



LES AMIS DES
enfants de Bethléem

Annual report 2024



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Impressum

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A word from our President

Dear friends,

20 years! What an adventure! Supported by an efficient committee, I've always kept my eyes on the question: "And what about tomorrow?" The years have gone by, and we have never given up, not even during difficult times. And how right we were! Laughter fills our Maison (House).

«Where the heart is, the feet are never hesitant to go.» As I write to you, I have just returned from Bethlehem. I found a sad city, empty of pilgrims. No tourists, no money and no atmosphere. But at no point did I feel unsafe.

Three young women eager to train in psychomotor therapy have just joined our team. I would like to thank Anne-Françoise and Marco, distinguished professor and teacher at the HETS, for continuing to train our facilitators, currently via videoconference.

Myriam, our new multilingual general director, is a ray of sunshine for everyone. What a joy to work with her! Just as it is with Nahida, our legal representative, who ensures that our relations with the administrative authorities run smoothly.

Throughout the pages of this report, our team shares their often challenging daily life. The media reports on what is happening in this country so dear to our hearts, but they cannot capture the little moments of joy or the sparkling eyes of "our" children eager for games based on psychomotricity, stories, and puppet shows...

Dreaming and imagination flow freely in the House. A few children from Gaza, welcomed by SOS Village Bethlehem, took part in our summer camps, and just last week I heard them laughing during the puppet show. It was wonderful!

THANK YOU, dear friends! Thanks to you, children receive a little kindness in this harsh and cruel world. THANK YOU for your words of encouragement, your donations, your care. You are our strength. THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart!

Jacqueline Mardelle
Présidente





322

children benefit
weekly

including

47

who participate in Artistic
Fridays

117

children attended
summer camps

28

remote training sessions
for the team

totaling

53

hours of lessons and
practice-sharing



Our activities in 2024

Experiencing childhood in spite of it all

Weakened by a context of confinement and by an unstable socio-economic and health situation, the Bethlehem region offers living conditions that make it difficult for children to fully live this crucial phase of life.

For 20 years, the association has been developing psychomotricity approaches to better manage the traumas induced by the context of violence in which the children of this region are living.

Within the framework of our projects, we are committed to pursuing the objectives of the UN 2030 Agenda, especially goal 4, dedicated to education



Jean-Bernard remembers: 20 years already ...

It feels like it was just yesterday! I discovered Israel and Palestine in the early 1960s, driven by the curiosity of a teenager questioning the stories we were told in catechism class. That's why I began my studies to see "if it was true!" by taking part in archaeological missions. On site, my supervisors were Israelis, who delved into their history through endless theological discussions; the workers were Palestinians, who invited me to their homes for coffee or arak... and through their way of life, gave me a glimpse of the vibrant hospitality of those characters whose stories I was reading about in the Bible.

Later on, when I had the chance to lead groups in the "Holy Land," I always tried to let the living stones speak beyond the ancient ruins, with their ever-relevant dramas.

Since then, I have never passed through Bethlehem without taking time after the essential visit to the Church of the Nativity to stop by and see these modern "baby Jesuses" taken in at a Crèche (nursery). These encounters, always too brief, regularly left a strong impression on my "pilgrims."

So, when one day after a trip to the Holy Land, someone asked me: *But what can we do for them?* I suggested sending money. And that's where the story begins! It could have happened anywhere in the world, but experiencing it there, in Bethlehem, like a new Christmas Eve it quickly took on the air of a miracle!

In that group that year - 20 years ago - I was fortunate to have, among others, a doctor, a nurse, a teacher, a journalist, in short, mothers and fathers whose children, enrolled in our Swiss schools, were used to educational techniques. It is to these "pilgrims" that I owe being convinced there was something better to do than just send money... How?

For example: by first trying to bring life and smiles to these abandoned little ones!

It's true that in this Crèche (nursery), they were well fed, clothed, and sheltered, but... passive. Drawing on her nearly 20 years of experience in Upper Egypt, Jacqueline Mardelle, seeing that there was no educational program for the smallest ones proposed something in addition.

At that time, there was a professor of education at Bethlehem University, Dr. Jacqueline Sfeir, who was attempting to implement appropriate training but her approach was too revolutionary and was not supported by the administration. She was the one who encouraged Jiries and Lisa, who had followed her teachings, to start a kindergarten at the Crèche. We then invited Jiries to come visit nurseries in Switzerland.



Jean-Bernard remembers: 20 years already ...

