



The Learning Center for the Deaf (LCD)

Baabda – Lebanon



A good start in life for the Deaf...for a better future

The Annual Report 2014

Prepared by Hussein Ismail, Ed.D.
Director



Mission Statement

The LCD is non-profit Charitable Service Organization, non-secretarian, and non-governmental Association established to promote, facilitate, and empower Deaf men and women through education throughout Lebanon.



Motto of the LCD

“Do for others as you would like them to do for you”
Matthew 7:12 & Luke 6:31

The Annual Report 2014

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1. The Mission Statement of the LCD

Purpose and mission of the LCD

The purpose of the “Learning Center for the Deaf” (LCD), which is a non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian association, located in Baabda, Lebanon, is to provide quality programs to respond to the urgent needs of deaf persons in Lebanon, with emphasis on education, in its broad meaning, as a tool for change and advancement of the deaf community.

The team (management and teachers) of the LCD fervently believes in the empowerment of the Deaf in general, including the family of the deaf persons, and reaches out to the world of the hearing with information that helps spread awareness about deafness and how to deal with the Deaf.

Therefore the LCD has initiated challenging services and programs which were not available in the country before, in order to complement the existing programs and provide better possibilities and opportunities for the deaf and their family members.

The LCD today presents many important services to the deaf community in relation to the Disabled Persons Law 220/2000 and advocacy, to the development of Lebanese Sign Language, and other services. These were added to the two major and unique programs which were consecutively initiated by the LCD in 2001 and 2003, being the family based Early Intervention Program and the High School Program. The High School aims at providing the deaf young people the choice of passing the official Baccalaureate (High School) exams and heading to University, like their hearing peers. The Early Intervention Program which is a rich comprehensive program prior to school-age, is a stepping stone that empowers the family and provides them the tools to surround the child with a rich environment supportive to his/her general development, with a greater emphasis on language. This stepping stone preeminently determines the quality of the future life of many Deaf children.

For the further details of the LCD’s programs and activities, please go to the website page:

www.lcd-lebanon.org

And for the continuous updated information, please visit to our Facebook page:



www.facebook.com/Learning.Center.Deaf.Lebanon

2. The Programs Offered at the LCD

To respond the needs of the Deaf, there are programs offered at the LCD, which are incorporating as follows:

1. **The Early Intervention Program (birth to six years)**, which assists families of deaf children from babyhood, to prevent delay in development and mainly language, and especially to restore the relationship between the child and parents, as well as to empower the family to provide the child a healthy, nurturing and loving environment.



Other components of the Early Intervention Program are incorporated as follows:

- a. the **Support Group** for parents of deaf children
 - b. the **Course** related to deafness for parents of deaf children
 - c. the **Integrated Nursery** for deaf and hearing children
 - d. the **Resource Room** for parents, students, and professionals
 - e. the **John Tracy Clinic sequential lessons** for parents of deaf children
2. **The High School Education for the Deaf**, which provides the only secondary program in Lebanon, and allows the deaf to have the same right to enter University of their choice, thus promoting the image of the Deaf.
 3. **The Preschool Section (3 to six years)**, which is a regular school setting from KG 1 till KG 3, in preparation to enter the first grade level. This program that has been initiated beginning of October 2014 incorporate for deaf and hearing children.
 4. **Educational Activities for the Deaf**, which designs to promote adult deaf people to learn and improve specific subject matters, such as English language and computer literacy, as well as socialization and a chance to empower the deaf. Also, Sign Language courses for all interested concerned are provided in this program.





5. **Awareness programs about deafness and deaf people**, which has as an objective to promote the image of deaf people incorporates activities through media, brochures, and books. Activities in regular nursery settings as well as activities in school and university settings (experiment, telling a story interacting with a deaf puppet and introducing a deaf adult teaching some signs) are provided.

6. **Consultation**, which provides consultations and advice for families of deaf children, as well as to deaf adults.



