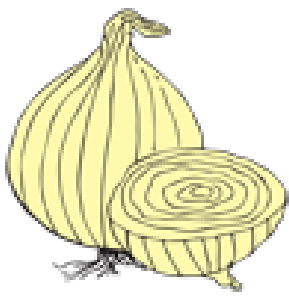




المركز الفلسطيني للإرشاد  
Palestinian Counseling Center

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE REPORT

07th February 2025 - 07th March 2025



المركز الفلسطيني للإرشاد

Palestinian Counseling Center

In the first half of February 2025, the ceasefire was still in effect, allowing for a steady flow of humanitarian aid into Gaza. Food distribution improved, with flour supplied to bakeries across the Strip, and essential medical services saw some recovery. Healthcare partners adapted to shifting population needs, established mobile clinics, and reopened the Kuwait field hospital in Gaza City. By mid-February, 40% of primary health centers and 51% of hospitals were partially operational in Rafah and northern Gaza, offering a glimmer of relief amidst the ongoing crisis. During this period, 779 Palestinian detainees were released in exchange for 3 Israeli detainees and the remains of 3 others killed by Israeli airstrikes since October 2023. However, this progress was short-lived. In the second half of February, Israel blatantly violated the ceasefire, killing over 120 Palestinians in Gaza and severely restricting humanitarian aid. This escalation completely halted the second phase of the ceasefire, which was supposed to take effect by the end of the month but was derailed by Israel's attempts to dictate the terms of the prisoner exchange. The already insufficient flow of aid into Gaza was further restricted, pushing the population closer to starvation. Meanwhile, the number of Palestinians allowed to leave Gaza for life-saving medical treatment was drastically reduced from 153 per day during the first phase of the ceasefire to just 50. The fear is growing that Israel will sabotage the entire ceasefire, just as it has done countless times before. Meanwhile, in the occupied West Bank, Israel has escalated its violent military incursions and airstrikes - this month saw the most significant forced displacement of Palestinians since 1967, as Israeli forces intensified their ethnic cleansing campaign with relentless raids, home demolitions, and mass arrests – all carried out with complete impunity.

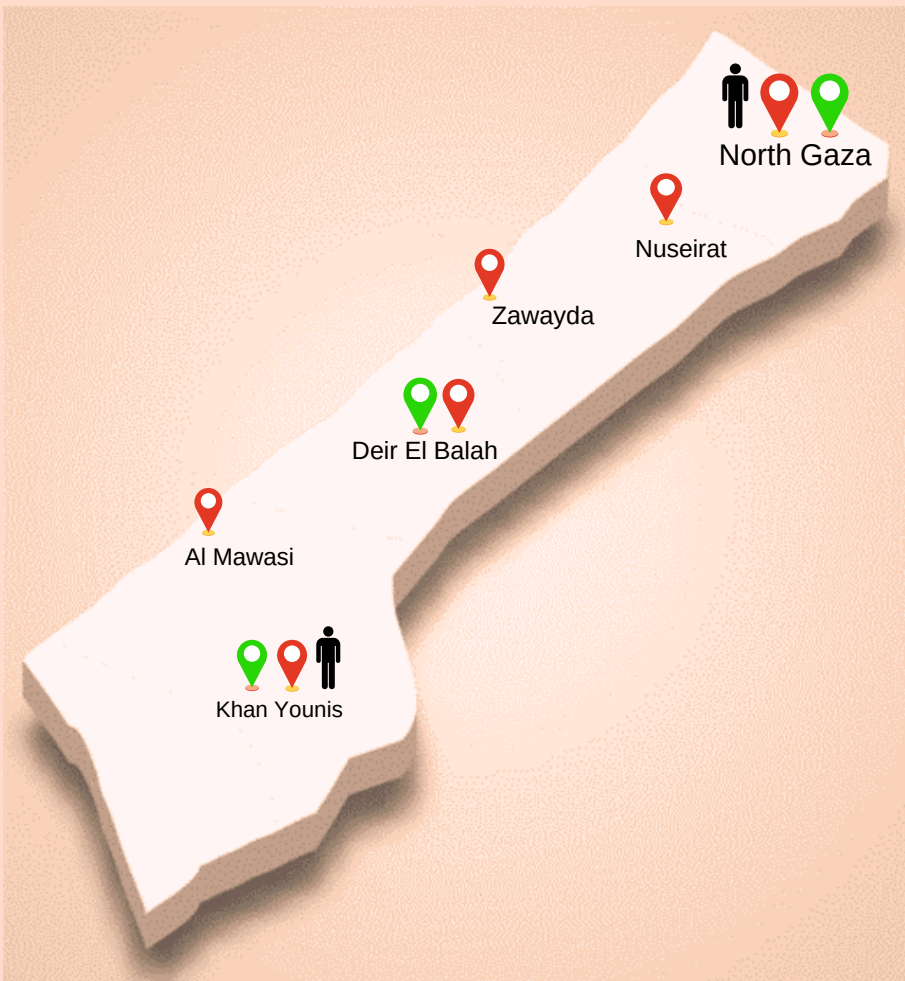
**IN GAZA:** Despite the ceasefire, the killing of Palestinians did not stop. The death toll continued to climb, MoH in Gaza reported the killing of at least 48,348 Palestinians –most of them children—and the injury of 111,761 others, since the 7th of October 2023. From mid-February, Israel's imposition of a brutal new blockade has restricted the flow of essential supplies like food, water, tents, trailers, and heavy equipment needed for rubble removal, leaving Gazans to live without even the bare minimum of shelter and protection. Over one million internally displaced Palestinians are now trapped in subhuman conditions, struggling to survive in overcrowded, makeshift shelters. The destruction of approximately 110,000 displacement tents has left families entirely exposed, with no shelter from the brutal cold. In just the past month, six infants have died from hypothermia— an outcome directly linked to Israel's deliberate destruction of Gaza's infrastructure and its ongoing assault on basic human rights. This calculated deprivation of aid and resources continues to cause preventable deaths, while the world stands by in silence, complicit in Gaza's suffering.

