



**DOMUS
ORIENTALIS**
DOM WSCHODNI



**ARCHIDIECEZJI
ŁÓDZKIEJ**



Polska dla Bejrutu

مساعدة من بولندا لبيروت

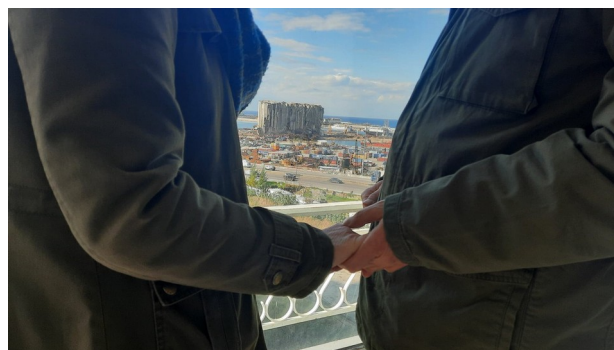
SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IN 2022

- I. Introduction
- II. Renovation of apartments / furniture etc.
- III. Give a job!
- IV. Emergency assistance
- V. First Step and other projects of YBTE (Domus Orientalis Young Team in Lebanon)

I Introduction

The joint mission of the Dom Wschodni - Domus Orientalis and Caritas of the Archdiocese of Łódź in Lebanon began a few days after the explosion on 04/08/2020. Thanks to two diocesan collections, the generosity of Polish donors and cooperation with Lebanese entities, we have been working for almost 2 years, not slowing down and adapting activities to changing needs.

In the initial phase, we tried to focus on removing the effects of the explosion as quickly as possible, operating mainly in the destroyed regions of Beirut.



The economic and political crisis and growing tensions forced us in 2021 to expand our activities to sensitive areas of the city, including Ain El Remmaneh (on October 14, 2021, there were tragic fights on the border of the estate, in which 7 people were killed and 30 were seriously injured) .

We not only stimulated the renewal of jobs and housing, but we started to conduct cultural, educational and pro-ecological activities, creating the Young Team - YBTE, which in the future is to be the main pillar of Domus Orientalis in Lebanon. Young people are also responsible for coordinating the "First Step" - a scholarship project for schools



In 2022 we continued to carry out repairs in the port zones, but we focused more and more on interior furnishings, as other NGOs withdrew after the completion of "external" works (replacement of windows, doors, etc.). The renovated buildings were still empty many times, as people could not return to their apartments. Most of our furniture was made in the workshop of Chadi (the manager of our construction team), which allowed us to reduce costs.



In the summer in Beirut, we hosted Archbishop Grzegorz Ryś. Through the eyes of our team he learned about the situation of the Lebanese people. He was among them. The Archbishop has given us an extraordinary gift of Pope Francis' blessing to Domus Orientalis in Lebanon and all the people who are part of our mission.



In autumn, we organized the "Gardens of Lebanon" exhibition in Chiyah Park in Ain el Remmaneh and in the Cultural Center at the Mar Mikhaïl Church as part of the "Dare to Dream" weekend (the exhibition was combined with a concert of young talents). For us, it was a kind of inauguration of the Center and the promotion of the YBTE Mission, which was responsible for the organization of the event.



To sum up, in 2022 we carried out projects with a **total value of 33 971,27 USD + 7466 EUR + 22 000 USD** (estimated value of the milk for babies) & **23 292 USD** (value of grant from MFA of Poland for solar panels for Mar Mikhaïl Cultural Centre)

- **Restorations** of 21 apartments (+3 recurrent)+ help in 1 school + Beit Marina - 14 162 USD
- „**Give a Job!**”: assistance in 5 workplaces (+1 recurrent) – 3125 USD
- **Emergency assistance:** transportation and distribution of baby milk boxes, medical support, financial support – 8513 USD, EUR 800, 22 000 USD (value of donation of baby milk)
- **"First Step"** and other YBTE projects - 8171,27 USD + 6666 EUR

From the beginning of our activities, i.e. August 2020. we carried out projects with a **total value of: 128 881, 54 USD i 10 106 EUR** helping, among others when renovating 113 facilities (+3 recurrent apartments) and 41 jobs (recurrent). Additional value is **22 000 USD** for the milk donation + c.a. **23 000 USD** – solar panels

II. Apartments (restoration, equipment) – “To give them shelter”

1. Mario & Tania

About: Tania barely survived the blast; Mario was so wounded that he could use only one hand to pull his wife out. Some NGO helped them with the windows but they couldn't come back home because the interior was still a disaster.