Sign language diplomas

3. The Basic data about the LCD

Name	The Learning Center for the Deaf (LCD)
Date established	January 2002
Legal status	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Charity Registration Number: AD 89, established 2002 with the Lebanese Government 2. Presidential Decree No.: 15798, established 2005 3. License # 2/294, 2014 (the Integrated Nursery)
Visiting address	Sacre Coeur Hospital Crossing, Presidential Palace Road, Near Evangelical Church, Brasilia – Baabda
Contact person	Hussein Ismail, Ed.D. Director
Telephone numbers	00961-5-954584 / 00961-3-700584
Fax number	00961-5-954584
E-mail address Website Facebook	lcd@lcd-lebanon.org www.lcd-lebanon.org www.facebook.com/Learning.Center.Deaf.Lebanon
Type of organization	The LCD is non-profit Charitable Service Organization, non-secretarian, and non-governmental association established to promote, facilitate, and empower Deaf men and women through education throughout Lebanon
LCD's Motto	Based on the Lord Jesus's essential statement: <i>“Do for others what you would like them to do for you”.</i> Matthew 7:12
Main areas of activity	Educational

4. The Structure of the Learning Center for the Deaf (2014)

Board of Administration	
Chairman of the Board	Ms. Caroline Haykal (deaf)
Treasurer	Ms. Najah El Hamad (deaf)
Secretary	Dr. Hussein Ismail (deaf)
Accountant	Dr. Raed Mohsen
Members of the Board	Dr. Kim Abu Shakra Mr. Habib Fawaz (deaf) Mrs. Nadine Badreddine

Staff List	
1. Director / Instructor	Dr. Hussein Ismail (deaf)
2. Head of the Early Intervention Program	Mrs. Nadine Badreddine
3. Accountant / Auditing Office	Mr. Antoine Faddoul
4. Office Manager / Secretary	Mrs. Arzeh Lteif
5. Speech Therapist / Early Interventionist	Ms. Wafa Nawar
6. Speech Therapist / Assistant EIP specialist	Ms. Diana Ghawi (left in Nov. '14)
7. Speech Therapist / Assistant EIP specialist	Ms. Christelle Mnessa
8. Domestic Helper / House Father	Mr. Elias Bou Mansour (deaf)
9. Nursery Teacher for Deaf Children	Mrs. Waddad Daher
10. Nursery Teacher	Mrs. Garine Nakour
11. Nursery Assistant-Teacher	Ms. Roupina Khandjian
12. Nursery Assistant-Teacher for Deaf Children	Mrs. Roula Jammous
13. Preschool Teacher	Mrs. Lea Naameh
14. Preschool Assistant Teacher	Mrs. Rania Al Araj
15. Preschool Assistant Teacher (deaf)	Mrs. Antoinette Ibrahim
16. Specialist/Teacher for the Deaf	Ms. Hanna Tahan
17. Cook	Mrs. Margo Khandjian
18. Biology & Maths Teacher	Mr. Mohammad Abboud
19. Socials, Arabic Literature Teacher	Mrs. Miriam Bou Antoun
20. History, Geography Teacher	Mrs. Rozana Zaklit
21. English Teacher	Ms. Dana Harb
22. Physics Teacher	Ms. Aline Cherfan
23. Chemistry Teacher	Ms. Sara Nahleh
24. P.E. Teacher	Mr. Elie Abi Rached / Mr. Ghossein

Volunteers	
24. LCD's legal advisor	Mt. Rayan Kouatly
26. Psychologist – Family Counselor	Mrs. Charlotte Khalil
27. Hearing-Aid Technician	Mr. Joseph Zeidan / Mr. H. Houry
28. House-Mother	Ms. Lea Naameh / Arzeh Nakhle (deaf)

