



WPF REPORT 2022 - 2023

**TOGETHER,
WE STAND FOR
OUR COMMUNITY**



**LEADING SUCCESSFUL
LEBANESE VISIONARIES
PROUDLY COMMITTED TO
THEIR ROOTS.**

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FOREWORD

The Year 2022 was challenging for WPF, facing dire economic threats. The Lebanese community underwent a number of serious challenges in all aspects of daily life. The dreadful period increased our determination and commitment to put up twice as much work as before, yet one more time we succeeded in delivering an effective social, humanitarian, and developmental response.

I am personally much thankful for the achievements completed to date, and that remains possible with the unlimited trust and the unconditional support the Board of Trustees surrounded me with. These were the main drives to give back beyond the job limits, contributing to the WPF mission and impact on the community.

WPF's dedicated team invested time and effort in ensuring the continuity of the services delivered to the community. Our efforts were motivated by our desire to:

- 1) Create a better and more positive future for children and youth, as we believe they are tomorrow's hope,
- 2) Ensure equal opportunities for sustainable economic growth,
- 3) Close gaps in market needs and fulfill employment opportunities,
- 4) Provide sustainable solutions to people in urgent need of improving their livelihood, thus expanding the impact of our programs and services.

Meanwhile, we continue to raise funds through the "Feed a Family" initiative, ensuring a consistent source of food for vulnerable families in a decent and respectful way while further supporting the delivery of essential medical services so that everyone in our community, regardless of their gender, age, or location, has access to adequate healthcare.

The positive drive has also been contagious, and again, our team has not spared energy, goodwill, and motivation to contribute to WPF continuous impact and success. Their unconditional engagement and dedication to the mission have made all the difference.

In these difficult times of social and economic crisis, WPF has demonstrated the importance of its presence in responding to the people's needs and aspirations with an ever-increasing network of partners, supporters, stakeholders, and philanthropists in the medical, social, education, and development sectors.

We couldn't have accomplished the positive impact we have shared in this annual report without your generous assistance.

Patricia R. Sfeir
Director



NURTURING RESILIENCE FOR GREATER COMMUNAL IMPACT

In spite of the appalling economic conditions, WPF constantly designs sustainable initiatives to strengthen the community's resilience and create better employment opportunities.

We have always held the view that empowering women and youth effectively is essential for the well-being of the society and we are researching innovative solutions for creating equitable and gender responsive programs for improving the livelihood of our community.

We owe our success to our board, thoughtful donors and partners, committed in providing a better future for our people.

A snapshot of WPF's array of interventions



Understanding that the unfolding economic and financial crisis had a profound impact on our residents at all levels and made it hard to secure even the basic necessities like access to food, healthcare, and education.

WPF perseverance and never-ending efforts were essential in taking immediate action to cope with the situation and provide effective solutions in the short and long term.

Outlining WPF achievements allows for impactful changes that contribute to the global agenda of sustainable development through the 2030 agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals.



20,000 money transfers were made during 2022, allowing more than 5,000 persons to be assisted with food and money on a monthly basis. Monthly vouchers have reduced the insecurities of 1500 families as they navigate through these difficult times.

With the active support and engagement of the Lebanese Community of Australia through the Maronite Diocese of Australia, WPF covered the financial expenses of urgent medical treatments and/or social support for 10 beneficiaries.



300 children, elders, and sick person have benefited from the distribution of pharmaceuticals and medications donated by WPF supporters' in Normandie (France) and Bahrain for continuous shipments of medical supplies.



260 Families have access to health services,
1,500 Families have direct access to food,
13,000 Students have access to digital technology,



20,000 Food vouchers are disbursed annually,
1,500 Families are protected from food insecurity,
5,000 Child are receiving stable food intake,



300 Elders, children and persons have access to infant milk, diapers and medicines,
10 Medical dispensaries received primary care tools and chronic medicines,
10 Medical patients had immediate access to urgent medical care,



54 Schools benefited from digital technology,
13,000 Student are using digital technology at school,



56 Women are trained in digital media literacy,
45 Women-led businesses were empowered with social media skills,



850 Companies partnered for economic opportunities,
7,500 Individuals are seeking support for employment,
25 Beneficiary are empowered with new skills for vocational jobs.

INSTITUTING THE HUMAN CAPITAL IN LEBANON

We believe it takes more than luck to find the right job.

WPF's Community Employment Program is investing time, energy, and resources to ensure a strong, effective connection between job seekers and employers, making sure the right person is channeled to the right job. This initiative helps break barriers, reduces market demand gaps and unemployment.

It is obvious that unemployment has become a major social issue since the crippling economic crisis in 2019. WPF flexibility, responsiveness, and adaptability played an important role in providing employment opportunities for job seekers under its Community Employment Program.

The purpose of this program is to unlock potential and build futures for job seekers throughout the network of companies that WPF built over the years. The employment intervention is not only limited to finding suitable jobs, but expands to skill enhancement training programs (TEVT & Knowledge Sharing) that are market-relevant.