Location: Mar Mikhayel, Madrid Street

Works: wood works including restoration of kitchen cabinets and wardrobes; installation of a new door and new parts of: TV unit, wardrobes and cabinets; painting.

Cost: 2,970 USD + 2,700 USD(Nuns) + 1,000 USD (contribution of the family).



2. Fadia

About: Fadia is a middle-aged woman who lives alone in Karantina area close to the port. She works in the archive department in a local newspaper. Her home was still in need for the restoration of bedrooms cabinets and the installation of new kitchen cabinets.

Location: karantina, Raymond Rufayel St.

Works: wood works including restoration and installation of new parts for 2 bedrooms cabinets, paint and installation of new kitchen cabinets.

Cost: 358 USD + 325 USD Nuns



3.Souad

About: This is an old retired couple; the retirement of the man is worth nothing now, they live alone and cannot survive without assistance from the church. After the blast some of the damages were left unrepaired, some NGO's fixed the main damages but the rest was left.

Location: Rmeil, Armenia Street

Works: Restoration of the W.C seater.

Cost: 17 USD +10 USD Nuns.

4.Joseline

About: Joseline is a separated mother of 3 kids who live in a very poor condition. She used to work in house cleaning but unfortunately, she's suffering from rheumatism and cannot work like before. Their balcony glass door was broken during the storm and the kids were affected by the situation and needed to kept warm.

Location: Sin El Fil, Dwemre St

Works: Installation of new balcony glass door.

Cost: 55 USD + 50 USD Nuns.



5.Alaa

About: Alaa's family is living in a very crucial situation, which after the blast no one passed by them and checked their needs for restoration because he works during the day time and his wife too. The problem was the broken glass' doors and the shower glass.

Location: Basta area

Works: Installation of 3 new glasses for balconies doors and new handle for the shower glass.

Cost:193 USD Domus+ 175 USD Nuns.



6.Marcel

About: Marcel is the accountant of “Mar Mikhayel parish”; he lives in a very small apartment. He had a tent on his balcony taking advantage of it as an additional room but it has been damaged by the blast.

Location: Mar Mikhayel, Lamartine St.

Works: External fabric tent + Internal shutter curtains.

Cost: 715 USD + 650 USD Nuns.



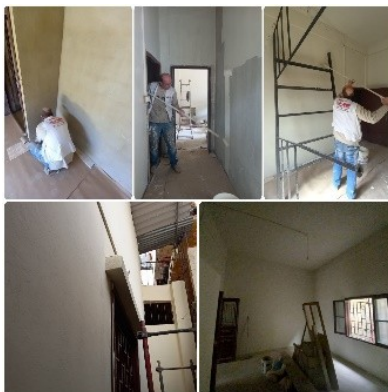
7.Nicolas

About: Nicola's home was left in pieces after the blast and had hard time restoring the damages that their apartment was left with, and needed the effort of more than one NGO to be restored, but still unable to move because of the external and internal walls need to be fixed especially from water leaking. Family of 6 people living together in the same rented apartment and its owner is forcing them to leave. What mattered is to shelter them in their own property.

Location: Achrafiyeh, Assad Rustom Street

Works: Internal and external cement work, Painting, PU for external walls, Demolition and additional masonry works.

Cost: 1,430 USD+ 1,250 USD Nuns.



8.Micheal

About: Family is living in a very crucial situation; During the rainy days, water was leaking inside the room from the windows and have no financial capacity to fix it.

Location: Ayn El Remmaneh, Pierre Gemmayel St.

Woks: windows waterproofing.

Cost: 28 USD.



9.Sabetta:

About: Sabetta is a mother of 2 lovely kids and also living a crucial situation; she was facing water leaking from her toilet seater causing damages in the interior walls of her apartment.

Location: Ayn El Remmaneh, Ghannoum St.

Works: Installation of a new W.C seater.

Cost: 130 USD +118 USD Nuns.

