



AUTISM CENTER
Aintoura (Keserwan)
SESOBEL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Autism Center
Aintoura (Keserwan)

By SESOBEL



Investment cost <i>to cover the new building construction costs.</i>	\$ 7,040,521
Already raised <i>as of June 2018</i>	\$ 5,830,027
Funding Needs:	\$ 1,210,494

About SESOBEL

SESOBEL's mission is centered around the child with disability within and with the help of his family, without any form of political, ethnic, or religious discrimination.

The foundations of our action are based on the human, existential, and spiritual dimensions conceived and established by Yvonne Chami, our founder.

SESOBEL seeks to improve the situation of children with disability by meeting their basic needs, ensuring the unity of their families, and working closely with them.

SESOBEL works with all parts of society to help recognize the role of the child, his value, and his right to a life with dignity.

50 associations in Lebanon welcome children & youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); SESOBEL and only a few other associations cater to the needs of the Mild and Severe autism cases.

SESOBEL felt the need to care for the children with autism. The parents of these children were facing many difficulties and burdens such as:

- Broken dreams and broken families
- Depressed parents, unable to cope with the situation
- Negligence from Parents towards brothers and sisters (lack of time)
- Lack of specialized professionals
- Lack of reliable orientation & assessments, etc...

SESOBEL specialized team:

A multidisciplinary team composed of **219 persons** from different specializations: special educators, assistant educators, animators, doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, psychomotor therapists, psychologists, social workers and administrative staff...

Today, **39 persons** directly working with **78 children & youth with autism**.

About the new Autism Center

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by repetitive and characteristic patterns of behavior and difficulties with social communication and interaction. Parents usually notice signs in the first two years of their child's life. The signs typically develop gradually, but some children with autism will reach their developmental milestones at a normal pace and then regress.

ASD occurs in every racial and ethnic group, and across all socioeconomic levels. The CDC (United States Centers for Disease and Control Prevention, 2018) **latest statistics estimate that 1 in 59 children has autism**. Autism can affect boys four times more than girls. Scientists believe that both genetic and environment likely play a role in ASD. There

is great concern that the rate of autism has been increasing in recent decades without full explanation as to why. There is still much research to be done to determine the potential role of environmental factors on spontaneous mutations and how that influences ASD risk.

While there is no cure for autism, early intervention is critical and can greatly improve a child's development.

In 1989, we started the early intervention program for children with Autism. Unfortunately, we have now reached the maximum capacity of our current building, thus hindering the proper implementation of our assistance program. Therefore, we urgently started building the new Autism Center in Aintoura in September 2013, in order to be able to meet the growing needs of our children with Autism.

SESOBEL is currently in the process of completing the construction of this new Center on an adjacent piece of land. The land was set at our disposal by the Maronite Patriarchate of Lebanon.

With this new Autism Center, SESOBEL is taking a large leap forward towards the future. The Center will be completely adapted to provide the necessary setting needed for the harmonious development of the children and youth with autism.

The spacious classrooms, workshops, treatment and rehabilitation rooms, game room, resting area, all allow for a special integration of functionality unseen in other school settings.

The new center will contain several features:

- A family reception for 220 families
- An early intervention center for 50 children from 0 to 6 years old
- An education center for 40 children and youth with autism
- Therapy units for 100 children and youth
- Outpatient care program (Speech therapy - Occupational Therapy - Psychomotor Therapy - Physiotherapy and Psychotherapy)
- A daytime center for support and socialization, and social integration for 30 young adults
- A recreational area for the children and their families
- A hydrotherapy unit for children with autism that will also be used by around 200 children and youth with disabilities at SESOBEL. This hydrotherapy unit will also benefit outpatients and will therefore be a source of self-financing. The hydrotherapy unit opened its door since September 2017
- A PIONEER LIVING SPACE: A residential care center with private bedrooms and bathrooms to welcome, on a rotation basis, 15 youngsters with autism, to create a family like structure, making it unique in Lebanon and new to the Middle East.

Estimated forecast number of children & youth

In 2018-2019, SESOBEL is catering to the needs of 78 children & youth and will be able to welcome around 123 children & youth in 2022-2023.

More than 120 children and youth will be able to benefit monthly from hydrotherapy sessions, music & art therapies, and sports.

Children from the outpatients services, in need for short-term temporary care (outside of the SESOBEL programs, through a network of therapists and in all regions of Lebanon), will also be cared for at the new Center.

Budget:

Investment cost: \$7,040,521 to cover the new building construction costs.

Already raised: \$5,830,027 as of June 2018

Funding needs: \$1,210,494

Bank details for your donation/bank transfers

SESOBEL (Autism Center) Bank Electronic Transfer Instructions

IBAN# LB97 0056 0000 7175 3461 0020 1205

Bank Name: Bank Audi sal / Zouk Branch (012) – Lebanon

Beneficiary Name: SESOBEL

Account Number (US\$) 071753 - 461 - 05

SWIFT Code AUDBLBBX

or US Citizens

Donations from US Citizens are tax deductible.

Please use: 501 (c) 3 Federal Tax ID Number 20-2759148

For details regarding SESOBEL US bank accounts, please contact autism@sesobel.org



Further Information about



Available on WPF website
www.wpf.org.lb

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