There, he met educators who truly inspired him; and thanks to the enthusiasm of Brigitte, an instructor, and Anne-Françoise, who was in charge of education in psychomotricity at the School of Social Work at the University of Geneva, we were able to welcome young graduates eager to put their studies into practice through internships in a disadvantaged country. First came Virginie, then the two Stéphanies, who enjoyed Bethlehem so much that they extended their six-month stay to a two-year commitment, funded by us.

Meanwhile, in Switzerland, Jacqueline gathered several members of the group I mentioned earlier, and on December 8,

2005, we created an association initially linked to the Crèche, but later, at the request of the Sisters, it became an independent association: Les Amis des Enfants de Bethléem (ADEB) translated as The Friends of the Children of Bethlehem. The adventure had begun, and it continues to this day: a true miracle!

But in these difficult economic and political conditions, how can we bring a smile and a will to live to a child's face? Over the past 20 years, we have faced many challenges. Internally, because we were convinced that adult attitudes toward these little ones, so thirsty for love, needed to change, we often

clashed with school leadership that was unprepared for such shifts. Externally, we had to establish our own framework, starting with renting facilities, and eventually gaining recognition and NGO status from the government and local authorities. Most importantly, we needed financial support and educational resources. Thanks to you, funding has never failed. Let me take this opportunity to say a huge THANK YOU.

Jiries and Lisa quickly identified the most urgent needs in the existing kindergartens. The goal was not to create our own nursery, but to get involved with local institutions.



Among the many encounters that left a mark on “my pilgrims,” I would like to mention the parish priest of Nazareth, so many families from Galilee, and Sister Marie Paul.



Jean-Bernard remembers: 20 years already ...

Our goal: In order to carry out our vast project, we needed to find and train educators in the approach in psychomotricity - a discipline still unknown in the Middle East - and at the same time gain the trust of local institutions and society. You can understand our satisfaction today when we hear parents say: *“What are you doing with our children that makes them come home smiling?”*

That’s why we named our space *La Maison* (House) (in Arabic Beth, as in Beth-lehem)! Yes, the children are truly our best ambassadors. And it is the educators who benefit from this: early on, we agreed with the leadership of the institutions where we work that their teachers must participate in our activities.

For those who grew to like it, we set up a “Training for Early Childhood Educators,” which is now officially recognized by the Palestinian Ministry of Education. We have just completed our first two-year cycle, with certificates awarded to ten graduates.

Meanwhile, our local team has continued to grow: from two full-time staff members twenty years ago to now seven trained facilitators in the approach to psychomotricity. They foster creativity through art, make puppets, create small plays, and invent imaginary worlds during “artistic Fridays” and summer camps, worlds where dreams reign supreme. It’s a close-knit local team, supported by a new director appointed after the passing of Jiries, and a legal representative who

is indispensable thanks to her deep connections within the community and local authorities. In addition, we’ve been called upon to expand our services to reach children aged 6 to 12, having recognized the vast needs in the primary school age group.

20 years later ...

I would like to express to all of you, friends and members of the committee, my heartfelt gratitude for allowing me, through our commitment to the Children of Bethlehem, to harbor a child’s soul.



Jean-Bernard Livio
Vice-président





20 years of collaborations

To remain true to its primary mission, bringing dreams and smiles to children, ADEB has been able to count, over these past twenty years, on the contributions of artists from both Switzerland and Bethlehem. They are warmly thanked here.

Let us mention, among others:

Yannick, who, during numerous stays in Bethlehem, created:

- “Palestinian Tales”, short animated films recorded on DVD in French and in Arabic,
- “A Story from My Home”, a beautiful storybook published in both French and Arabic,
- “The Treasure Chest”, filled with wooden rods and multicolored fabrics to build and inhabit the wildest ideas,
- “A World Map”, an impressive creation where the continents are made up of

children’s faces from all over the world, including 500 from Bethlehem, which now stands proudly in the municipal amusement park.

Ayed, artist and cultural facilitator, who designed several greeting cards for ADEB and created the symbols for “*The 10 Rights of the Child*” which were turned into a puzzle. Invited to schools in Switzerland, he presented “exhibitions” of his work themed around the letter “beit” of Bethlehem.

Hani, a sculptor of nativity scenes in olive wood and other everyday objects, who gifted us the little hearts (see our souks on the website).