**West Bank and Jerusalem:** Israel has escalated its military aggression in the West Bank, especially in Jenin, Tulkarem and Tubas. The death toll since October 7, continued to climb, reaching 905 killed by Israel, including 181 children, injuring over 7,300 (including 1,052 children), and detaining over 8,000 Palestinians. This month, Israeli bulldozers specifically targeted and destroyed 30 residential homes in Jenin displacing more than 45 families. Israeli settlers, emboldened by total impunity, ramped up their attacks on Palestinian villages and farmlands across the West Bank. They raided communities at night, torching homes, vehicles, and crops, forcibly displacing 15 Palestinian families in the process. In Jenin and Tulkarm, the forced expulsion of Palestinians shows no sign of reversing. Israeli snipers remain stationed on rooftops, while military bulldozers have entrenched themselves in these areas, making any return nearly impossible. Meanwhile, over 60,000 Palestinians have been trapped for more than a month due to Israel's ongoing closure of the Tayasir checkpoint, cutting off movement between the northern Jordan Valley and the rest of the Tubas governorate.

In February 2025, many Gazans left central Gaza and returned to their homes in the north, directly affecting PCC activities in those areas. As families moved back and humanitarian aid poured in, many shelter centers were evacuated, halting planned programs and shifting focus to PFA interventions - though these, too, were largely disrupted. The relocation of PCC counselors and volunteers - some to their homes in northern Gaza, and others from central and southern areas to Gaza City - further interrupted the continuity of services. Consequently, both PFA activities and dignity kits distributions experienced a notable decline compared to previous months. In the West Bank, severe checkpoint closures, roadblocks, and military raids disrupted PCC efforts, especially group-based activities such as open days and group sessions. Despite these challenges, PFA sessions and psychological consultations increased in response to the heightened needs and demand for support.

# IN GAZA

Due to the large masses of people that left many displacement camps to make their way back to north Gaza, the PCC's 20 MHPSS workers and 60 psychosocial support volunteers shifted their areas of work, mainly moving to north of and Gaza city. They continued providing critical mental health and psychosocial support, including psychological first aid, individual counselling, and group support to 3,566 beneficiaries including 1,641 children - as well as distributing 1,679 kits and food parcels to families.