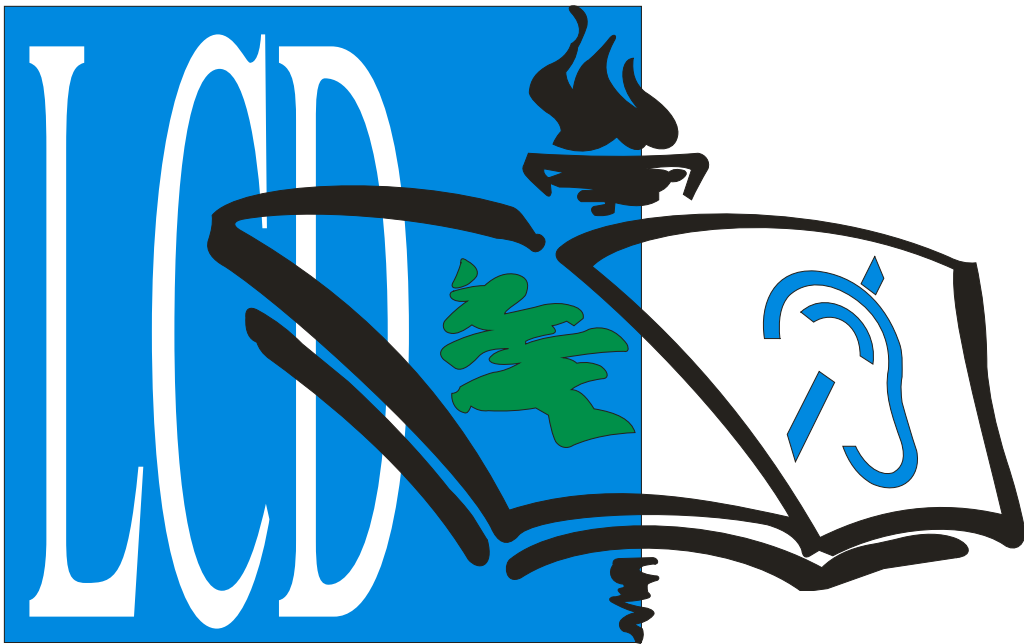
The Learning Center for the Deaf
Beirut - Lebanon

5. Statistical Data of the number of beneficiaries during the year 2014

Programs offered at the LCD	Number of Beneficiaries
Early Intervention Program	
Rehabilitation for Deaf Children with their Parents	27 (in house children) 95 approx.
The Support Group	6 - 9 families
Integrated Nursery	32
The Preschool Section	12
The Outreach Program	Unspecified
The Resource Room	Unspecified; open for all professionals
John Tracy Clinic's Correspondence Books for families of deaf children	9 families
Educational Activities for the Deaf	
Sign Language Class	14
Consultation	Over 90 families of deaf children as well as deaf adults
High School Education for the Deaf	
First Year (new class)	4 students (4 day school)
Second Year	8 students (4 boarders and 4 day school)
Third Year	8 students (4 boarders and 4 day school)
Awareness Programs about Deafness	Unspecified; National level

The Learning Center for the Deaf

Beirut – Lebanon



News & Activities of the LCD 2014

6. News of the Learning Center for the Deaf

Introduction

Greetings from the team and all the staff and trustees of the LCD.

We would like to start our report by thanking God for His presence in our lives and at the LCD.

There are many things to be thankful for, the presence of beautiful children filling the place with happiness, staff members who are becoming more and more united with a common vision based on love. We are grateful to be able to simply exist, as an independent association, in a country where people with no political or religious cover rarely exist or can continue their services.

We are thankful because we have learned to trust God for what we cannot do in our own strength.

Despite all the challenges, we have learned to be grateful for what God has enabled us to do.

Initiation of the Preschool

The initiation of the Preschool section was a dream which was tickling our thoughts for many years. It is wonderful to see this preschool being realized.



child usually pays the price for such a mistake.

The Preschool is a chance for a deaf child to have more time for observation, which helps us and especially his/her parents to check whether a regular school is for the benefit of the child, before parents rush to accept the “doctor’s advice” to enroll him/her in a regular school and discover later that it was not the right choice. This is usually discovered when the child has accumulated problems which were not revealed in the first place. Consequently, It is the

Therefore, the Preschool allows us to observe the child and protect him/her from a hasty decision since we would be discovering in good time whether it is of his/her advantage to be in a regular school, and he/she would be provided support needed to succeed. The fact that he/she also sees other deaf children in his/her class is an advantage, especially for his/her identity as a deaf person.

There are challenges such as (1) the small space of the preschool; (2) the fact that the lead teacher got pregnant at the beginning of the year; and (3) the fact of having some

challenging students in a small space, among others. But, the future is bright even if the number of children we can receive at the Preschool is currently limited to about 12 children for two grade levels, at the same time.

Our prayer is to enlarge the preschool section so that, in addition to deaf children, one or two other children with other types of challenges could be included and this would generate an income which can help support the EIP financially because many EIP families are from very poor backgrounds some of which can hardly afford the costs of reaching (transportation challenges) the LCD.

The Integrated Nursery

The Nursery teachers have made a great leap since last year which was shown during



the preparation week and still continues. During the preparation week, lectures on important aspects in education are usually given and work on the program takes place in addition to the big cleaning.