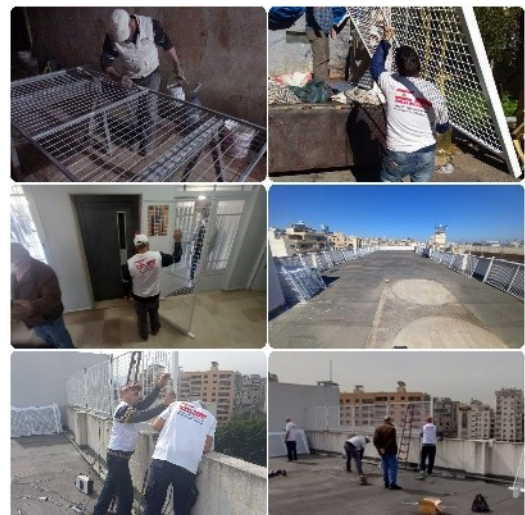
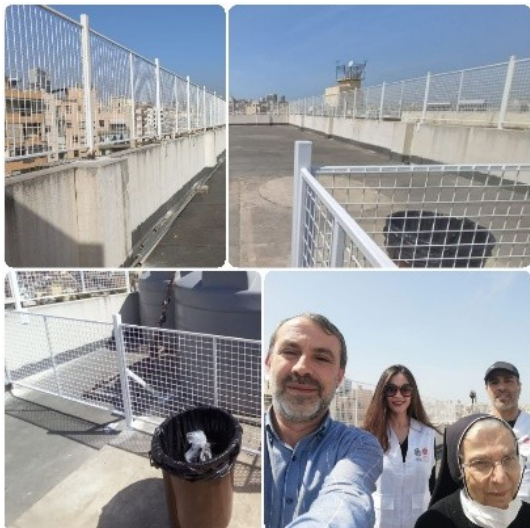
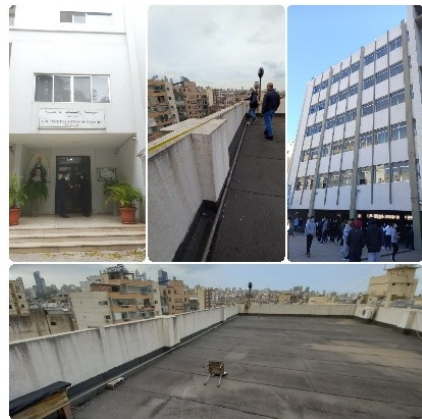
10.College Des Soeurs Du Rosaire School:

About: Rosaire school is located in a very crowded area, and facing problem with the accommodation of 900 students in the playground and have no ability to buy or rent any additional space to extend it. The only solution was fixing the rooftop in order to benefit from the space. For safety reasons fences is a must.

Location: Sin El fil, Emile Eddeh St.

Works: Steel work, Painting (Material and labour).

Cost: 1,293 USD+ 1,125 USD Nuns.



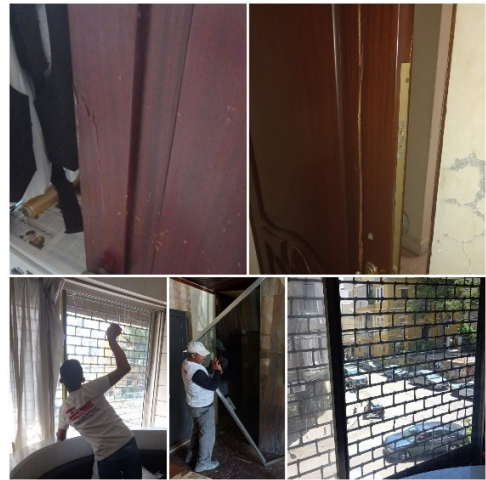
11. Jackeline

About: Jackeline lives with her husband. They are the parents of 3 sons and one daughter who lives abroad, all married. Their apartment is located in an office building. NGOs were mostly focused on restoring residential apartments which resulted in Jeannette's little home not fitting the criteria. Only broken windows were replaced, still one window had cracks. The main door was still unsafe and little repairs that they couldn't afford were still there.

Location: Rmeil, El Rif Street

Works: Restoration of the main door+ Broken glass.

Cost: 121 USD+115 USD Nuns.



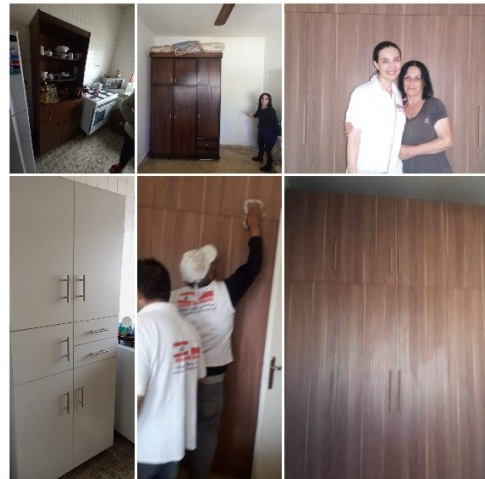
12. Ghada

About: Ghada lives alone in a very critical condition. She has married daughters one who was badly injured in a car accident and is being treated in France. She dreams about the day she will see her daughter again. Ghada's house was affected by the blast and restored by an NGO. But she was still in need for essential furniture.