## The PCC's team in Gaza:

- 10 in Gaza City & the North of Gaza
- 3 in Khan Younis
- 3 in Mawasi Khan Younis
- 1 in Deir el Balah
- 1 in Nuseirat
- 2 in Zawayda



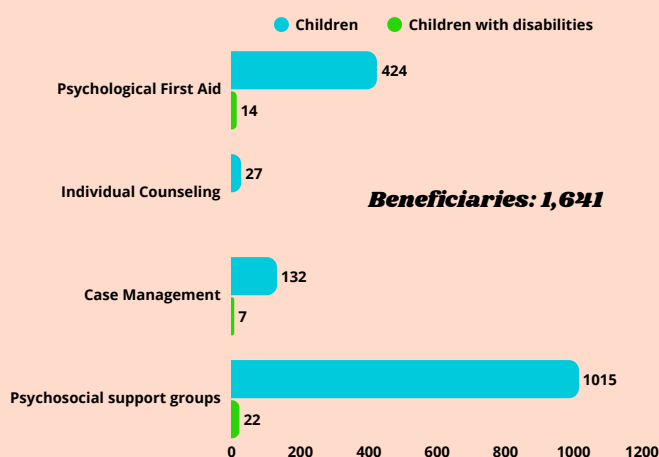
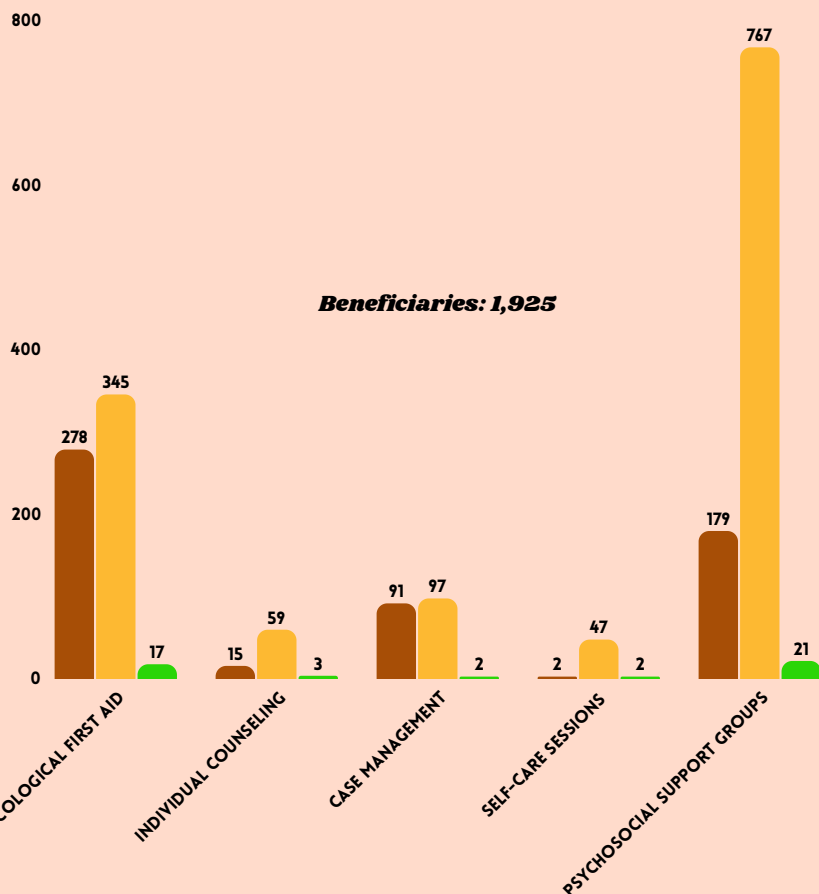
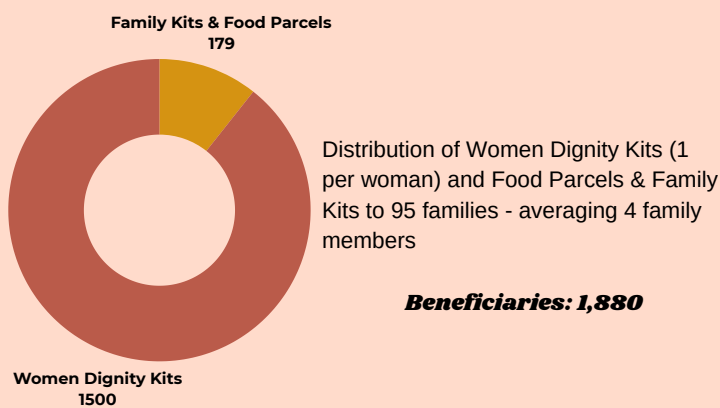
Site coordinators in the North and South