This year the teachers themselves made most of the initiatives. Nadine was only assisting in providing some learning material for the teachers and some general guidance. It is very satisfactory and joyful to see the four

teachers cooperating among each other, and with Nadine, working in harmony and with a common vision and understanding; something very hard to accomplish.

The High School Program

Despite of the financial challenges we are facing at the high school program, on October 1st, 2014, we have opened a class of three new students who are coming from different schools for the deaf. It is the first time for three years that we have three classes (10th, 11th, and 12th grades) running at the same time. Altogether we have 21 students at these three levels.



Towards the end of October 2014, a new student Sally (17) joined this new class. Before Sally came to us, she was registered at a technical school, but for some reason she was not happy there. Sally is a motivated student and is happy to be in a class with some of her old classmates.

Sally's education at the LCD is not being subsidized by the Lebanese Government, being that she is Syrian. The socioeconomic situation of her family is very humble, and therefore could not afford paying the school fees, but can only give a symbolic contribution.

We are happy having Sally with us, and we hope, likewise her friends, that she will pursue her dreams when obtaining the Baccalaureate Certificate (High School Diploma).

The Preschool: Lea

This is the second year for the preschool and happily we have 12 children in class which is the maximum number the space can take.



The first years of initiation are the most difficult usually. The challenges last year were many; this year too, but the good things happening are worth all the challenges.

Lea, a new teacher replacing Karine who is now taking care of her baby, is working extremely hard and knows about the Montessori approach almost as much as a Montessori teacher despite the fact that her major is Fine Arts and not Education.

She gives a great deal of her own time for preparation and takes her job very seriously. Experience has taught us not to get excited before any new impression is confirmed. Therefore we hope that the devotion of Lea is confirmed with

time and that she would be willing to stay at the LCD.

Lea is also sleeping at the boarding of the Girls' Dorm. She is having a special relationship with high school students and Arzeh; and she is attending the Sign Language classes. She is starting to converse in Sign Language though she has had only a few lessons so far.

The preschool children are a great combination of different nationalities, socio-economic backgrounds, and include deaf and hearing children in addition to three children who are presenting another kind of challenge.

Due to such challenges and to the fact that the responsibilities of Elias who is in charge of the cleaning are increasing, it was necessary to recruit an assistant who can help in different chores. Antoinette, a deaf lady whom Hussein knows since childhood, joined the LCD team. She is a great addition to the team with her peaceful personality, her commitment, and love for all. She is assisting the Preschool teachers and taking care of some of the cleaning.

Children's self-confidence

It is so nice to see the deaf children's self-confidence build up in the Integrated Nursery and the Preschool.

We cannot believe how much more integrated Polat is among the group, for example. He was shy to the extent of not looking at people who are addressing him. Now he goes to the teacher to tell her if any of his friends did something wrong. Though a habit we don't like to encourage, it makes us happy to see his confidence grow this much.

On the same point, he now plays with the group and has a special relationship with his deaf class-mate Adam as well as Rhea who is from the Philippines.

Hawra who is in the Nursery already has a strong personality but it has grown to the point that she controls her parents; a matter we are working on diminishing. However, Hawra is a real character. It is so nice to observe how she pays attention to everything going on around her.

Despite the fact that auditory tests and our observation of her condition, her audition shows that she should be hearing much better, in return she is giving back very little in means of speech production.

While we are investigating the reason we also know that she doesn't always want to make an effort to try; she doesn't like to be told what to do. However, it is very funny watching her trying to see how she is speaking while lowering her eye sight towards her lips and watching her lips move while speaking; a real clown.

Hawra is finally starting to advance in speaking and we hope that she continues. She is too lazy though to call the therapist and teachers by their name, she therefore calls them all "mama".

A story of one of our high school students: Nour



Nour (20) is a resident student in the high school program since October 2012. Nour is a sweet, loving, and sociable person. This scholastic year (2014-2015) she will be finishing her schooling, and will hopefully sit for the official examinations towards the end of June 2015. We are confident that she will pass all the exams with distinction.

Nour's dream is to go to a university during Sept. 2015. She was originally thinking to major in the

Physical Education field; this thought has however been recently altered as these days she is thinking seriously about becoming a veterinarian.