Flavia, who worked with women from the Social Service, helping to develop and promote traditional Palestinian embroidery, a hallmark of local craftsmanship. JBL



Stories shared from our team

Being the General Director of ADEB has been a truly transformative experience. When I took on this position, I felt a mix of excitement and apprehension. The weight of responsibility was new to me, and I often asked myself: *Am I really up to the task?* But over time, I understood that leading is not about having all the answers - it is about learning, growing, and relying on the incredible people around us.

What made this journey so special is that I did not experience it alone. From the very beginning, the team welcomed me with open arms, providing me with a space to learn and supporting me at every step. Together, we built a rhythm, and thanks to their support and collaboration, I began to realize that I could thrive in this role in my own way - authentically and sincerely.

What I cherish the most is the deep connection this role has allowed me to establish with ADEB's mission. Seeing children flourish, hearing their laughter echo through the halls, and witnessing the joy in their eyes constantly reminded me why we do what we do. It is not about perfection nor understanding everything. It is about being present, giving our best, and knowing that even

the smallest act of kindness can create extraordinary waves.

This first year as Director has been filled with challenges, moments of growth, and countless instances of pride and human warmth. It has taught me that leadership is not about moving forward alone - it is about building something meaningful together. And looking back, I feel a huge gratitude, not only for the opportunity to lead but also for the people and the mission that have made this experience so deeply enriching.

Myriam Abu Laban
Director





This year, despite the difficult conditions that disrupt our daily lives and negatively influence our morale, my work with the children, along with my ability to bring smiles to their faces, has given me the motivation to continue, filling me with strength and hope for a better future.

For the first time, I had the opportunity to work with very young children, only one and a half years old, with the oldest not even two years old. This has been an opportunity and incredibly enriching experience for me. Our trainers, Anne-Françoise and Marco, helped me tremendously - I am grateful to them. I also noticed the clear impact of our work on this age group and this in a very short amount of time.



For example, there was a one-and-a-half-year-old child who initially did not speak at all and had no control over his body movements or reactions. After just four months of working with him, he began speaking, verbally interacting with us, and expressing his joy with simple words at the end of the sessions. His skills, as well as those of all the children, developed significantly. We saw the rapid and tangible influence of our work on this group. In the current context, we realize how lucky these children are to have new experiences. These experiences provide them with many skills and are a valuable form of learning.

Marlen Albedd
Animator in
PM Approach



Stories shared from our team

The little girl with the broken arm

In the context of our sessions in psychomotricity, little Tia entered the room, but something was different this time... Her hand was in a cast, and the doctor had prescribed a full week of rest. How could she take part in the session, and why had she come?

When asked, her teacher replied with a smile: "Tia insisted on participating. She came especially for this session, and her father will take her home as soon as it's over." And that's when the surprise hit! A little girl, injured, choosing to interrupt her rest in order to experience this moment.

Tia didn't see her broken arm as a barrier keeping her from enjoying movement and play. On the contrary, she defied the pain and joined in with all her heart. At the end of the session, her father was waiting for her—his eyes filled with pride and amazement.

This story highlights the importance of the approach in psychomotricity and the joy it can bring to a child.

Stories shared from our team



This year has been marked by numerous changes within the institution's structure, including the arrival of three new trainees in the team and the establishment of a new leadership. Initially, these changes caused me great concern, but gradually, these fears dissipated. Today, I see the institution in a new light. Having witnessed its early days, I can see how it has transformed into a space of freedom, creativity, and collaboration. The team is more united than ever, with stronger relationships than before. The integration of young members has brought a fresh energy full of dynamic and enthusiasm. Moreover, it is clear that the institution does not rely on specific individuals to continue existing but rather on its objectives and the spirit it embodies.

With the war in Gaza, this year has, of course, been full of challenges, but it has also been punctuated by many success stories with the children and partner institutions. For instance, Hatem, a five-year-old who refused to stay in any kindergarten, gradually integrated through psychomotor activities. Slowly, he started moving away from his mother, who initially accompanied him out of fear of his reaction. At the end of the day, he said he would return to kindergarten thanks to this activity. Although his mother was convinced he would not come back, Hatem returned the next day. Today, he is part of this kindergarten!



Nabeel Zboun
Animator in
PM Approach





Stories shared from our team

Over the past year, we have accomplished a lot of work as a local team, consisting of management and field members. Regardless of our programs, we strive to ensure that every child receives their rights while maintaining the quality of planning, execution, and the evaluation that follows.

