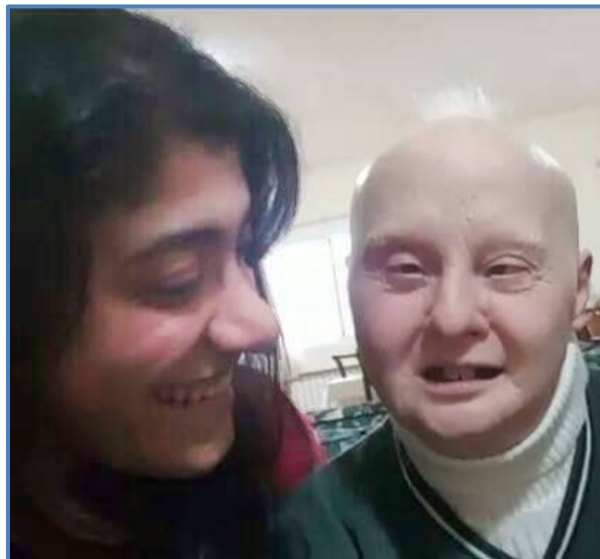




*Every abandoned person with intellectual disability
to have a home with helpers to witness together
the acceptance of the other.*

A Home for People Having Intellectual Disability



Baitna Bldg., Father Afif Osseiran Street, Fanar
Tel ; 01-695526 ; 03-001617 info@baitna.org www.baitna.org

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Document purpose

Every abandoned adult with intellectual disability has the right to have a decent life and home. *Baitna* is a HOME for impoverished adults having mild or moderate intellectual disability, particularly abandoned orphans.



Raising a child with an intellectual disability is more than a full-time job; it is a life of continuous sacrifices, stress and anxiety and in many cases loneliness and depression. With time, parents learn to cope with the daily emotional and physical demands of caring for an individual with a disability.

Unfortunately, after them siblings or other parents are not able to cope with their demands.

This document sets out the action of *Baitna* NGO to cater for the development of a community of less privileged adults with intellectual disability where helpers live with them a life of service and loving care, making the helpers witnesses in society for accepting others despite their differences. The document provides details about the present situation and the required actions to complete its project.

At *Baitna* our main concern is to guarantee a constructive social inclusion for our residents and we are working to ensure sustainability and self-sufficiency through productive projects and events to secure and protect them.

1.2 Background

Baitna was founded by a group of volunteers who regularly meet persons with intellectual disability to share their friendship, work and play together, and celebrate life. Based on their experience, especially with those having aging parents, the founders felt there was a need to take care of these persons in a dedicated home after the passing away of their parents, creating a real living community. When asked about their main worry, parents of children with a disability almost unanimously answer: **“What will happen to my child when I am gone?”** It becomes a torturing concern that adds to their daily challenges. A number of parents go even further and say out loud that their only wish is to see their child pass away



just before or at the same time as them. This is where *Baitna* can contribute to society by ensuring a decent life for these persons. *Baitna* is run by an executive board of committed volunteers in social work and supported by well-known figures in the community.

2. WHO WE ARE

Baitna is a Private Voluntary Organization registered in Lebanon under number 366/AD dated 27 July 2006 (Appendix A - Registration certificate). Its aim is to provide across the country homes for impoverished adults with intellectual disability, particularly abandoned orphans irrespective of family background or religion, with the objective of welcoming them for free in a family atmosphere.

In *Baitna*, residents with intellectual disability are taken care of by committed helpers who share with them life and daytime activities in homes having family-like settings that are integrated into local neighborhoods. Our work embraces not only meeting their basic needs for proper food and clothing, but also meeting their multiple spiritual, psychological and physical essentials and wishes: medical follow-ups and care, comfort and productive activities for their well-being. Activities include household responsibilities, productive work in the workshops, entertainment and events. We thus seek to provide an environment where these persons can explore their potential, lead lives rich in relationships of mutuality, and have a valid place in society.

