2018 as a joint collaboration of Finding Freedom through Friendship (FFF) and Council of Social Development (CSD).

It was due to the Forix Foundation grant that KDWC was able to advertise and conduct the first four classes, 2 sewing and 2 hair styling training classes. For this we truly thank you. Your grant has positively impacted the lives of fifty women and opened the opportunity for them to gain a marketable skill.

It is important to note these women gained pride, self esteem and confidence. That has no price.

Projects

A) Beginning Sewing - 2 classes; 29 students of which 28 graduated

1. From 25th October 2018 to 28th November 2018
2. 15 days – 3 hours per day for a total of 45 hours
3. Graduation ceremony 10th December 2018

B) Beginning Hair & Facial - 2 classes; 22 students of whom ALL graduated

1. From 12th November 2018 to 27th November 2018
2. 10 days – 3 hours per day for a total of 30 hours
3. Graduation ceremony 10th December 2018

Project Leader: Joseph Ibrahim, Manager of the Karma Development Women's Center (KWDC)

Project Summary

Beginning Sewing

The student learned the basics of sewing (measuring, cutting, using a sewing machine, etc.) through designing, making products and adding finishing touches (zippers, buttons) & decorative designs. Products included utility covers, sheets, blouses, shirts, abaya (cloak), pajamas and pants.

In addition, the student was taught market skills to package and market their products.

Beginning Hair & Facial Treatment

The student learned the basics of hair styling (treatment, cutting, styling, coloring, etc.). In addition, students learned basic facial treatment such as removal of hair and eyebrow styling.

In addition, the student was taught market skills to package and market their skills.

All Students

A seminar about self-image and how to they see themselves and their personality.

Results

Beginning Sewing

The average daily attendance of the 29 participants was 86.4%.

28 participants received certificates. The one participant dropped out because she started a new job. The graduation of 96% of the participants far exceeded the 70% projection. A success story in itself.

A few participants who owned sewing machines made fan covers and even sold their products.

In summary, participants learned to:

- Operate a sewing machine, handle basic problems and sew in a straight line & a circle.
- Use a measuring tape and other tools to accurately record measurements.
- Make and cut a pattern for a variety of sizes.
- Learn about the difference of fabrics such as cotton versus chiffon.
- Produce (cut, sew & iron) a variety of marketable products like fan covers, washing machine covers, gas tube covers, sheets, cloaks, blouse, pajamas, trousers and shirts. Learn how to make adjustments and corrections.
- Add zippers, buttons, pockets and hoodies.
- Apply decorative designs and finishing touches.
- Pack and present the finished products.
- Plan for a Microbusiness and microfinance:
 - How to market products
 - Where and how to buy fabric
 - How to deal with merchants
 - Detailed explanation on types of sewing machine, their use and prices

Beginning Hair & Facial Treatment

In summary, participants learned to:

Hair Stylist

- Be familiar & use tools - scissors, hairdryer, brushes, combs, curling iron, etc.,
- Understand the types of hair
- Cut hair and create different hairstyles
- Know the types and uses of tints
- Treat hair with Keratin and protein

Makeup Application

- Learn and use tools of the trade – brushes, foundations, mascara, etc.,
- Remove hair from face and eyebrows
- Draw eyebrows

Microbusiness and Marketing

- How to market their skills
- Where and how to buy hair and facial equipment
- How to deal with merchants
- Detailed explanation of tools of the business

Staff

Marguerite Doyle	Middle East Director & CFO (USA - FFF)
Dr. Radi Iskander	Director (CSD Egypt)
Joseph Ibrahim	KDWC Manager (CSD Egypt)
Bassem Joseph	CFO (CSD Egypt)
Marian Gamal	FFF Manager (CSD Egypt)
Hani Wadeeg Nashid	Microbusiness & loans Manager (CSD Egypt)
Rania Shehata	Trainer (Hair & facial) (Egypt)
Abeer Ami Abd El Masieh	Trainer (Sewing) (Egypt)
Maria Ashref	Assistant 1 (sewing) (Egypt)
Farah Ragheb	Assistant 2 (sewing) (Egypt)
Mervat Samir	Babysitter (Egypt)

Budget

The following are the expenses for the 4 classes. All receipts have been submitted.