## MHPSS Youth Volunteers:

- 27 North of Gaza
- 19 Khan Younis
- 14 Deir el Balah

## Aid, Assistance and Psychological Support

MALES FEMALES PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



# PCC AND PARTNER CBOS IN WEST BANK INCLUDING JERUSALEM



## NORTH & JORDAN VALLEY:

- 418 PFA interventions; 2,060 beneficiaries including 768 children
- 732 phone & face-to-face consultations; 732 beneficiaries including 57 children

## CENTER:

- 11 PFA interventions; 27 beneficiaries including 4 children
- 38 phone & face-to-face consultations 38 beneficiaries including 17 children

## SOUTH:

- 348 PFA interventions; 1,250 beneficiaries including 527 children
- 138 phone & face-to-face consultations 138 beneficiaries including 36 children

**Beneficiaries: 4,245**

## OUR PARTNER CBOS

### North & Jordan Valley (JV):

1. Bardala Association (JV)
2. Zubeidat Youth Center (JV)
3. Rural Woman's Development Association
4. Qaryut Sports Club
5. Khatwa Development Association Arabeh
6. Mothers' School Association

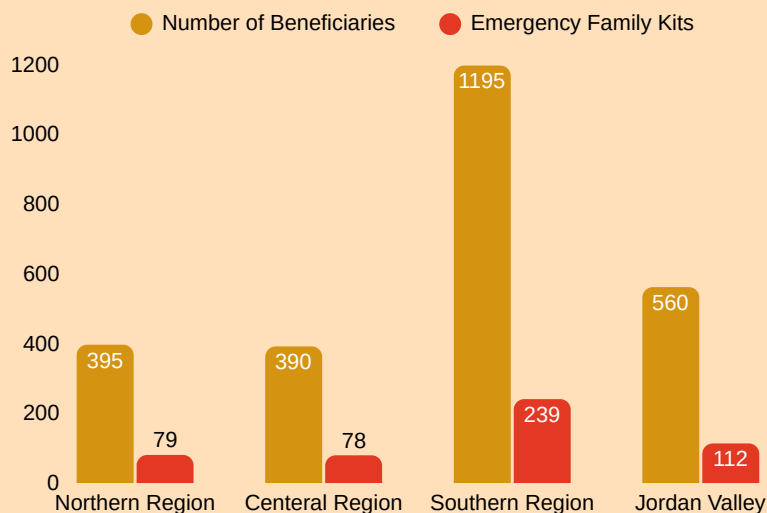
### Center – Jerusalem:

1. Teachers Village Association – Al Tur
2. Jabal Mukaber Club
3. Abad Al Shams Association
4. Mada Creative Center - Silwan