Continuous communication on social media has increased our followers, and mostly job seekers while the efforts of the team have allowed for a three-fold increase in the number of companies we are partnering.

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM IN NUMBERS - 2022

7500 
CANDIDATES
ARE SERVED BY OUR TEAM

820 
COMPANIES
BENEFITED FROM RECRUITMENT SERVICES

150 
PERSONS
BENEFITED FROM ENGLISH COURSES

15 
JOB CATEGORIES
WPF SERVED

8000 
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
PROVIDED

125 
JOB POSITIONS
SERVED IN 2022

400 
CANDIDATES
ATTENDED ONLINE KNOWLEDGE SHARING SESSIONS

MANAGED 290 
JOB POSITIONS
IN THE PRIVATE SECTORS

250 
SUSTAINABLE JOBS
ARE SECURED FOR CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

FINANCIAL SUPPORT, FOOD SECURITY & RESPONSE TO BASIC NEEDS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE FAMILIES

The depreciation of the Lebanese currency has further deteriorated during 2022, drowning more families below the poverty line without access to an adequate standard of living. The economic crisis and the increasing level of inflation led to the loss of employment opportunities and other income related activities, especially among young families with kids, marginalized communities, and people living in remote areas.

Responding to the pressing need to secure stable access to food, WPF doubled its efforts through the “Feed a Family” program, adopting 1,500 families and providing them the possibility to meet their most urgent needs in a secure and stable way while maintaining dignity and privacy in difficult circumstances.

The Feed a Family initiative, launched in 2020 for a 6 months-time period is now operating for three complete years. Through the continuous support of our faithful Trustees and friends in Australia and other parts of the world, WPF is continuously assisting these families in dire economic conditions with the aim of reducing malnutrition and food insufficiency by issuing monthly prepaid cards for supermarket use.

Young families have now access to stable food intake and their children are protected from alarming food insecurity, while allowing them to diversify their shopping experience for an equilibrated and healthy diet in a decent and respectful way.

WPF continuously evaluates and monitors the social and financial evolution of each beneficiary to the benefit of other deprived and underprivileged families in need based on the same selection criteria.

To date, our initiative has depleted 1,350,000 USD for a total of 60,000 vouchers.



HEALTHCARE ASSISTANCE AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MEDICATION

Our initiative is a comprehensive response to the healthcare crisis our country is witnessing and that is severely affecting the lives of vulnerable civilians. These are threatened by the inability to access basic medical needs, such as urgent medical interventions and supplies. Through a network of supporters, WPF was able to provide an immediate response and secure access to essential medical care for the crisis-affected people.

WPF supported nine dispensaries in remote villages with medical supplies for primary health care and more than 300 patients who were financially struggling and in need of chronic medicines, diapers, and infant milk.

The main challenge remains the regular flow of shipping to guarantee a stable supply among remote communities.

In addition to the above, His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, Maronite Bishop of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania has channeled the necessary funds to cover eight striking medical emergencies amounting to 15,000 USD. Without his heartfelt contribution, these cases would have lost their lives.



DELIVERING QUALITY AND EQUITABLE EDUCATION FOR ALL.

The Ethan Group Initiative: "LAPTOPS FOR EDUCATION IN LEBANON" was launched by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, Maronite Bishop of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania during BSEF 2021 and allows access to 50,000 laptops for education. The first shipments allowed for the distribution of laptops to more than 54 schools enabling them to benefit from digital technology and stand on their own, particularly in remote areas.



MAHER, THE ULTIMATE TOOL FOR ADVANCING ECONOMIC GROWTH

Improving access to greater opportunities for Lebanon's youth is crucial. We developed MAHER program with the assistance of "Ecole des Arts et des Métiers" Dekwaneh, in an effort to deliver fast-learning vocational training that would enable youth to overcome financial obstacles and effect long-lasting change.

As inflation and the economic crisis further deepen challenges across the country, WPF is faithful in its commitment to creating new possibilities alongside the communities we serve and our partners. Actually, the job market has undergone severe changes in demands allowing for the emergence of new handy jobs emulating the gaps in the market.

In 2022, our staff has come together to support youth employment and create lasting changes through technical, vocational and educational training offering fast and targeted innovative solutions to promote sustainable employment and entrepreneurship. Training sessions of 150 hours are enough to ensure access to new skills and new jobs in high demand.

The MAHER training allowed more than 25 persons to acquire new skills and new jobs. Photovoltaics design and maintenance is a much in demand job allowing our trainees to access decent work and improve the livelihood of their respective families.



HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF INNOVATIVE SKILLS

The need to provide access to scholarships for individuals seeking learning opportunities for fast jobs. These allowed for the allocation of 50 scholarships to interested candidates at WPF through four targeted categories of free learning. These are project management, cybersecurity, analytical skills, etc.

Women were also indulged in digital literacy in attempts to create opportunities focused on new emerging market trends.

Together with new partners, WPF has designed focused and targeted training allowing knowledge sharing in topics of primary concern such as “make it or break it on social media” & “landing your dream job” etc.