Expenses for 2 Sewing Classes & 2 Hair Styling Classes 28 students graduated from Basic Sewing; 17 days 22 students graduated from Hair Styling, 10 days			
Sum of \$USD	Class		
Provision & Description	Sewing	Hair	Total
Assets	\$1,484	\$416	\$1,900
(Group 1) Makeup, dryers, shampoo, dyes, curlers, brushes, etc.		\$226	\$226
(Group 2) Makeup, dryers, shampoo, dyes, curlers, brushes, etc.		\$190	\$190
Maintenance for Sewing Machines (6)	\$29		\$29
Purchased 3 sewing machines	\$1,066		\$1,066
Purchased a cutting table and chairs	\$389		\$389
Marketing	\$43		\$43
Advertising and correspondence	\$14		\$14
Photographer for 1 Day (graduation)	\$29		\$29
Material&Supplies	\$307	\$51	\$358
Class supplies (Group 1)-training booklets, pens & note pads	\$82	\$29	\$110
Class supplies (Group 2)-training booklets, pens & note pads	\$71	\$23	\$94
Material (Group 1)-fabric, scissors & thread	\$75		\$75
Material (Group 2)-fabric, scissors & thread	\$79		\$79
Participant Food	\$1,122	\$738	\$1,860
Snacks for students & children (Group 1)	\$619	\$354	\$973
Snacks for students & children (Group 2)	\$503	\$384	\$887
Participant Transport	\$168	\$41	\$209
Transportation (Group 1 & 2)-for students in nearby villages	\$168		\$168
Transportation (Group 1 & 2)-for women in nearby villages		\$41	\$41
Staff Payment	\$523	\$290	\$813
Childcare for 8 Days (Group 1 & 2)	\$56	\$39	\$94
Cleaning Staff (Group 1)	\$34	\$23	\$57
Cleaning Staff (Group 2)	\$23	\$23	\$46
Hairdresser trainer (Group 1)		\$103	\$103
Hairdresser trainer (Group 2)		\$103	\$103
Sewing Trainer (Group 1)-Abeer Ami Abd El Masieh	\$149		\$149
Sewing Trainer (Group 2)- Assistant to the trainer	\$26		\$26
Sewing Trainer (Group 2)-Abeer Ami Abd El Masieh	\$149		\$149
Transportation Driver (Group 1 & 2)	\$30		\$30
Sewing Trainer (Group 1)- Assistant to the trainer	\$57		\$57
Room Rental	\$291	\$291	\$583
Room rental (Group 1)-training & nursery room	\$146	\$146	\$291
Room rental (Group 2)-training & nursery room	\$146	\$146	\$291
Total	\$3,937	\$1,828	\$5,765

Other Funding

No other funding, other than Forix was used.

Milestones Achievements - Current

The almost 100% graduation (only 1 dropped out because of a job opportunity) is a milestone. We had expected only 70%. The result can be attributed to all the elements the staff aimed at achieving. From respect of the individual, providing transportation & babysitting, ensuring a clean environment, providing snacks & drinks, selecting qualified trainers to gaining a sellable skill.

This is a success story.

Milestone - Beginning Sewing

The average daily attendance of the 29 participants was 86.4%.

A few participants, who own sewing machines, are and have made fan covers and selling their products.

Milestone - Beginning Hair & Facial Treatment

The average daily attendance of the 22 participants was 98.6%.

22 participants received certificates.

Already 77% of participants have and are using their skills on family or friends.

Approximately 20% of the graduates are seriously considering launching a microbusiness.

In fact, a couple of women have already started their own business.

Improvements for Next Training

As a team, FFF & CSD did come up with future improvements.

- To better balance the time between lectures and practical application
- Evaluate the level of experience between students. Divide the class based on those who have had prior experience to those who have not had any at all.
- Improve the communication skills between the trainer and the students.
- Few number of the sewing machines, six machines only.

Milestones - Future

- Plans are underway to schedule and offer additional marketing seminars on topics of microbusiness and microfinance.
- For participants who want to proceed with a microbusiness, CSD is offering micro finance loans.
- No later than June a meeting will be set with the participants as a follow-up.
- Gifts as tools of the sewing small project will be given to beneficiaries.

Opinion

The positive aspects of the training from the manager's point of view include:

- Interviewing the participants before the training stressed the importance of commitment. Such interviews should continue to ensure high attendance and obligation.
- The positive atmosphere of the manager, the trainer and other staff created a good spirit and respect among the participants.
- The cleanliness and preparedness of the place was key to keeping students attending.
- Drinks were available to participants and children.
- The spiritual reflection prior to start of a class added to the positive environment and the participants felt at ease in the location.

- Commitment to appointments, rules and schedule.
- There is a babysitter and a place for kids and that helped the participants to be committed and gain the most benefit from the training.
- The trainer's proficiency, commitment, knowledge, presentation style and confidence lead to the high success of the class. The comments from the participants was they admired the trainer's method of explanations and the friendly style of teaching.
- Doing the psychological meeting about self -image and how it determines one's decisions and dealing with people, it became apparent the center needs to offer more self-help sessions – sooner than later. Background: Most of the women are from small villages where there isn't NO interest to a woman's psychological well-being. Rather, since childhood their family and relatives have degraded and disrespected them with a continuous break down of self-esteem. As a result, many of these women have the feeling of deficiency, low self-respect and extremely low self-esteem.
- Finally, the center is on the fifth floor with no elevator. This was difficult to climb for most people (staff, students and children).