Location: Mar Mkhayel area, Fouad Boutos Street.

Works: Installation of one kitchen cabinet and one closet.

Cost: 578 USD+520 USD Nuns



13. Miled & Suzanne

About: Miled and Suzanne's family was among the first to be helped by Domus Orientalis. Miled is a driver. They live in an old apartment with their 3 lovely daughters in poor conditions. Broken pipes in the walls were causing water leaks, an unforeseen damage from the blast.

Location: Patriarh Arida Street, Qobbayat.

Works: Restoration for sink + bathroom tiles

Cost: 248 USD+ 225 USD Nuns.



14.Nayla

About: Nayla is a teacher married to a taxi driver. They live with their son and mother-in-law. The exterior of their home was repaired but the interior was still a disaster, which prevented them from relocating, as they were forced to evacuate and live separately.

Location: Mar Mkhayel, Rabbat Street.

Works: Refurbishment of furniture + Installation of one new closet and one used+ Two new beds.

Cost: 715 USD + 600 Nuns.



15.Dani & Ranine

About: They are a married couple living in poor conditions with their two little kids: Amin and Graziella. Unfortunately, both of them are currently unemployed and are barely surviving. Water was leaking into the interior of their home due to the wall cracks caused by the blast.

Location: Karantina, next to Maronite Council.

Works: water leaking isolation and minor fixes

Cost: 138USD+125 USD Nuns.



16.Dani & Nisrine

About: Dany works at La Sagesse school, and Nisrine is responsible for St Peter and St Paul dispensary in Ashrafieh where we distributed the milk for infants. They have 2 sons. Their home is in Ballouneh, but had to move to Mar Mkhayel due to the high cost of transportation which made it impossible for them to reach their workplaces. The problem was that the apartment with a Southern façade was hit by the sun and the heat all day long.

Location: Pharaon Street, Diocese building

Works: External and internal curtains.

Cost: 495 USD+ 300 USD Nuns.



17. Souad

About: Souad is a recurring case, as her closets doors were falling off. She is in her eighties whose husband died recently. She is a lonely woman who needs constant support.

Location: Medawar, Armenia street.

Works: Restoration of furniture and provision of solar-powered lamp.

Cost: 110USD+100 Nuns.



18. Michel

About: His home was totally damaged and robbed after the blast. He couldn't relocate till one year later after big restoration works. There was much need for a kitchen cabinet considering the situation that no kitchen cabinets were left.

Location: Medawar, Armenia street.

Work: Installation of a new Kitchen cabinet.

Cost: 77 USD +75 USD Nuns.



19. Raymonde

About: Raymonde had to leave her rented apartment in Gemmayze after the blast and waited to relocate in her Achrafieh apartment after old tenants left the premises on January 2022 without repairing it. She lived and worked in Beirut her whole life. Raymonde was not eligible for help since she lives alone and doesn't fit the criteria of being an elderly, sick or responsible for others.

Location: Achrafieh, Sursock Street

Works: Restoration and painting of internal doors and wardrobes + removal of wallpaper + painting of the apartment.

Cost: 2475\$ (Domus Orientalis) + 2250\$ (Nuns)



20. Tony

About: Toni is a truck driver who is married to Samia, they have 3 married daughters. He lost his eye in the blast, and his truck. His home was badly damaged; One NGO restored their windows and external doors, but it was not enough to secure the house. They were still in need of a new water heater and a steel door to prevent robberies.

Location: Medawar, Armenia street, diocese bldg., GF.

Works: Installation of one Steel door + new water heater tank with steel protection

Cost: 468\$ (Domus Orientalis) + 425\$ (Nuns)



21. Rafqa

About: Rafqa is a photographer. She has one brother and 2 sisters. They used to live altogether with their mother in Karantina. Rafqa was badly injured in the blast and needed a long time to walk again. They were forced to leave their home after the blast and couldn't come back to karantina till this year. After a long process of therapy, she's now able to walk and happily got married on August 27. Our team was in hurry to finish the works before her wedding day.

Location: Karantina, Medawar area.

Works: Restoration works for the entrance of the building including: electrical, plumbing and painting works.

Cost: 605\$ (Domus Orientalis) + 550\$ (Nuns).



