LATIN PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Purchasing New Equipment for Beit-Afram Elderly House in Taybeh PALESTINE

GA 102/17

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
MAY 2017
THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE

The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) was restored in 1847, and since then is promoting the best interests of the local communities it serves. Today, the Patriarchal Diocese oversees about 150,000 faithful in four countries, Israel, Palestine, Jordan and Cyprus, covering a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, religions and traditions. Serving all with special emphasis on the support and care of indigenous Holy Land Christians remains the enduring mission of the Mother Church, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

THE VILLAGE OF TAYBEH

Taybeh is a Palestinian village located in the center of the West Bank, only 30 km from Jerusalem. From its elevated site (920m) between biblical Samaria and Judea, it overlooks the desert wilderness, the Jordan Valley, Jericho and Dead Sea. Taybeh is one of the most ancient places in Palestine, dating back to the Bronze Age. Established by the Canaanites between 2500-2900 BC, Taybeh is mentioned in the Old Testament as Ofra (Joshua, Judges, I Samuel). It is Ephraim, the village in which Jesus chose to stay with His disciples before His Passion.

The original Church of St. George, built by the Byzantines in the 5th century and rebuilt by the Crusaders in the 12th century, lies in ruins on the eastern outskirts of Taybeh; it is still used nowadays for social and traditionnal rites. Surrounded by Muslim villages, Israeli settlements and military roadblocks, Taybeh is the only Christian village in Palestine with 100% Christian population and counts three parishes: Latin, Melkite and Orthodox.

LOCATION/ DEMOGRAPHICS

- Total number of Population: 1,300
- Total population of Christians: 1,300
- Total population of Latin Christians: 800

“Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed. Each of us is loved. Each of us is necessary”
H.H Pope Benedict XVI
THE ELDERLY HOUSE

In 2002, a survey has been conducted by the three churches “Catholic, Orthodox, & Greek Catholic” in Taybeh. It found that 40 senior citizens whose age 65+ were identified who were lacking proper daily care. In response, the local parish together with the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem established a pioneer project in Taybeh to serve senior citizens who are marginalized and largely unattended.

There is no similar home for seniors in the region but in Jerusalem and Bethlehem. However due to the separation wall, access to these homes is very difficult both for the seniors and for their families during visits. Thus the center not only caters for the needs of the senior citizens but allows for job opportunities as well as direct economic support to services in Taybeh.

The center provides all necessary day and night care to senior citizens and attends with the limited resources available to their dietary and medical needs. The center also provides laundry services to personal attires to all residents.

Since 2012, a team of several Brazilian missionnaries from the community called “Children of Mary”, including a psychologist, a nurse and a physiotherapist is fully dedicated to the well-being of the elderly of this house. Today 25 seniors live there, coming from Taybeh, Birzeit and Jerusalem, with 8 missionaries and 10 local employees.

THE NEEDS

The Project Development Office and the Procurement Office of the Latin Patriarchate visited several times the elderly house of Beit Afram in order analyze how one can improve the well being of the residents and to facilitate the work of the missionaries and the staff. After a deep study, it has been established that supplying three kinds of equipment would be highly appreciated.

The first kind refers to medical needs, which are always very important in an elderly house. Despite the careful maintenance, part of the medical equipment has to be replaced. If not, some might become harmful for the old persons. Some other items are designed to support the playing activities of the seniors; this center breaks their isolation, with the attendant danger of depression. It is incumbent upon the center to offer ample opportunity and indeed inducement to foster socialization and a sense of community. Life still goes on!

The second kind of required equipment is related to the necessity for the residents of this house to enjoy fresh air as much as possible; the view from the external yard is invigorating and lots of joyful activities can be carried there. Therefore, several items will be bought for the outdoor yard in order to have a safer and more enjoyable place. This will fit perfectly with the soon-to-be-repaired outside floor.
PURCHASING NEW EQUIPMENT FOR BEIT-AFRAM ELDERLY HOUSE IN TAYBEH, PALESTINE

The third kind of supply will be for the kitchen. A few years ago a professional Italian kitchen has been installed but some items were missing and other ones need to be replaced now due to overuse. Food preparation is an important issue for old people, both on nutritional and psychological matters and this house needs specific and expensive equipment.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Following the identified needs of the Beit Afram house, the Procurement Office of the Latin Patriarchate already made a price study for the different items. Once the kind donations are collected, this Office will purchase them and a technician will go to the elderly house in order to install them and give specific recommendations for some of them.

As asked by the medical team, the medical equipment will be as follow: air mattress, hospital scale balance, anti pressure sore, anti eschar heel protector, pressure apparatus, oximeter, fogging apparatus and automatic beds, but also games for the elderly –memory, paint kit, puzzle, etc. – and two large tables with chairs for their recreational time.

The outdoor furniture will consists of two outside sofas and a canvas canopy to protect the seniors from sun and rain when they want to enjoy outside air.

Finally, the professional kitchen will be completed with a heavy duty blender, a large mixer, a toaster and two trolleys with shelves.

**BENEFICIARIES**

The direct beneficiaries of this project are the seniors who are welcomed in Beit Afram house, and the Brazilian missionaries and the local staff who daily care for them. Indeed, the work will offer them a healthiest and safer place.

In addition to them, the friends and relatives visiting the elderly will benefit from this project through the upgrading of the outdoor yard. Months of sun are numerous in the Holy Land, and thanks to the supplying of external sofas and the implementation of a canvas canopy, they will enjoy walking or sitting outside with the residents.

The objective is to support the social outreach work of Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) in cooperation with the local churches and outreach to all senior citizens in the town regardless of income, gender or social status, and help bring a spirit of care for others. In that sense, the indirect beneficiary of the project will be the LPJ that strives to provide the best for its Diocese.
EXECUTION/DURATION

The technical team has prepared all the necessary detail designs and budgets for this project. The completion of work will require one month from starting date. The work will be managed and supervised by the Latin Patriarchate Procurement Office, and will comply with all LPJ internal contracting and supervision.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount in NIS ₪</th>
<th>Amount in USD $</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Medical equipment</td>
<td>11,795</td>
<td>3,272</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Outdoor furniture</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>2,220</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Professional kitchen equipment</td>
<td>8,600</td>
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<td>TOTAL OF ALL WORKS</td>
<td>28,395</td>
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<td>Supervision &amp; Management 5%</td>
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<td>GRAND TOTAL COST ESTIMATE OF THE PROJECT</td>
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<td>8,272</td>
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For further information, please contact the Project Development Office.
Four residents of the House, attending a musical animation

The physiotherapy room

One of the bathrooms of the elderly house