The difficult conditions in the country, the constant anxiety, and the challenges of movement weigh heavily on our hearts, along with concerns for our families, friends, and colleagues. However, we continue our work with love, continuously offering our services to children and launching programs aimed at reaching as many as possible, particularly in various areas of Bethlehem. This mission becomes even more meaningful when we realize that what we do is so important for them.

A striking example is that of Taim. This child usually did not attend daycare on Thursdays, the day we offer psychomotor activity sessions. One day, he happened to be there on a Thursday and participated in the activities with his class. The experience was so impactful for him that, from that day on, he has attended every Thursday without exception! His commitment is a clear and touching illustration of the impact of our work with the children and

their enthusiasm to take part in it. This strengthens our motivation even more to continue our mission with dedication and passion. We hope to continue offering our services and wish that the coming years bring a lot of good to all.

Malik Abu Salameh
Animator in
PM Approach



Stories shared from our team

With our teachers Anne-Françoise and Marco, I have come to understand the importance of personal space that a child needs, even at a very young age. I also discovered that psychomotor activities have a profound impact on a child's personality and development; they are not just simple games. The psychomotor approach is based on understanding the psychological and physical components of a child. Thanks to this understanding, I realized the importance of adapting my role as an animator and exploring new tools to establish a better connection with the children.

The war has deeply affected us psychologically, causing frustration and despair. Several times, during my workday on Mondays in the village of al-Khader, I encountered the Israeli army, feeling fear and tension, especially at the thought that a confrontation might occur while I was in a session with the children.

The «veterans» of the team are absolutely wonderful. They are always available when we need help, guiding and mentoring us. They also share their expertise in puppet-making, storytelling, and recycling materials. I also learned basic dramatic arts during the winter camp. These

enriching experiences have not only contributed to my personal growth but have also allowed me to rediscover the simple joy of growing alongside children.

Nisreen Bannoura
Animator in
PM Approach



When I first joined the association, I did not know the nature of the work in psychomotor development. But thanks to theoretical training, analyzing real-life situations, and exchanging ideas with experienced team members, I have learned and progressed immensely. My relationship with the children developed quickly. They started looking forward to my presence, and I felt that I was having a meaningful impact on them. I also realized that each and every reaction from a child has a reason and that it is essential to take this into account.

I noticed how much my interactions help them feel safe and confident. This has encouraged me to persevere and continue, despite the psychological pressure we faced last year due to the effects of the war in the country. When I traveled to Talitha Kumi, I felt intense anxiety, as I had to pass through a military checkpoint where I would come face to face with the army.



Over the past year in the association, I have felt an internal transformation in my personality and thinking. I have discovered new abilities within myself, such as storytelling and puppet-making. With the support of the team, I had the opportunity to showcase these skills during camps and activities we organized with children in schools.

Hazar Musleh
Animator in
PM Approach



What I appreciate about ADEB is its artistic and diverse work environment. It provides ample space for creativity and innovation, whether through artistic activities, camps, or planning psychomotor development sessions. These sessions, in particular, bring a constant spirit of giving, as they allow for interaction with children, making me feel both like a responsible adult and a child at play.

But perhaps the most rewarding aspect is knowing that the children eagerly await my return each time. This thought alone motivates me to persevere and invest even more.

The spirit of mutual aid and knowledge-sharing is remarkable. No question remains unanswered, and we always have access to additional knowledge, whether from our fellow animators or our supervisors in Switzerland. Discussions with Marco and Anne-Françoise are incredibly valuable: their patience in listening to our concerns and responding with precision and kindness is truly inspiring.

Stories shared from our team

One of the greatest challenges, however, is coping with the difficult circumstances in our country, which inevitably impact our emotional well-being as animators, sometimes even more than the children themselves. Despite these hardships, we must cultivate inner strength to reassure the children without letting them perceive the weight of our own worries.

Wafa'Ibrahim Alubaiat
Animator in
PM Approach



Stories shared from our team

A breath of fresh air in 2024! Our team has been strengthened by people from various professional backgrounds, already deeply engaged in social life. They move forward alongside the «veterans» with evident joy. At our helm, Myriam, with the same enthusiasm, leads us on new paths while drawing from past experiences.

This year, the preparations for winter activities were a revelation for me. The environment was right, and the atmosphere was conducive. An idea emerged: we needed to tell a story. The perfect book appeared at the end of a library shelf - *The First Great Journey of Santa Clause*. A real story, rich in mystery

and carrying a universal message of trust and mutual aid. Indeed, we were going to play, create, but most importantly, craft a warm space where this story could come to life and make us dream together. As the storytellers refined their oral expression, the artists on the team transformed the room into an enchanting place. *«It felt like I had gone on a great journey... the story was just so beautiful,»* a child commented.