3. THE FANAR PROJECT

3.1 History

Baitna launched in 2010 a construction project of a 5-story building in Fanar designed to accommodate more than 60 people between persons with intellectual disability and helpers. The ground floor is reserved for reception, recreational areas, catering kitchen and a sales outlet. The other four floors were initially planned to accommodate 4 communities composed of 10 to 12 residents and 5 helpers each. However, we are reviewing this concept by dedicating one floor to a youth hostel to accommodate college students, thus ensuring a



regular income to sustain the homes. This will also encourage young persons to engage in social work by their contact with the operation of the homes for the intellectually disabled.

The land with an area of 1965 m² (21,500 ft²) in the Fanar sector (eastern suburb of Beirut), was graciously put at our disposal by the Maronite Diocese of Beirut.

The building is divided into two inter-connected wings, one wing to accommodate the residents and the other wing designed for activities: workshops, conference room, infirmary, management premises and other facilities. An equivalent number of non-residents can also benefit from the facilities during daytime.

3.2 Where we stand

- **Ground floor:** The ground floor accommodates at present a multipurpose reception area, a handicraft workshop, the catering kitchen and a sales shop.
- **First floor:** The first floor was inaugurated in October 2014 and accommodates at present 10 residents with intellectual disability and 5 helpers. It also contains management offices. We setup workshops (handicrafts and agriculture) to ensure that our community is kept busy and active, which will contribute to their wellbeing and develop their capacities. This will help also in generating income through selling their products.
- **Second floor:** Interior finishing of the residential wing was completed in late 2021 and now it accommodates 9 residents and 5 helpers. The activity wing of this floor is also ready to accommodate helpers and to welcome international volunteers.

3.3 Catering kitchen

In November 2017, we opened the Pastries section of the catering kitchen to provide revenue that helps with the expenses of our community. The pastry section is popular for its



quality products. An experienced personnel is running the kitchen with the help of volunteers, and our community members with intellectual disability assist according to their capacities. The kitchen sells to the public and covers events such as weddings, birthdays, parties, etc.

In October 2021 we equipped the savory food section. This allows us to propose, besides social events, daily dishes and finger food service for schools and businesses located in our area. This is a major step towards reaching sustainability and self-sufficiency.

3.4 Agriculture activity

Besides the garden adjacent to the first floor where the residents take care of seasonal vegetables, we have started a hydroponics project in June 2022 on the roof of our building. It occupies an area 160 sq. m. and specializes in cultivating aromatic plants. The Lebanese climate is well adapted to have a high quality product. The harvest is being distributed to restaurants by specialized companies.



3.5 Fittings

The electrical power situation in Lebanon is deplorable. The public utility “Electricité du Liban” provides power for hardly two hours per day. The rest of the time users depend on a local provider at a high cost. In order to reduce this big overhead, we have installed a solar power system for the homes and for the catering kitchen.

4. MAJOR OUTSTANDING PROJECTS

- Fitting out the third floor to be able to accept the mounting demand.
- Fitting out the fourth floor as a Youth Hostel and a Respite Care center thus ensuring a regular income to sustain the homes. The youth hostel will also encourage young persons to engage in social work by their contact with the operation of the homes for the intellectually disabled.

5. FINANCIAL STATUS

The total cost of the project is estimated at USD 2.27 million, excluding the land. Total expenses till December 2021 amount to USD 1.82 million against a revenue of USD 1.84 from donations, events and the sale of our products. (Appendix C, Financial Situation)

Our accounts are audited by “Asmar for Financial Consulting and Auditing”.


6. PARTNERSHIPS

Baitna is working on two strategic partnerships:

- National level with the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- International level with the International NGO “L’ARCH”.

These partnerships will ensure sustainable continuity as well as a solid official and international recognition.

7. CONTACT US

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	www.facebook.com/baitna.org
	www.instagram.com/Baitnafanar
	+961 1 69 55 26 / +961 3 00 16 17

8. HOW TO MAKE A DONATION

CREDIT LIBANAIS	BAITNA ACCOUNT
Bank	Credit Libanais S.A.L
Branch	Jdeideh, Branch Number 39
Telephone	00 961 1871245 - 00 961 1898065
Email	info@creditlibanais.com.lb
Customer Name	BAITNA
Currency	USD
IBAN	LB29 0053 001R USD0 0394 6090 8008
Swift Code	CLIBLBBX

Appendix A: Registration Certificate

الجمهورية اللبنانية
وزارة الداخلية والبلديات
المديرية العامة
للشؤون السياسية واللاجئين