22. Beit Marina:

About: Marina is a girl whose name was the inspiration to create the NGO "Beit Marina". The NGO takes care of illegal children and aims at providing them with shelter and means to start their adult life. "Beit" means a home, and Marina is the girl who will be sheltered in the apartment in Ashkout. We provided her and her sister with 2 beds and mattresses.

Location: Ashkout, Kesrouane.

Works: Provision of 2 beds and 2 mattresses

Cost: 540\$ (Domus Orientalis)



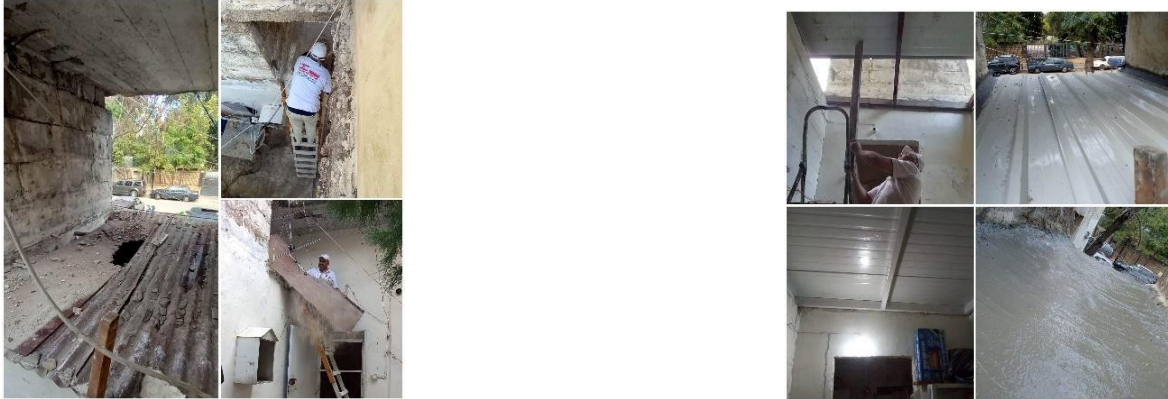
23. Michel

About: Michel is an old man who lives alone in a tiny apartment in karantina. Michel is almost deaf. He uses hearing aid and relies on the light bulb instead of the doorbell to open the door for his visitors. He is supported by "Teta w Jeddo" association who provide him with daily meals and medical care. He Had a huge water leak in the ceiling of the kitchen that was causing a mold spread. Our team managed to fix the ceiling and stop the leak.

Location: Karantina,

Works: Ceiling restoration.

Cost: 220\$ (Domus Orientalis) + 200\$ (Nuns)



Recurring Jobs:

1. Ghada

Location: Mar Mkhayel area, Fouad Boutos Street.

Works: Provision of a new mattress

Cost: 83\$ + 75\$ nuns

2. Marcel

Location: Mar Mikhayel, Lamartine St.

Works: Provision of new glass door

Cost: 72\$ + 65 (Nuns)

3. Therese

About: Therese is a school supervisor who lives with her son. In 2021, we provided them with a double mattress and external curtains. This year we came back and assisted with small maintenance works.

Location: Medawar, Pharaon Street.

Works: Restoration of handles and locks for doors and windows.

Cost: 28\$ (Domus Orientalis) + 25 \$ (Nuns)



OTHER:

1. Application, monitoring, evaluation of a grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (Polish Aid) for **solar panels for the Cultural Center** at the Mar Mikhail Church in Beirut. Project value: **\$23,292**

III. „GIVE A JOB!”- „To give them tools to rebuild decent life!”

1. George:

About: George is Mark’s father owner of the Pizzeria located in Rmeil street which last year “Give a job” program included him. He’s a hair dresser, and was facing a problem with the fabric tent above the entrance of his salon that was totally damaged after the blast.

Location: Medawar, Mar Mikhayel St

Works: External Tent + Steel Work.

Cost: 253 USD +205 Nuns.



2. Bake Off Bakery:

About: This bakery is owned by Roger; He started his small business just after the blast. He was helped by different NGO’s but still in need for additional furniture and shade to receive customers.

Location: Medawar, Pharaon Street.

Works: Retractable sunshade.

Cost: 413 USD +375 USD Nuns.



3. Ajoury Laundry

About: Ajoury is a family of 4. They own a Laundry near Mar Mkhayel church. They spent all their savings to fix the shop immediately after the blast and insisted on re-cleaning all the clothes dropped for laundry before delivering them to their clients. They always offer their services for free for Mar Mkhayel parish. The husband Najem and Caroline used to cook in the laundry shop to save time and money. They lost the stove in the blast and couldn’t afford buying a new one. We supported them by getting a new stove.