Another highlight was continuing my sessions with the young disabled group at Hogar Ninos Dio, wonderfully assisted by my trainee colleague, who has discovered a passion for working with this particular group. These sessions are moments of pure humanity. In

these challenging times, our work brings immense satisfaction and great happiness.

Lisa Abu Laban Julen
Art Therapist





I was appointed director of the association from January to May 2024. This period was enriching, as I was able to get involved in every detail of the association, interview, and appoint four new candidates. Despite the immense challenges posed by the political situation and the war in Gaza, ADEB managed to accomplish almost everything planned for 2024.

Nahida Nasser Ghattas
Legal Representative



This was a year of success: our team expanded with four new employees, including a new director and three animators. At the same time, we met new partners and established collaboration plans.

In 2024, we also expanded the association's infrastructure, creating more space for the children's activities. All of this was made possible thanks to the positive attitude and commitment of our Swiss committee, our staff, our partners, and our valued donors and supporters.

We hope that 2025 will be a year of peace and serenity, as well as another successful year for ADEB. NNG



In this difficult time, life is full of challenges. Translation has become an important part of my life, both professionally and personally. Translating psychomotor courses has gradually helped me understand the psychomotor approach myself, to the point that it has positively influenced my relationship with my autistic daughter, Batoul. Thanks to this approach, I better understand her reactions, emotions, and need to move and communicate. I also share this experience with my daughter Reem in supporting the development of little Ela, who absorbs everything joyfully like a sponge!

Stories shared from our team

Professionally, I am delighted to collaborate with ADEB's friendly team. Whether it's Wafa's imagination, Malik's energy, Nisreen's patience, Hazar's caution, or the three expert «coaches» Lisa, Nabeel, and Marlen, all highly complementary, I appreciate the flexibility, harmony, and shared concern for Bethlehem's children, helping them feel less stressed and live in a healthier, more peaceful environment.

Fatmeh Askar
Translator



I also greatly admire the Swiss trainers and their methodology. They work like master chefs, drawing out ideas and practical solutions. It's amazing! They are well-organized, highly constructive, and bring a strong sense of security to the team and to me. This work has taught me patience, and I look forward to tasting its sweet rewards! I thank ADEB for allowing me to live this wonderful experience.

FA



Artistic Fridays



The year 2024 has been difficult for our Palestinian community. The ongoing war has added an unbearable burden of pain. The images and news we receive daily cannot be ignored, and it is impossible to shield children from them. The sense of security is what people - especially children - need most. Unfortunately, this is what our people lack, and what the world cannot provide us.

Despite very harsh conditions in 2024, we have tried to continue our programs, understanding how vital they were in providing children a space to momentarily escape their daily reality. Our most profound satisfaction is having occupied the children, making them happy and

helping them forget the challenges surrounding them.

This year, the association continued its collaboration with the SOS Village Organization, welcoming numerous children from Bethlehem and Gaza during both seasons of the Friday program and during the summer camps.

The first season of the Fridays program concluded with a puppet show performed by the children, in the presence of friends and families. The Municipality of Bethlehem generously provided a hall for the performance in May 2024.





Summer camps

For the first time this year, the summer camp was organized in two phases to accommodate more than 100 children over two months. We offered a rich program filled with diverse activities, including recreational games, competitions, handicrafts, and artistic workshops. Each child built a small cardboard house, eventually forming a village. This theme was essential in fostering hope and recreating life with colors amid the scenes of destruction in their reality.

hall, marking the beginning of our collaboration with this cultural center.

Periods of closures and strikes posed challenges in organizing some gatherings, but during the sessions we managed to hold, we made up for lost time and continued the program. Our greatest satisfaction was being able to engage the children, ensuring they were happy and could momentarily forget the challenges surrounding them.



We then launched a new season of the Fridays program by welcoming children during four months. At the end of the year, the children presented a theatrical performance in the «Wonder Cabinet»

Ayed Arafah
Social-Cultural Animator
and Artist



Training in psychomotricity

Since the end of summer 2024, two challenges have surfaced:

- To train three new staff members in the approach in psychomotricity
- To provide support at the local level in psychomotricity to the more experienced members of the activity team.