We are excited about her dreams, and if this is going to happen, Nour then will be the first deaf veterinarian in the Arab world. This is of course very encouraging news, and we are happy with her motivation and wish her all the best with God's blessings.

Advocacy for the Deaf

During the 2014, advocacy is taking more and more of our time.

In part we are being involved in some projects in order to protect the Deaf from any quick decisions that can be taken without giving consideration to the real needs of the Deaf, or motivated by the change we want to make for the Deaf in an area we have found important and quite beneficial.



This involvement also helps the LCD to be known to those who are in a position of decision-making and to the people working in the field of disability as well as international organizations.

Most projects the LCD is invited to participate in,

are long-term projects; some are being initiated but not completed, sometimes due to lack of follow-up and organization.

However, projects initiated by other disability organizations working on advocacy or by the LCD, may take very long time of work, before reaching any result, if successful to reach results.

Therefore we learned to be very patient and to keep trying and not give up on the important projects, until we succeed to make a tiny step forward, because any work in advocacy is on a national level at least and will endure beyond LCD.

Distribution of clothing to Syrian refugees

We are blessed that we are able to facilitate the distribution of clothing to Syrian refugees as well as to the needy people who need warm clothing during the cold winter times, through a church in Lebanon. The clothing was especially made by the Swiss ladies of the church in St. Gallen, Switzerland.

Sign language courses

During 2014, the LCD conducted several sign language courses for beginners and intermediate levels.





General Assembly Meeting

The meeting of both current Board of Directors and the members of the General Assembly's Association was held at the LCD on December 10th 2014, at 5pm.



During the meeting, Hussein explained with the aid of a power-point presentation, the usual services at the LCD (Early Intervention Program, High School, Preschool, etc.); service provisions for deaf Syrians; Community Services for High School students; as well as discussing about the financial situations (income and expenditure of the LCD during the past year). At the end of the meeting, a new board was elected.

At 6:30pm the meeting was concluded, and some members, mostly deaf, stayed on through 9:30pm for social gathering, which was an exceptional one (see photos below).

The names of the new board are indicated on page 8.

Conference on Disability

The LCD has participated in several conferences and meetings for persons with disabilities during 2014. One of the participation is indicated as follows:



A “National Conference about the Disability—Strategy for Social Inclusion”, organized by the National Association for the Rights of Disabled, was held on Wednesday December 3rd, 2014.

During the second session, Hussein gave a presentation, and Nadine did a wonderful translation from Sign

language to Arabic. Hussein discussed about some challenges deaf person in Lebanon encountered, in terms of educational, cultural, vocational and other rights for the deaf, and the needs to solve these challenges. Hussein’s recommendations were based on some of the following points:

Early Detection of Hearing Loss and the Early Intervention Program need to be

successfully provided. Hussein discussed how important this latter program is in terms of effective role of deaf child's family, at early stage possible, across different domains, as well as the perseverance of the child's identity as a deaf person. A link between a school and home settings to create a positive partnership; an depth training in the area of deafness as well as knowledge related to deaf cultures be provided to therapists, teachers, and other professionals; essential factors for success in inclusive settings, as well as providing the deaf child a right to interact with other deaf children and learn sign language; accessibility to information; and finally some ways to diminish underestimation, and provide the deaf chances to fight for themselves—empowerment.

As the result of the conference, some of the recommendations were approved, and the conference organizers indicated that the Sign Language Laboratory, funded by the Lebanese Government, will be allocated, and hopefully be implemented during 2015.

Meetings for parents

The LCD held several meetings for parents of the Integrated Nursery, Preschool and high school students during 2014. Some parents take this opportunity to individually meet with teachers of the Nursery, Preschool, and High school program to discuss about their son/daughter's educational development. A positive and learning experience.



Workshop for the Deaf



Thanks to the assistance of the Lebanese Handicapped Union, the workshop at the LCD has started, with 8 elite deaf persons, between the ages 20 and 25. The workshop is held every Monday afternoon, for 8 sessions (4 hrs each), and the purpose of it

is to empower the deaf, especially in the field of personal and vocational domains.

Syrian deaf students at the LCD

Due to Syrian refugees presence in Lebanon, the LCD accepts Syrian deaf students, for the Nursery, Preschool, Early Intervention as well as for the high school program. During 2014, we have 3 full time Syrian students, in different program, for example:

1. Sally (17) enrolled at the High School Program.
2. Polat (3) is in the preschool section, and is very happy to be there.
3. Mohammad (4) is in the Early Intervention Program.