Location: Medawar, Lamartine Street.

Works: Provision of a new stove

Cost: 275\$ + 250\$ (Nuns)



4. Iman: Textile shop

About: Iman owns a textile shop where she sells upholstery and curtain fabric. The steel shutter of her shop was damaged after the blast and she needed help restoring it as it was impossible to completely open it during opening hours

Location: Rmeil, Geitawi street.

Works: Restoration of steel shutter

Cost: 66\$ + 65\$ (Nuns)



5. Rafi

About: Rafi is the son of Dzaglig the tailor. He lost his father in the blast who was also a tailor. Since that time, he's assisting his mother in sewing work in their little shop in Jbeily street. He was dreaming of starting his own business. Given the fact that he's supporting his mother and can't leave her alone, he decided to open a small coffee and snacks shop in the same place with her.

Location: Jbeily Street

Works: Provision of external tent, and of wooden shelves, cabinets and table, electrical works, wall paint, restoration of steel shutter.

Costs: 1953\$ + 1775\$ (Nuns)



RECCURING JOBS

1. Youmna Antique Shop.

Location: Rmeil, Qobayat Street

About: Youmna is a widow who runs an antique shop. She lost her husband in 2020 and lives with her daughter.

Location: Rmeil, Qobayat St.

Works: Installation of steel structure and of an external curtain

Cost: 165\$ + 150\$ (Nuns)



EMERGENCY – „to walk with them”

- Baby formula:

a) February/March: 648 boxes of baby formula was donated by the company Mead Johnson Nutrition Trading Poland Spółka z.o.o. transported to Lebanon and distributed among the families affected by the blast.. Estimated value of the donation: 10 000 USD. Costs: transportation - 800 EUR + 510 USD

b) July: 2400 boxes distributed in Beirut and among the poorest families in Tripoli, estimated value:12 000, transportation and distribution: 2026 USD

- Medical support:

a) Surgeries: Family B.S was supported with 1700 USD for a surgery of a child,+850 USD – P.B.S, 500 USD – family A.

b) medicine: Family Ch. was supported by 100 USD to buy medicine for the elderly, E. Z. supported with 40 USD for a medicine

c) Tony: madrace and medicine – 350 USD

- Little Sisters of Nazareth lives among people of Ain el Remmaneh/Chiyeh area since 70ties. They also work with Palestinians in local camps. They are amazing women, full of Light and Love. Spending time with them is always full of joy. Their Mission is worth of support. Costs: 200 USD

- 40 packages delivered to the people of Ain el Remmaneh area, including suppling Social Shop of Mrs Rita Taweel, and for the people of Mar Mikhail Area. Some packages where delivered to workers and volunteers, also each volunteer of YBTE got a chance to deliver one package to the person/family in need - 1400 USD

- 2 deliveries of cloths to the social Shop in Ain el Remmaneh, from where it was ditributed among the poorest people – 200 USD + 137 steamer

- Bumblebees MMA Club – 200 USD

- Firmen families – 300 USD



V. YBTE Activities

1. Chiyah Park – Mother’s Day March 21st 2022

On the occasion of Mother’s Day, YBTE has supported the municipality of Chiyah with money to organise an event for the amazing moms. Ladies shared brunch, took souvenir photos and received gifts.



Costs: 200 USD

2. Easter Post Cards At Our Lady Of Angels School – “First Step Program”

(www.pierwszykrok.domwschodni.pl) - March 23rd 2022

YBTE visited the kids at school and together they made Easter post cards as a way to thank their donors from Poland. Also a “Pray For Peace” cardboard has been customized by the kids because we believe in the words of Maria Montessori that “Peace is what every human being is craving for, and it can be brought about by humanity through the child”.



Costs: 11.48 USD

3. Saint Michel Church – Green Corner - April 2nd 2022

YBTE was joined by young fellows from Saint Michael El Naher Parish to welcome 2 young trees at the entrance of the Cultural Centre in celebration of life, growth and prosperity. The handmade wooden pots are crafted from the disposed wreckage after the blast.

YBTE aim is to walk the path together with the youth there to improve the place and promote its mission. Looking forward to grow older and greener together



Costs:48.70USD

4. Beach Cleaning – Ramlet Al Bayda

- May7th2022

As Summer is near YBTE has decided to start the season with a Beach Cleaning.