### South – Bethlehem & Hebron:

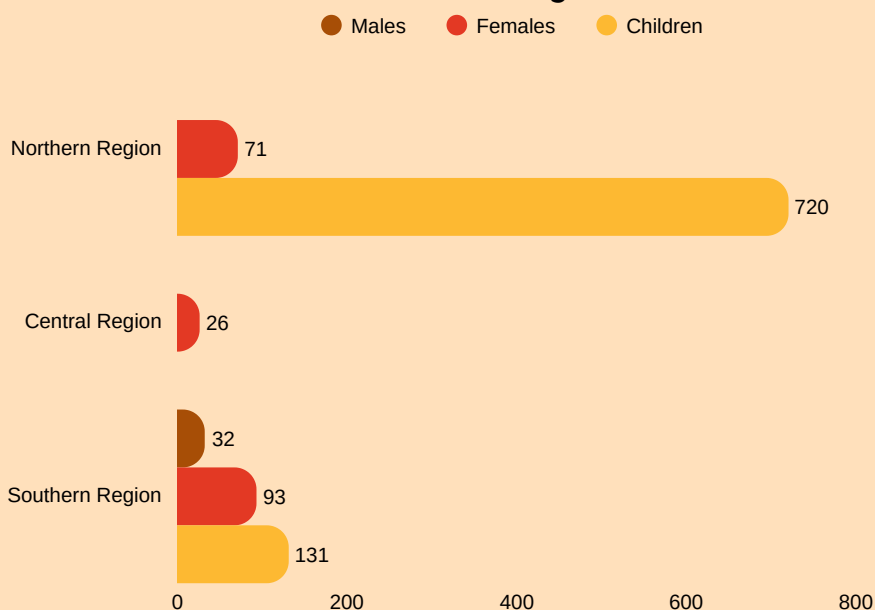
1. Human Rights Defenders Association
2. Beit Iskaria Women's Association
3. Popular Committee for Services of Al-Fawar Camp
4. Masafer Yatta Youth Center
5. Al-Arroub Women's Center

## 508 emergency Family Kits disturbed including Medical First Aid Kit, Food Parcels, and Stationery



508 families, i.e 2,540 individuals benefited from distribution of aid

## Community MHPSS support activities in West Bank including Jerusalem



- Recreational Activities
- Stress relief Activities
- Awareness raising and visits to the elderly
- Open Days for Children
- PFA Group sessions

**Beneficiaries: 1,073 including 17 people with disabilities**

# ***Number of beneficiaries reached on the National Level***

## ***13,304***

### **NORTH & JORDAN VALLEY**

- **2,060** BENEFICIARIES FROM PFA INTERVENTIONS
- **732** BENEFICIARIES FROM PHONE & FACE-TO-FACE CONSULTATIONS
- **791** PARTICIPANTS IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PSS SUPPORT
- **955** BENEFICIARIES FROM EMERGENCY AND FOOD KITS

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 4,538**

### **CENTER**

- **27** BENEFICIARIES FROM PFA INTERVENTIONS
- **38** BENEFICIARIES FROM PHONE & FACE-TO-FACE CONSULTATIONS
- **26** PARTICIPANTS IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PSS SUPPORT
- **390** BENEFICIARIES FROM EMERGENCY AND FOOD KITS

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 481**

### **SOUTH**

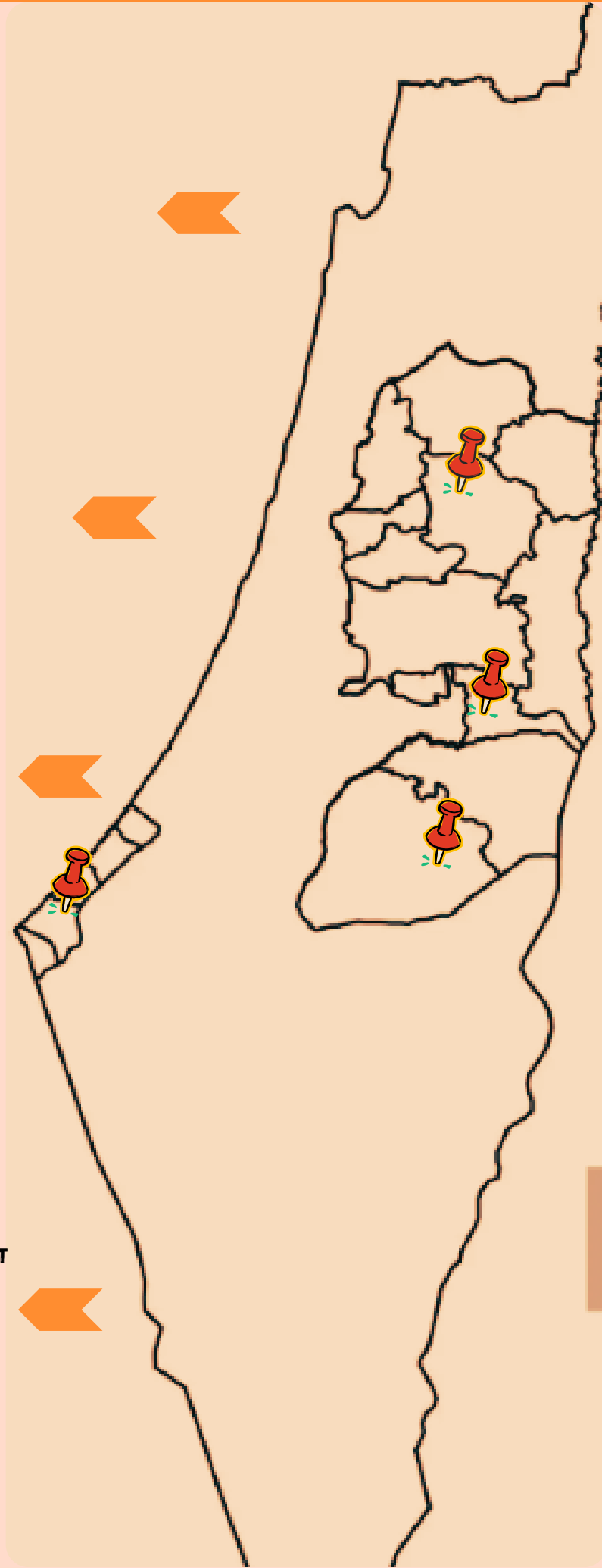
- **1,250** BENEFICIARIES FROM PFA INTERVENTIONS
- **138** BENEFICIARIES FROM PHONE & FACE-TO-FACE CONSULTATIONS
- **256** PARTICIPANTS IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PSS SUPPORT
- **1,195** BENEFICIARIES FROM EMERGENCY AND FOOD KITS