3-day Hearing Screening Conference

The LCD has participated in a 3-day conference on the “Day 1 program” on New Born Hearing Screening.

This conference was organized by the American University of Beirut and “Beyond Silence” Association. Beyond Silence is a newly formed Lebanese Association, holding the purpose of giving awareness, and bringing to application, Early Detection of Hearing Loss and Early Intervention according to the EHDI (Early Hearing Detection and Intervention) main principles.

Nadine, a member of Beyond Silence, representing the LCD, gave a talk about the importance of the Early Intervention Program.

10th Year Anniversary of the LCD's Premises Purchase

10 years ago (2004), as the result of a successful campaign project, the LCD's premises (Building and Surrounding Garden) was bought, through the financial support of the Wilde Ganzen (Holland), and our supporting organization in Holland – AMT-NL. The fund raised for this purpose was Euro 421,200, which was a great blessing for us. Therefore, some staff members and children of the Integrated Nursery celebrated this anniversary event in the LCD's garden. The cake and juice was prepared by staff members.



High School students visited the Children's Prison in Northern Beirut

On June 11th, 19 high school students, including Hussein, and one of the teachers, visited the "Union for the Protection of Children in Lebanon", which is a prison for under 18s, as part of the high school curriculum's community services. The students had naturally some mixed feelings whilst seeing those captive children and therefore had the chance of speaking and playing with them. They first visited the director, who in turn, explained about the situations of these children, and why they are in this institution. Then they went to see classrooms, dining hall, dormitory, carpentry place, etc. It was an interesting, and an unforgettable experience.



Planting Trees Assignment

As part of the high school curriculum, after having visited the Children's Prison, on June 11th, 2014, the high school students participated in the planting of young trees among old trees in Ain Saadeh's forest, which is 30 km away from Beirut toward the Northern-Eastern side.



An evening fellowship with parents of the Integrated Nursery and Preschool children at the LCD.

Around 30 parents, as well as teachers of the Nursery and the Preschool sections, together with Nadine and Hussein joined the fellowship party which was held at the

LCD's garden in Wednesday June 4th, during the evening. The atmosphere was positive and we had the chance of showing a short film documentary of the LCD 2014 to the parents. Each one had brought from home some delicious recipes, sweet, and drink.

Natural and Historical Trip to Cedars of Lebanon and Niha Castle

On Friday May 23rd, 2014, the LCD organized a school trip with students and staff members to spend a day out in the reserve park of the Cedars of Lebanon in Maaser El Chouf and later visited the Niha Castle.



Donation from the Embassy of Australia

We were grateful that the Embassy of Australia has donated to the LCD a fund of \$ 14,861 for the installation of the woodwork project (cupboards, shelves, drawers, etc.), purchase of 3 laptop computers, video and still cameras, and a load of educational material.

The effectiveness and impact of the implemented project on deaf children are tremendous. Each staff member of the Early Intervention Program and the Integrated Nursery and Preschool are happy using this new material and equipment.

Joe, a deaf/blind child

Joe is nine years old. He started therapy at the LCD in 2007. Being deaf he also could not benefit from his sight which was very weak and became absent. At first, Joe went through very difficult times of depression but has shown great improvement in this aspect. He enjoys therapy with Wafa and loves going to his school, which is in the vicinity of the LCD.



Member of the World Federation of the Deaf

The LCD was accepted by the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) on January 23rd, 2014, to be an official Associate Member for Lebanon.

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) is an international non-governmental organisation representing and promoting approximately 70 million deaf people's human rights worldwide. The WFD is a federation of 133 nations; its mission is to promote the human rights of deaf people and full [sic], quality and equal access to all spheres of life, including self-determination, sign language, education, employment and community life. WFD has a consultative status in the United Nations and is a member of International Disability Alliance (IDA).

The Case Study of some of our Children

1. Hawra

Hawra is a sweet little girl whose family started with the Early Intervention Program at the age of 1 year 5 months. Hawra is the little girl whom you can see in the film documentary of the LCD 2014, in the Nursery, enjoying the French “Alouette” song with her friends. The LCD was not quite a familiar surrounding for Hawra’s family, coming from a strong religious background. During their first visit, we could sense hesitation on their part to whether this place is the right place for their daughter.