There is almost nothing better than the bliss of a walk along the beach, feeling the soft sand filtering between your toes. But, there is also almost nothing worse than witnessing the beauty of the beach spoiled by human waste. We can't expect to see a change if we don't make one!

Costs: 14.78 USD



- **May 28 2022**

For the second time this year, YBTE organised another beach cleaning in Ramlet Al Baida beach where all the members of the Team were involved. We enjoyed a breakfast together before starting the event, which was live streamed on Facebook.

YBTE offered a cactus placed in a pot engraved with its logo as a symbol of endurance to decorate the terrace to be a witness to the test of time and elements same as the citizens of Lebanon are. **Costs: 57,39 USD**



5. Dany's workshop

Dany from YBTE is a gifted person whose hobby are wood works. Together we created a project of producing different souvenirs like flower pots from the wood taken from apartments, which suffered from the Beirut's explosion. Those pots and other symbolic products goes as gifts for a green corners and also are sold in Poland as a charity to support our activities

Costs: 406 USD



6. Psychological support

Hiba is our psychologist who was providing help to family of Rami – one of the 10 firemen who died in the explosion while fighting the fire in the port.

Now Hiba is working with another lovely family who was also helped with the restoration works.

In 2022 Hiba held 18 sessions with N. family.

Costs: 300 USD

7. Beit Al Fatat – Sherfe - May 21st 2022

And here we are again, it is our second visit to Beit Al Fatat.

In our aim to nurture our special bond with the girls over there, we decided it is time for some planting together. We got each girl a different succulent plant to empathise the importance of diversity where each is unique in her own way.

Our team and the girls placed the plants in the soil, enjoyed quality time together playing a rally paper. Two trophies were offered to both team, both considered winners in our eyes.



The activity was wrapped up with DJ Klara playing music while everyone enjoyed homemade brownies decorated with YBTE logo and juice prepared by Ellina especially for them. Seeing the girls beyond happy was very touching for the nuns responsible for their upbringing.

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.



Costs: 342,13 USD

8. Kermesse at Chiah Park- June 23rd 2022

As summer holidays started it was time for Chiah Municipality to hold a Kermesse at Chiah Park. Domus Orientalis/YBTE collaborated with the municipality to make this event happen by offering them support including 300 candy bags. YBTE volunteers were supervising 5 games that they created. Domus Orientalis/YBTE collaborated with the bumblebees MMA club to offer a 30 minutes free class at the park during the Kermesse helped by Coach Jack, Zhovag and Vasken. We hope this will lead to more collaboration with the bumblebees to hold regular classes in Chiah Park in the future.



Costs: 233.56 USD

9. Online meeting with Polish school (Szkoła Podstawowa dla Dziewcząt Płomień in Katowice) - May 25th 2022

Our “Wojtek Pomaga!” workshop in Lebanon supported by Magda, our favourite art teacher. Along with her talented and so dedicated students, we held a video call altogether on May 25th, where the wonderful students met YBTE team here for the first time, regardless all the challenges that the situation poses in the country with power shortage and internet connection difficulties. The exchange between Magda’s enthusiastic students and YBTE volunteers was an amazing opportunity to communicate, to show their work and to share visions. The end result was a motivating bond aiming for more collaboration.



10. The archbishop’s visit in Beirut

- **The archbishop visit at NDA School – July 30, 2022**

Bishop Grzegorz Ryś came for a special visit to Lebanon. The first meeting with the team was at NDA School where YBTE held some activities for the kids. The archbishop joined the team at the end of the activities and together we distributed to them backpacks with stationeries. The Archbishop gave a word of Hope to the kids and their parents and emphasized on the importance of being a bridge to connect people together.

- **Holy Mass with the archbishop – July 31, 2022**

This day was different than what we expected. We originally planned a concelebrated Holy Mass with both the Maronite archbishop of Beirut Boulos Abed El Sater and the Archbishop of Łódź Grzegorz Ryś in St George Cathedral in Downtown, followed by a musical concert at St Michael Church, but due to the falloff of the silos at Beirut port, our plans were cancelled.



God had bigger plan for us! The archbishop came to Mar Mkhayel the tough situation to give us the Blessing for Pope Francis which was the best thing that happened to YBTE and a big consolation for the team after having to cancel everything.

The archbishop invited all of us to celebrate The Holy Mass at the Redemptoris Mater seminary located in an apartment in Ain El Remmaneh located in. Fr Marc told us that “having the Holy Mass in this apartment is a symbol of what Domus Orientalis refers to: the translation of the name of Domus Orientalis in English is House of East.”