To assist me in this dual mission, I enlisted the help of Marco De Monte, a teacher and therapist in psychomotricity working with very young children in nurseries. Our intervention unfolded in several stages:

- Sharing in the foundations of the approach in psychomotricity with the former team, which Lisa has joined, and collaboratively laying down the essential milestones that will support the gradual autonomy of the three new team members
- Delivering an intensive introduction of this approach to the new hires;
- Supporting the development of their skills in:
 - observing how the children encountered are organized on a psychomotricity level, their behaviours, and the dynamics of their interactions

- Managing the different phases of a session by leading the rituals, selecting the objects and activities, and structuring space and time;
- Reflecting on the relational, cognitive, and motor needs of the children and groups they encountered.

We have used various tools to energize our work sessions: video recordings of nursery sessions, images of the stages of development in psychomotricity and how the body works in children aged 0 to 5 years, «problem» situations drawn from the team's practice, and texts dealing with sensitive topics for the team (hyperactivity, professional posture, structure and limits, play, etc.).

We have also benefited from the new facilities at the Maison, which allowed us to maintain visual interaction with the entire team. Fatmeh's support in translating during the sessions has been invaluable. These conditions enable us to have interactive exchanges tailored to the team's needs.

Our intervention complements the on site support provided by Marlen, Nabeel,

and Malik.

Currently, we meet with the team every other week, while they engage in a shared task during the weeks we do not see them. Our aim is for each individual to integrate the benefits of psychomotricity into their practice with children. These regular meetings also serve as a time for building the new team in psychomotricity within the Association, and for its growth toward new projects.



Anne-Françoise Wittgenstein
Professor Emerita, University of
Applied Sciences (HES)





Activities in Switzerland

Concert/Show with «Les Ministrings»

On Sunday, April 28, at the Aula des Bergières in Lausanne, more than 350 enthusiastic attendees enjoyed this magnificent performance, full of colour and joy. The group “Les Ministrings” consists of children who dedicate themselves to a demanding and original musical journey from the age of seven. With their presence and music, they conveyed a wonderful energy throughout the entire show.



Christmas Wreath Sale

The Mission Group selected our association for this major Advent sale at the end of mass in the parishes of Saint-Prex, Rolle and Aubonne on Sunday, December 1st. The parishioners were very enthusiastic and thanks to their generosity, we received substantial donations.



Souks

Our longtime friends Yolande and Charly Morand, with the help of Thérèse, planned another sale in La Joux in the municipality of Vuisternens, on Sunday, December 1st. Thank you to these friends who have organized so many bazaars here and there during all these years!

Once again this year, we participated in the Solidarity Christmas Market at the Flon in Lausanne, on December 12, 13 and 14. We had many wonderful encounters and genuine interest while presenting our association. Our bazaar was such a success that we were sold out of most of our items! We also greatly appreciated the strong solidarity shown by visitors, who were concerned about the current situation on the ground.

Biblical Fridays – Traditional meal

On Friday, December 6, nearly 80 people attended the traditional year-end meal. Thanks to the invaluable and incredible support of our friends “Les Givrées”, the meal was carefully prepared and served in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

How happy we were during this memorable dinner, served in the parish hall of Saint-Amédée, where Jean-Bernard Livio hosted his “Biblical Fridays”. Your testimonies truly touched us!

Catherine Bromm
Member of the committee



Finances

Accounts in Switzerland

Balance sheet (CHF)	ASSETS	2024	2023
	Current Assets		
	Current account Postfinance	124 491,50	294 336,21
	Current account BCV Euros	165 335,65	41 973,68
	Cash CHF and foreign currency	2 019,41	2 005,68
	Total	291 846,56	338 315,57
	Fixed Assets		
	Inventory	6 642,00	4 593,00
	Total	6 642,00	4 593,00
	TOTAL ASSETS	298 488,56	342 908,57
	LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	2024	2023
	Long-term foreign funds		
	Staff indemnity	4 283,75	3 978,27
	Total	4 283,75	3 978,27
	Equity		
	Capital as of January 1st	338 930,30	264 634,63
	Deficit/Profit	-44 725,49	74 295,67
	Total	294 204,81	338 930,30
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	298 488,56	342 908,57



Bethlehem's accounting is taken care of by Mrs and Mr Shomali Fiduciary in Bethlehem, whom we would like to thank for their excellent cooperation.