With time, we sensed a great change and trust on the family’s part, which was shown by the way they were happy to see us and happy to see their child enjoying the Integrated Nursery, where teachers are a great team showing a great deal of care and love to all the children alike.

There is a rule at the LCD requiring that all staff members dress decently, which shows respect to all types of families, but it is especially our love and hospitality that helps them feel included.

We are very happy that the fees paid by parents of hearing children are financially covering children like Hawra whose family can hardly afford the costs of transportation, to and from the Nursery.



Hawra is showing a strong personality and is learning fast. However, while her auditory skills are at a good level of identification, her speech clarity and production is far behind.

It is a matter which we are investigating in order to understand what is keeping her expressive language from getting much closer to her receptive language.

But, until this matter which is related to language and speech is clarified, we look at Hawra and we see how she is developing to be a popular little girl who loves interacting with her hearing friends and teachers, and is very much loved by her family.

2. Polat

Polat, a 3 year old Syrian boy comes from a very humble family, whose father is working as fast-food deliverer, while his mother is a house wife. Polat has an older sister called Jouhayna. When he first came to the LCD, Polat had almost no oral communication.

The mother has taken her role seriously, though sometimes more seriously than needed.

However, Polat who first took some time to show a rich communication, today interacts easily with his classmates and expresses himself using short, very simple sentences but in a very spontaneous way. He is now at the Integrated Preschool of the LCD and is following classes in both Arabic and English.

It is a pleasure to follow Polat and see his continuous improvement and how humble families often show a kind of cooperation we may not see with the more advantaged families.



3. Ribal

The LCD always stresses that when a child is included in a regular school a great deal of consideration should be given to his identity as a deaf person.

Ribal who is a bright 8 years old boy with a distinguished personality, came to the LCD when he was 3 years 10 months old. He had already started going to a regular school then.

He has a special relationship with his therapist/early interventionist at the LCD who is very fond of him, and today he relates to Hussein as a deaf person.

Ribal's sister has joined the Sign Language class and Ribal sometimes joined the class, but not on a regular basis. He was still very interested to learn Sign Language and therefore bought the books and learned by himself. He also taught his friends at school and bought some of them a glossary with some of the Lebanese Sign Language vocabulary where he has written an autograph.

When he comes to the LCD he now looks for Hussein and shows him what he has learned.

You can see Ribal in the LCD's film on internet where he speaks at the Graduation Ceremony 2013.

Ribal's sister was so interested in the field of deafness that she decided to study Speech Therapy. His second, older sister has now joined the High School team of the LCD to teach English.

This reminds us of the family of Wala' from the South whose sister became a therapist and whose family has surrounded and supported her very nicely.

Such families make a big difference in the lives of their children; the essence of which is healthy love and support.



