



CNEWA - Pontifical Mission

the papal agency for Middle East relief and development

P.O. Box 6495, Amman 11118, Jordan • Tel.: +962 (6) 464-9240, Fax: +962 (6) 464-9282 • pm.amman@pontificalmission.jo

Funding Proposal to Caritas Committee, OESSH Netherland

Project title: The Community Center in Ader, KERAK
1) Video / Skype system for communicating with CNEWA-PM community Center in Amman

Project ID: M3336-1

Applicant Name: CNEWA/Pontifical Mission

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Task and position: Ra'ed A. Bahou, Regional Director

Description:

Al-Kerak governorate's estimation consists of 316,629 inhabitants, approximately 30% are inhabiting in Kerak city. In the south, according to parishes' priests, there are approximately 1200 Christian families (6,050 individual), the Greek orthodox about 500 families, Melkite 400, and Latin 300 families. Most Christians are living in the city of Kerak, Ader, Hmoud, Raba and Smakieh. There are a total of nine churches in the south. Three churches in Kerak (Latin, Melkite and Greek Orthodox), one in Raba for Greek Orthodox and a hall used to celebrate mass for the Latin and Melkite, two churches in Hmoud for Melkite and Orthodox, three churches in Ader, and two in Smakieh for Latin and Melkite.

The town of Ader is in the south of Jordan about 120 km. from Amman, situated about 950 meters about sea level and a short distance from the north east of Kerak city. Excavations, which have taken place in the area revealed the walls of a large ancient city, which existed many years before Jesus Christ. Ruins of a temple can be seen in the town today.

The name of Ader is believed to come from a Syriac name meaning "the farm or the place of harvest". There has been a Christian presence here from the first century AD, and this is confirmed by the existence of crosses, dating from that century, etched on the walls of a grotto inside the Latin Convent. In AD 134, the Roman Emperor Adrian visited Ader when he inaugurated the road between Aqaba and Jerash making the transportation of goods between the south and north much easier.

The surrounding area is under development with the majority of the population relying on agriculture for a living, though some find employment in the public sector.

Ader Parish:

As mentioned, there are three churches for Latin, Melkite and Greek Orthodox in Ader. St. Gorgeous, the Roman Catholic Church is one of the oldest churches in the province of Kerak, this parish serves around 45 families in addition to 140 families (832 Individual), including Latin and Greek Orthodox living in Ader, and approximately 200 families (900 individual) in



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the surrounding areas of Ader. This church has a wide area surrounding it and owned by the Roman Catholic Church, which gives it the opportunity to embrace and attract all Christians living in the same area, in addition to the surrounding villages and cities, as it has a strategic location. Therefore, it is a very active parish, with several activities throughout the year, and more lively in summer holidays for children, youths, women's group, catechism on Sundays/or Fridays, and for the whole family.

In the past, CNEWA along with the parishioners had contributed in the renovation of St. Gorgeous Church in Ader, under the supervision of the parish priest, Rev. Boulos Baqa'een.

This Current year 2017, with the support of CNEWA, the necessary renovation of the house was completed, it is located behind the church and built in 1932. Currently, this house of a four big rooms, kitchen are being used for the catechetical program for the children and formation of the youth, also used when the priest needs to meet with his parishioners, youth and children as well as a place to stay when he needs, as he actively serves both Ader and Kerak parishes.

Also, CNEWA-PM Community Center in Amman, will help in establishing a small library by providing books, periodicals... in addition, they can cooperate in conducting workshops to teach the science of library (how to classify, use, keep, find, search, use technology...) as they continue to do for the teachers, mainly for librarians of the Catholic schools in Amman.

Currently, to complete the work in Ader's Community Center to become a multi task center, serving all Christians in the southern part of Jordan and invite others from other governorates, it is important to achieve the followings:

1) Video / Skype system for communicating with CNEWA-PM community Center in Amman

The main goal of the newly refurbished multi-purpose hall is to provide space, facilities and resources for communitarian activities (seminars/workshops, transformative interaction, and faith sharing) that promotes spiritual, educational and cultural well-being of every resident. Moreover, it will enhance the value and strengthens the Catholic faith of the residents, thus, avoiding the imminent "diaspora" which is the result of regional instability, and lack of employment opportunities.

It will be a venue where residents can find help and support in the living, and the expression of their Catholic faith by participating in group activities as well as formation encounters that foster human and Christian values.

By providing educational and socio-cultural updating, the project will help residents acquire life-sustaining attitude and skills – a direct approach in addressing the human development needs of the area residents - the adult, the children and the youth who are most vulnerable and prone to misguided value promoted by the present social media.



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CNEWA Community Center in Jabal Al-Hussein is the main conference hub for the project where the technical facilities are already installed (internet connection, Skype connection, TV screens, computer and lab top, speakers) **except for two PTZ Cameras in addition to four Microphones for both locations, and one smart board in Ader's hall, as the library already has one.** This project will be managed by the two professional librarians with the help of a local library Assistant.

Community encounters will be held in multi-purpose hall and church playground, under the able supervision of Fr. Boulos Baqa'een, parish priest of the Melkite Church, in cooperation with professional Religious Education teachers and devoted lay professionals who will offer their expertise in selected topics, as well as invited speakers of various fields.

And since the Jordanian youth have a summer and winter break from school, it is imperative that they are offered some meaningful and productive activities to keep them from the attraction of misguided values of the society, simultaneously, providing self-help training courses for the adult.

The intended activities for the Center will be:

Activities	Resolutions (Objectives)	Person -in-Charge	Time Frame
Religious Education	To build and sustain a strong foundation of the Catholic Faith of the beneficiaries in the area through catechism and other religious instructions	Fr. Boulos Baqa'een, Religious Education teachers	6
Life-in-Spirit encounters	To strengthen the Spiritual life of beneficiaries through Formation Program and Faith sharing activities	Fr. Boulos Baqa'een, Religious Education teachers, lay professionals	2
Leadership training	To help the youth and young professionals acquire leadership skills, preparing them to be role models in building a just and humane society.	Professional Youth Ministers, Youth leaders	4
Professional Up-Dating	To encourage adult professionals take on-going formation and updating in their field of studies and occupation.	Professional Educators	2
Church Feast and Social Gatherings	To create a strong bonds among members of the community and sustain their Catholic faith while fostering healthy social relationships	Fr. Boulos Baqa'een, Church leaders, youth leaders	2
Sports Education	To develop a healthy mind and body for the youth as well as	Sport Education teachers,	1



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and Physical Fitness	adults through Psycho-Physical activities which is a strong weapon to overcome boredom and apathy	Lay professionals	
Foreign Language and Self-help Courses	To help beneficiaries gain knowledge fluency in other languages (other than Arabic) and develop skills through life-sustaining courses.	Foreign Language teachers, Lay Professionals	2



Ader



CNEWA-PM community Center



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Itemized Budget:

Item	Quantity & Price / unite US\$	Total Price US\$
1) Video / Skype system for communicating with CNEWA-PM community Center in Amman		
PTZ Pro Camera	2*1,398	2,796.00
Smart Board	1*2,310	2,310.00
Hand-held wireless microphone	4*580	2,320.00
Cables, connectors, and installation in both locations	2*325	650.00
Chairs and table for the use of the whole center including the Library	50*28 + 5*40	1,600.00
Total		9,676.00