A GLANCE TO 2023

WPF dedicates limitless resources to empower women and youth in many ways and most importantly in digital media literacy.

Training and capacity building sessions are implemented for women and youth in response to the job demands we serve.

Important consideration is given to boosting women entrepreneurs and women in municipalities in community management using social media.



TOGETHER WE POWER POSSIBILITIES

We are excited to share with you the difference we made in the lives of people during 2022. The way effective change is made possible relates greatly to the dedication of the team to empowering those around us.

We are all united and engaged in serving a shared goal of improving the livelihood of our communities for a better world with the great support of supporters, partners, and stakeholders.



LENA
HOUSEWIFE

FROM CRISIS TO RECOVERY

WPF has supported me during the most difficult time of my life. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle and giving my kids the necessities was extremely challenging due to the rise in inflation and the decline in my husband's monthly salary. The monthly supermarket voucher allowed me to buy like any other customer, mainly groceries and cheese for my children.



FRANCOIS
PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM
DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE

CONNECTING PEOPLE AND OPPORTUNITY

I needed to generate income and nourish my children. Photovoltaics are the main economic attraction these days due to the high demand in the market. For someone not involved in electrical systems, diving in designing photovoltaic systems for households becomes a difficult yet risky endeavor. The training with WPF gave me the chance to learn the necessary skills and be able to start working on design & maintenance of photovoltaics, engaging in co-working with my friends in MAHER sessions & we made it! All together, we can move mountains and we planted Photovoltaics.



ROUKOZ
ACCOUNTANT

BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS

I lost my job and my business as a result of the multiple crises witnessed in Lebanon. I was able to connect with the WPF Career Newsletter and postings that helped me find a new job with a good salary and secure a better future for my family.



WPF CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

We are forever grateful to our wonderful community of partners. From education to healthcare, capacity building, employment, and livelihood, our network influences many facets of our work. This network of partners strengthens our impact and enables us to successfully reach out to a larger segment of the local community.

Our significant achievements and development as a Foundation this year could not have been possible without your commitment and determination to ensure the welfare and livelihood of the Lebanese community.

WE WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE HOW APPRECIATIVE WE ARE FOR THE PARTNERSHIPS WE HAD IN 2022



ECOLE DES ARTS ET DES METIERS-DEKWANEH

The support, dedication, and commitment of the Ecole des Arts et des Metiers helped us shape and create a better future for our youth. Focused and specialized trainings were provided by the team of experts and professionals that allowed for enhanced skills in many fields for Lebanon's most vulnerable citizens, especially in terms of emerging market trends and the shift towards innovative market solutions.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (AUST)

Our partnership with the American University of Science and Technology (AUST), helped us provide free access to essential trainings in computer literacy and the English language. Candidates got the opportunity to earn an internationally recognized Microsoft Certification as well as a Michigan Competency English test. Through this partnership, WPF is able to respond to the emerging need to improve the beneficiaries chances of accessing more competitive and rewarding jobs.



THE MARONITE EPARCHY OF AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND OCEANIA OF AUSTRALIA

Under the leadership of His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, many initiatives were created to improve the livelihood of families in Lebanon. HE mobilized efforts, energy and resources to meet the overwhelming needs, from food subsistence, to shelter, medical support and access to education.



ETHAN GROUP

A global company established in Australia twenty years ago by a visionary man called Tony Geagea and engaged in Information and Technology services worldwide. His engagement with Lebanon and its people has led him to commit to education by providing every single child of limited family income with a computer.



ANLCCI
Australie | New Zealand | Lebanon
Chamber of Commerce and Industry

AUSTRALIAN, NEW ZEALAND LEBANESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The women's group of the ALCCI partnered with WPF for the organization of an International conference dedicated to Lebanese Women achievers around the World. The event was celebrated worldwide on the occasion of Women's Day. Speakers have contributed with their lifetime experiences and successes during the DARE TO DREAM Conference.



ROTARY NORMANDIE

A cluster of 12 Rotarian Clubs from Normandie France, joined efforts to support the Lebanese community. Their dedication to WPF mission has driven them to channel premium health care medications, infant milk, and diapers for elders.

CONCLUSION

2022 is a turning point for WPF, bringing to the forefront an active yet engaging plan to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and serve the Agenda 2030 main development objectives.

WPF differentiated itself among other philanthropic entities, keen on showing a decent image of our society, engaged in programs that ensure access to equal opportunities in employment and education, respect individual rights and gender diversity in its activities, contribute to the eradication of poverty and recognize the right to education, to health care and social protection.

WPF implemented a strategy that focused on reducing hunger and poverty while securing quality education and ensuring gender equality and economic growth.

Women youth and children are in the heart of our programs and actively contribute to improving the livelihood of our communities. They actively take part in co-creating innovative opportunities that boost their economic well-being, notably digital learning solutions.

WPF commits to further nurturing development knocking down barriers and addressing basic needs such as food, health, and education, exerting utmost efforts to actively reduce poverty and inequality, and helping improve their lives for a more just, equitable and better Lebanon.

This is the way WPF is contributing to serving the UN SDGs.





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