



THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM

INTERIM REPORT

PURCHASING LAUNDRY MACHINES AND A COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR THE ELDERLY HOUSE IN TAYBEH, PALESTINE

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PURCHASING LAUNDRY MACHINES AND A COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR THE ELDERLY HOUSE IN TAYBEH, PALESTINE

*“A population that does not take care of the elderly and of children and the young has no future,
because it abuses both its memory and its promise.”.*

(H.H. Pope Francis)

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 180,000 faithful in four countries, Palestine, Israel, 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.

CITY 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 traditional 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.

THE ELDERLY HOME OF BEIT AFRAM

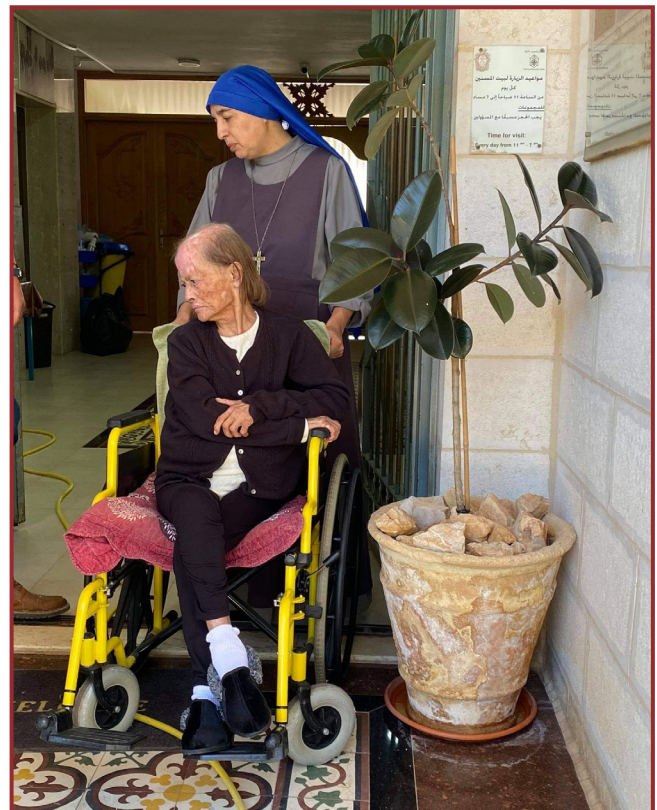
In 2005, the Elderly Home of Taybeh, which is also called Beit Afram Home, meaning the “the Home of Ephraim,” the original name of biblical Taybeh, was opened for 5 elderly people including a priest who was recovering from his illness. Gradually, the home became fully operational to receive more elderly people from several neighboring villages of Palestine and Jerusalem.

The mission of the Center is to offer a familiar and healthy environment for the elderly; thus, providing a better quality of life through assistance in health care, which includes nursing care, medication, hygiene, physical therapy, nutrition, human and psychological support and other needs. Beit Afram Home encourages the spirituality of its residents and employees and promote moments of relaxation through songs, dance and games. It also engages the elderly in social interactions with diverse groups such as schools, youth and ecclesial movements.



Since 2011, the Community Filhos de Maria, a young volunteering community founded in Brazil, manages the place efficiently and take care of the senior citizens of the home. It is part of their community mission to bring the merciful love of the Father to those who suffer physically, socially, psychologically and spiritually.

On August 15, 2020, and on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Community Filhos de Maria officially handed over the administration functions of Beit Afram Elderly Home to the Institute Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matarà, the female branch of the Institute of Incarnate Word.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The home is in need of purchasing laundry machines and a wireless intercom communication system that will benefit the elderly residents of the house as well as the employees of Beit Afram, the volunteers, and the sisters who are working to serve the elderly people with all love and respect.

With your generous donation, the LP technical, procurement and projects teams were able to start the bidding process to have price offers for the two phases of the project. For the laundry machine, the procurement officer will start the tendering process during March. As for the communication system, the price offers received from the suppliers and contractors were higher than the budgeted amounts in the proposal. Therefore, the teams are working on having a new price breakdown. The implementation of this phase is related to the application of the project of Installation of a Fire Safety and Security System at the home which was funded by the German Lieutenancy. Thus, the tendering process for the phase was prepared along with the system project and with other intended projects for the home. The project is estimated to be into effect by the beginning of April 2021 and requires five months to be completed and finished.



BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of this project are the elderly who are welcomed in Beit Afram house, and the sisters and staff who daily care for them. Indeed, the project will offer them a healthiest and safer place. Friends and relatives of the elderly people visiting the compound who puts all their trust in the Latin Patriarchate to offer the best for its residents will also be pleased to learn that their relatives are contented in the Beit Afram home and living in a comfortable environment.



The major objective of all project implemented in the Elderly house 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 is the LPJ that strives to provide the best for its people across the Diocese.



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