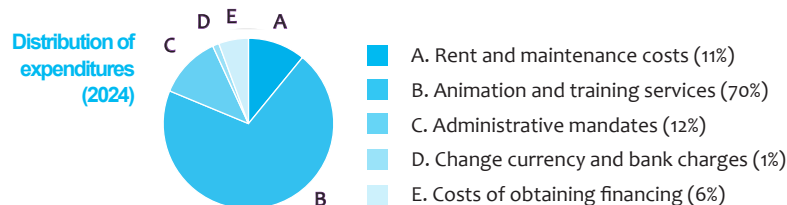


Our annual accounts in Switzerland are audited by Mr Heni Saïah, from HSNS Fiduciary in La Conversion/Lutry, whom we would like to thank for his invaluable advice throughout the year.

Income & expenses (CHF)	GENERAL REVENUES	2024	2023
	Private donations	140 112,50	142 713,30
	Institutional donations	62 000,00	60 000,00
	Parish and rel. communities donations	21 124,55	17 633,80
	Souk and diverse events	23 982,51	21 920,60
	Exchange profit	1 501,23	506,56
	TOTAL	248 720,79	242 774,26
	EXPENSE	2024	2023
	Project expenses		
	Payments to Bethlehem	213 954,00	90 920,00
	Project «HETS Training»	17 761,60	5 370,00
	Salaries and social fees	9 708,50	9 848,80
	Travel and accomodation	401,42	9 017,32
	Variance of currency (lost)	2 075,45	2 642,78
	Total	243 900,97	117 798,90
	Costs of obtaining financing		
	Salaries and social fees	19 416,80	19 697,20
	Secretariat costs	6 713,96	7 896,61
	Events and goods costs	2 722,65	2 728,87
	Total	28 853,41	30 322,68
	Administrative expenses		
	Salaries and social fees	19 416,80	19 697,20
	Secretariat costs	1 275,10	659,81
	Total	20 691,90	20 357,01
	TOTAL EXPENSES	293 446,28	168 478,59
	NET RESULT OF THE YEAR	2024	2023
	Net result Deficit (-) / Profit (+)	- 44 725,49	+ 74 295,67

Accounts in Bethlehem

Balance sheet (CHF)	ASSETS	2024	2023
	Currents assets		
	Cash on hand and bank	171 033,79	102 683,51
	Transitional assets	191,27	677,54
	Total	171 225,06	103 361,05
	Fixed assets		
	La Maison - Investment	17 095,43	3 663,78
	Total	17 095,43	3 663,78
	TOTAL ASSETS	188 320,49	107 024,83
	LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	2024	2023
	Short term foreign fund		
	Accrued Audit Fees	3 543,92	155,70
	Total	3 543,92	155,70
	Long term debt		
	Staff Indemnity	23 477,82	34 356,54
	Total	23 477,82	34 356,54
	Shareholder funds		
	Capital on January 1st	72 512,59	106 959,10
	Adjustment December 31st	5 568,04	- 9 664,86
	Deficit/Profit Current	83 218,12	- 24 781,65
	Total	161 298,75	72 512,59
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	188 320,49	107 024,83



Income & expense (CHF)	GENERAL REVENUES	2024	2023
	General donations from CH	217 478,25	84 148,93
	Donation from Swiss representation		2 572,24
	Other revenues	25,86	80,21
	TOTAL REVENUES	217 504,11	86 801,38
	EXPENSES	2024	2023
	Project expenses		
	Rent La Maison	14 675,44	10 822,93
	Salaries and social fees La Maison	81 742,62	73 613,92
	Summer Camps and artistic Fridays	14 289,56	11 192,98
	Training - Activities material	2 898,84	16,63
	Local transportation	2 271,42	1 711,27
	Administrative mandates	9 171,08	8 921,22
	Depreciation - Bank charges	666,59	360,87
	Currency variance	987,57	2 035,67
	Total	126 703,12	108 675,49
	Fundraising expenses		
	Purchase for resale	7 582,87	2 907,54
	Total	7 582,87	2 907,54
	TOTAL EXPENSES	134 285,99	111 583,03
	NET RESULT OF THE YEAR	2024	2023
	Net result Deficit (-) / Profit (+)	+ 83 218,12	- 24 781,65

N.B. : Accounts in Bethlehem are kept in USD. For the sake of clarity, we present the figures in CHF at the official exchange rate of December 31, 2024 (1 CHF = 0,906250 USD).
On December 31, 2023, the rate was 0,841624.
This is why we must adjust the 2023 capital to the effective date of December 31, 2024

Financial

Commentary

This year, I would like to highlight the importance of our project-related expenses. In addition to our usual activities, we were able to fund the hiring of three new staff members, as well as the rental and furnishing of the new offices on the second floor of La Maison in Bethlehem.