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 2,839**

### **GAZA**

- **1,078** BENEFICIARIES FROM PFA INTERVENTIONS
- **104** BENEFICIARIES FROM INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING
- **2,384** PARTICIPANTS IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PSS SUPPORT
- **1,880** BENEFICIARIES FROM EMERGENCY AND FOOD KITS

**TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 5,446**



# ***Story of the Month***

## ***A Story of Resilience – S's Journey to Healing***

Amid the ongoing war on Gaza since October 7, 2023, which has profoundly affected the children, "S," a 9-year-old girl from northern Gaza, was one of those who suffered from repeated displacement and constant fear. The sights of bombings, the sounds of tanks, and the cases of sniping and killing children left a deep impact on her, to the extent that she lost all her hair due to severe fear, without any clear medical cause. Despite her family's desperate attempts to find treatment, they faced misdiagnoses and financial strain due to the lack of medical resources in the area. As her condition worsened, she became socially withdrawn and suffered from severe psychological distress. She preferred to stay alone, avoiding interaction with other children, who would mock her, pull off her headscarf, and whisper among themselves, calling her "sick." This only deepened her sense of isolation and shame. When asked about her wishes, she simply said, **"I don't want to play with other kids. I don't like them."**

During self-care activities organized by the center, her mother approached a counselor for advice and explained her daughter's condition. The counselor began working with "S," visiting her, talking to her, and building trust. Through various interventions, she helped "S" rebuild her confidence and gradually encouraged her to connect with others by involving her in activities. Over time, the counselor organized a special event named after her, involving her in the planning process. Excited about the idea, "S" actively participated and took center stage in the event, distributing cotton candy to other children. This small yet meaningful act allowed her to experience the joy of giving and connecting with others—not as someone to be pitied, but as a person with value who could share happiness.

Since her recovery also required medical treatment, the center partnered with the World Health Organization (WHO) to provide and bring in essential supplies such as medical shampoo, hair oil, and vitamins from outside Gaza, as they were not available inside the Strip. Over time, her hair slowly began to grow back, bringing renewed hope to both her and her family. More importantly, she started to rebuild her self-confidence, becoming more engaged with others and opening her heart to friendship and positive experiences.

Today, "S" has returned to her home in northern Gaza, and her healing journey continues. The Palestinian Counseling Center remains by her side, committed to providing the support and care she needs. Her story serves as a powerful reminder that healing and resilience are possible, even in the face of unimaginable hardship. She now shares with her counselor that she feels strong.