Visitors to the LCD

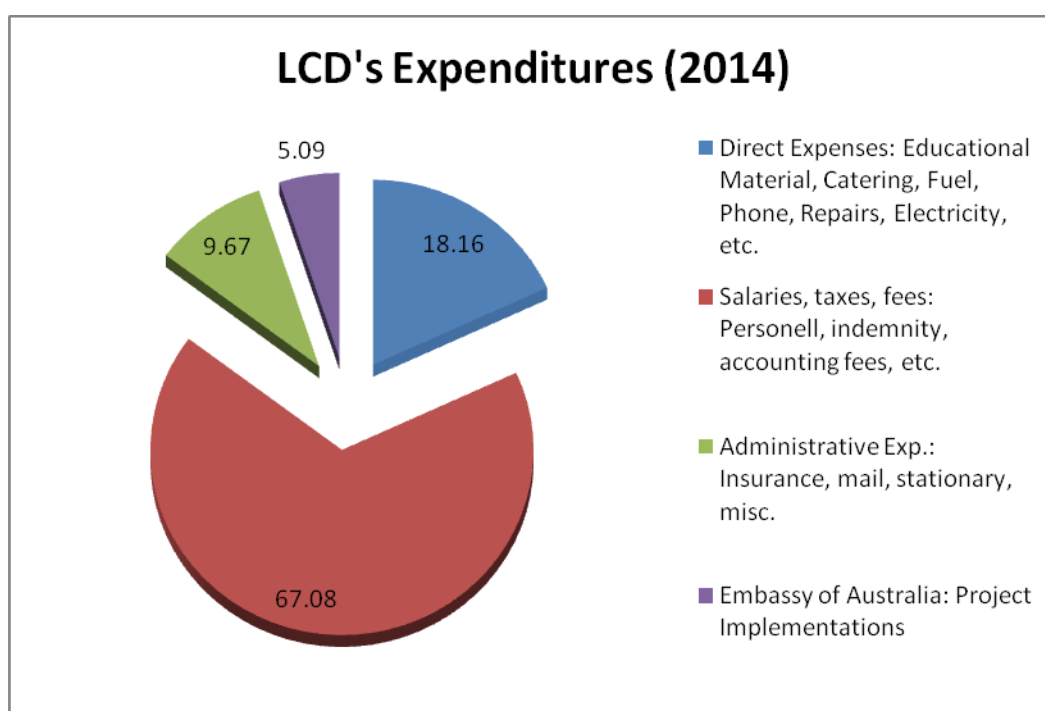
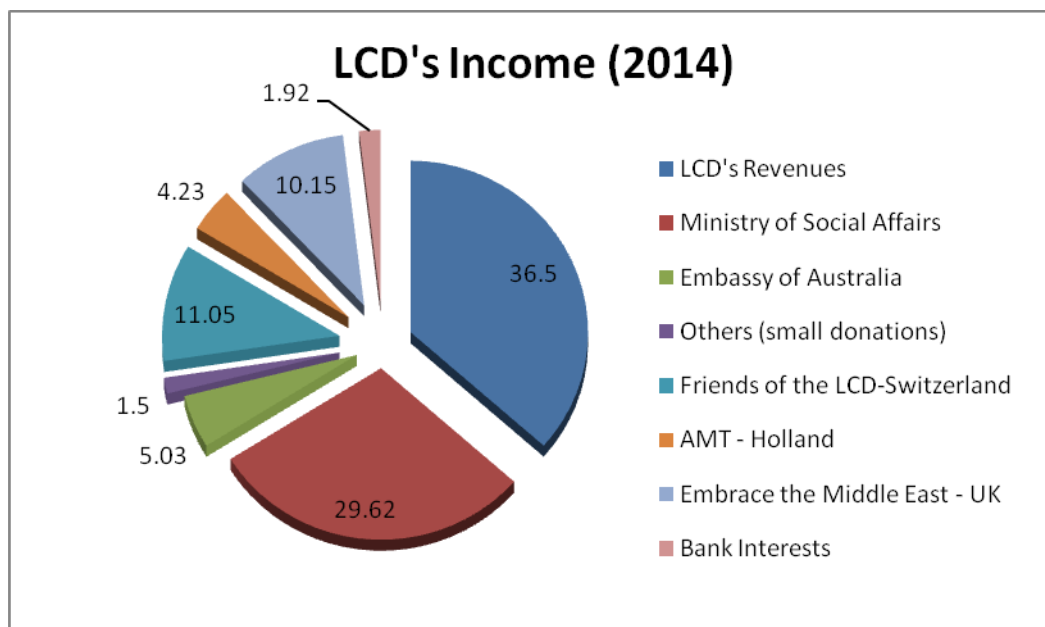
Among several visitors the LCD had during the 2014, from Lebanon and abroad, of different background, professions, diplomats, etc., we were especially happy to receive a Swiss nun, Sister Rosemarie of the Diakonisenhaus, in Riehen. She stayed with us for a couple of days!



Summary of the Financial Report 2014

Description	US\$
Total Income	295,355
Total Expenditures	292,052
Surplus	3,303

The Tables below showing the percentages of the income and expenditures during 2014



The Learning Center for the Deaf

Baabda – Lebanon

Photos during 2014



Certificates and Greeting Cards



Laptops donated by Australian Embassy



Intervention with Polat



Hawra in the Nursery



Intervention with Joe deaf/blind



Wonderful Nursery Teachers

The Learning Center for the Deaf
Baabda – Lebanon

Photos during 2014



Montessori Math session in the Preschool



Summer activities in the Nursery



Children at play



Game donated by a Swiss friend



Nursery children



High school student in the basketball field



Please visit us at the www.lcd-lebanon.org for detailed information about our services and activities during the past years.

Thank you for your continuous prayers and support for our humanitarian work.

God bless you !