We transferred a total amount of USD 240,000, which corresponds to project expenses of CHF 213,954 in our Swiss accounting. This amount matches CHF 217,478.25 in donations received from Switzerland according to the accounting records in Bethlehem, reflecting a difference of CHF 3,524.25 due to exchange rate fluctuations.

The presentation of our financial statements complies with the standards of the Zewo Foundation (Swiss Central Office for Charitable Organizations). However, we clarify that we are not accredited by this foundation.

My sincere thanks go out to our many loyal donors! I would like to remind you that «Les Amis des Enfants de Bethléem» is recognized as a public-interest organization, which allows your donations to be tax-deductible.

I remain available for any further information you may need.

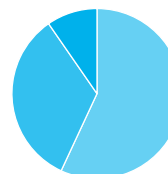
Chantal Pellegri
General Secretary



Deficit/ Excess Consolidated accounts - Overall situation

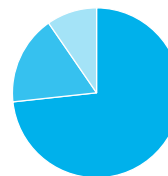
(CHF)	SUMMARY	2024	2023
	Revenues	248 746,65	245 426,71
	Project expenses	- 156 650,09	- 135 554,39
	Fundraising expenses	- 36 436,28	- 33 230,22
	Administrative expenses	- 20 691,90	- 20 357,01
	Variance of currency	+ 3 524,25	- 6 771,07
	Deficit (-) / Profit (+)	+ 38 492,63	+ 49 514,02
	NET RESULT OF THE YEAR	2024	2023
	Deficit/Profit - Switzerland	- 44 725,49	74 295,67
	Deficit/Profit - Bethlehem	+ 83 218,12	- 24 781,65
	Deficit (-) / Profit (+)	+ 38 492,63	+ 49 514,02

Source of
income
(2024)



- Private donations (57%)
- Institutional donations (33%)
Foundations & parish
- Own income (10%)
Souls & diverse events

Distribution of
expenditure
(2024)



- Project expenses (73%)
- Fundraising expenses (17%)
- Administrative costs (10%)



Our association in 2024

Committee

Jacqueline Mardelle, Chairwoman
Jean-Bernard Livio, Vice Chairman
Elisabeth Fromaigeat, treasurer
Olivier Mani
Catherine Bromm
Meriem Benmelouka
Natalie Munier-Jordi
Pascal Fleury (since 2025)

Secrétariat

Chantal Pellegrì, General Secretary

Local team in Bethlehem

Nahida Nasser Ghattas,
Legal representative
Myriam Abu Laban, Director
Lisa Julen Abu Laban, art therapist
Marlen Albedd, animator in PM approach
Nabeel Zboun, animator in PM approach
Malik Abu Salameh, animator in PM approach
Hazar Musleh, animator in PM approach
Nisreen Bannoura, animator in PM approach
Wafa'Ibrahim Alubaiat, animator in PM approach
Ayed Arafah, Social-cultural animator
Fatmeh Askar, translator

Webmaster

Alain Rihs

Fiduciaries

Arwa and Majdi Shomali, Bethlehem
Heni Saïah, Fiduciaire HSNS, Lutry (CH)

Thanks

We would like to thank our donors,
partners, and volunteers, without whom
nothing could be done !

We take the opportunity to thank in particular:

- The Municipality of Bethlehem
- Management and educators of partner institutions in Bethlehem
- Anne-Françoise Wittgenstein and Marco De Monte for the training in psychomotricity
- Lauren Pasche, photographer
- Corinne Castella, graphic designer
- Moha Sakijha
- The les « Givrées » team

Our association

In short

In 2005, a group of pilgrims fell in love when they discovered the existence of many orphaned children in Bethlehem, abandoned or taken into care in the area. In order to help them, some friends founded the association «Les Amis de la Crèche de Bethlehem», which in 2016 became «Les Amis des Enfants de Bethlehem».

Seeking to be apolitical and nonconfessional, the association has developed its network and expertise year after year. It has become a recognized NGO active in cooperation, specialised in the engagement and training of educational staff, supporting early childhood in politically turbulent contexts.



For donations in CHF:
Postfinance
CCP 17-574313-0

IBAN CH79 0900 0000 1757 4313 0

For donations in Euros:
BCV, 1009 Pully
IBAN CH78 0076 7000 A543 9044 6
Code BIC : BCVLCH2LXXX

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Non Profit Organization