بيان علم وخبر رقم ٢٦٦/أد
بتأسيس جمعية بأسم: " بيتنا "
مركزها: بيروت

ان وزير الداخلية والبلديات

بناء على المرسوم رقم ١٤٩٥٣ تاريخ ١٩/٧/٢٠٠٥ (تشكيل الحكومة) والمرسوم
رقم ١٤٩٥٤ تاريخ ٢٩/٧/٢٠٠٥ (تعيين وزراء بالوكالة عند غياب الوزراء
الاصليين)
بناء على قانون الجمعيات الصادر في ٣ آب ١٩٠٩ ولا سيما المادة السادسة منه
بناء على التعميم رقم ١٠/م/٢٠٠٦ تاريخ ١٩/٥/٢٠٠٦
بناء على الاعلام المقدم الى وزارة الداخلية والبلديات من مؤسسي الجمعية المسماة:
" بيتنا " والمسجل لدى المديرية الادارية المشتركة برقم ٢١٩١٣
تاريخ ٣٠/١١/٢٠٠٥
بناء على اقتراح مدير عام الشؤون السياسية واللاجئين بالتكليف

بقر ما يأتي

المادة الاولى: أخذت وزارة الداخلية والبلديات علما بتأسيس الجمعية المسماة: " بيتنا "

مركزها: بيروت - المزرعة - شارع المتحف - ملك رامز وكميل سلامة -
عقار رقم ٤٤٢٠ - الطابق الارضي.

غايتها: - العمل على تأمين مراكز تهتم بالاشخاص المعاقين عقليا، وتسعى
لاظهار مواهبهم، وتأمين الدنى متطلباتهم، واعطائهم دورهم في
المجتمع، وتنمية الكفاءات الانسانية لديهم.
على ان يطبق ما ذكر اعلاه وفقا للقوانين والانظمة المرعية
الاجراء وبعد موافقة المراجع المختصة .

المؤسسون السادة:

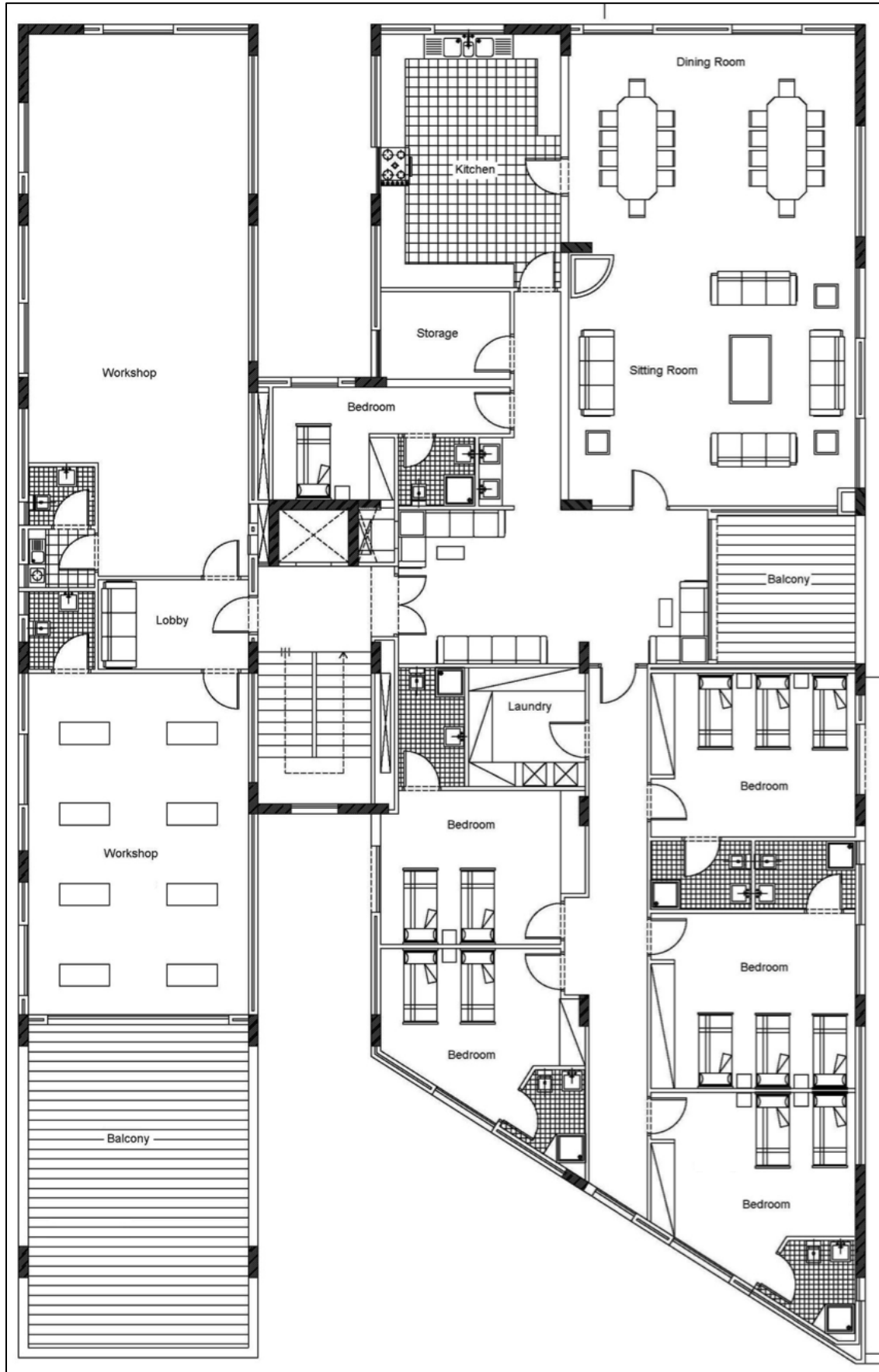
انطوان بطرس فزحيا عون
ميراي الياس فيد
نهاد الياس الفزري
ماري شنتال انطوان زعيب