Last but not least the bishop shared his talent with us by singing and playing the guitar. Everyone got to enjoy this lovely evening after a very emotional day.

- **Archbishop meeting with YBTE - August 2, 2022**

Of course, before going back to Poland the archbishop visited YBTE in our office/apartment and we shared our stories, our fears, and our happy and difficult moment, something that touched him deeply.

He supported us with his kind words and prayers.

He said “a humble prayer, our small activity will be recognized by the Lord; we leave the fruits to him.”

Costs: **2999 USD:**



11. Training with Mona – September 3 and 4, 2022

Being part of a team also means being able to communicate and work with teammates. Having a team training was a must and Mona did not hesitate for a second to volunteer and for two days she gave us a training in communication and teamwork. She shared her skills and talent as she believed in us and had a vision of what our team can do since we first met.

Cost: 102\$



12. Exhibition of “Gardens of Lebanon”.

- Chiyah Park – October 14 and 15, 2022
- Cultural Center in Mar Mickael - November 5, 2022

To hold an exhibition for “Gardens of Lebanon” was the idea of Magda, YBTE number one fan and supporter, in collaboration with 13 other female Polish artists. She came to Lebanon in 2021 and was touched by everything she saw and experienced during her short stay.



All of them teamed up to create the “Gardens of Lebanon”.

They created amazing artworks filled with love and hope. We held two exhibitions to share this outpouring of love here in Beirut. The result was an emotional embracement by our cherished guests who were deeply touched by the initiative of these artists. The frames and stands for the artworks were made by Dany, our teammate, using damaged wood collected from restoration jobs.

Cost: 493.5\$



13. Dare to Dream Concert – November 6, 2022

This concert was supposed to be held on July 31st during the archbishop visit to Beirut, but as you know it was cancelled and we promised ourselves we are going to have it again. Our young talents did not give up on their dreams and they worked so hard to make it happens.

People who attended the concert expressed their joy after such a long time of mourning and sadness. Some even came to Fr. Elia to tell him that it has been a long time since they felt happy this way.



Mission accomplished! God gave us talents to share with others and create some happy moments around us and this is what these young talents are focusing on!

Cost: 500\$

14. Christmas Market at Chiyah Park – December 2, 3 and 4, 2022

A Christmas market was held in Chiyah Park where individuals as well as other NGOs took part to display and sell goods and food and get in the mood for the festive season despite the crippling situation.

YBTE made a financial contribution to cover the cost of the inflatable games that were installed in the park that the children enjoyed using.

Cost: 100\$



15. Christmas Postcards at Our Lady of Angels School – December 9, 2022

As part of the First Step Program, YBTE team visited Our Lady of Angels School and where 77 children from the First Step Program crafted the Christmas postcards.

To our biggest joy and surprisingly, the children have a good memory from last year. They recognized the team and greeted us with big smiles.

Santa Claus made a special visit to the school on that day to give the children chocolate biscuits and to take personal photos with each one with them.



Being part of these children's journey is a blessing for our team and watching them grow over the years simply brings joy to our hearts.

Cost: 42.5\$

16. Christmas Activity in Beit Al Fatat – December/17/2022

Christmas is not the same without a special visit to Beit Al Fatat that included games, activities and food supplies.

The girls greeted us with a lovely song and once again proved their talent in dancing by performing two amazing dances.

This year, Santa arrived while playing guitar and singing Christmas carols along with Christmas elves Christopher and Ellina. He brought with him throw-on blankets for all the girls there as Christmas gifts to keep them warm this winter, because they have been simply sweet and lovable during the past year!



We brought them homemade muffins that they got to decorate with smarties and pretzels, after they all wrote their wishes on a small piece of paper and placed them in a jar next to the beautiful Nativity scene they have.

We were all amazed when learning from the nuns how God was providing them to serve the girls this year.



We didn't realise how much we missed them until this visit. No words can describe the happiness and peace we get when we see the girls and the nuns. They are a proof that a smile can be easily put on someone's face by simply being kind to them.

Cost: 538\$

17.Christmas Activity at Mar Mickael Church-December/17/2022

The team band was part of the Christmas celebration for the children at Mar Mkhayel Church.

They sang Christmas carols for the children who were too excited to teach their friends a new song so they were invited on stage to sing altogether.

There is nothing better than seeing the joy expressed in their little eyes.

Sometimes to listen to the kids and have fun with them is all it takes to make them feel happy.

Cost: 0\$



Other costs for YBTE:

- Coordination and office costs: **1859.62 USD**
- First Step: **6666 EUR**