كريستيان ايلي حنا
لوريس حنا ليشع
يوسف بولس سلامه
ناجي انطوان شلالا
نهر اوكيم عبد الله الحاج بطرس

حسنا

٠/٢

Appendix B: Plan of a typical floor



Appendix C: Financial Situation (July 2010 to 31 December 2021)

C1. Expenses - Dec 2021

Description	Amount (US\$)
Construction	1,267,800
Running expenses of Bait Daoud	260,200
Workshop Equipment and running expenses	162,500
Kitchen equipment and running expenses	112,700
Purchase of Mini-bus	17,000
Total costs to-date	1,820,200

C2. Revenue

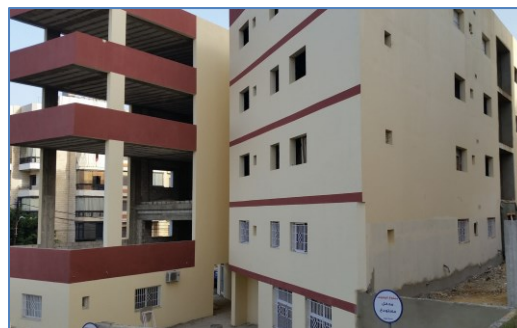
Description	Amount (US\$)
Donations (in money and in kind)	1,464,400
Revenue from events	223,600
Revenue from products	156,400
Total revenue to-date	1,844,700



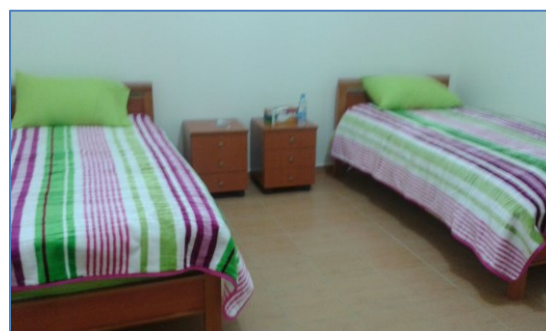
Appendix D: Site Photos



December 2010 - The Foundations



March 2013 – External Surfaces



October 2015 – Inauguration of “Bait Daoud”



October 2015 – The Workshops



November 2017 - Our kitchen products



October 2022 – Inauguration of “Bait Youssef”