



SJAF e-magazine



St Jeanne Antide
Foundation

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Oldies but Goldies
Live In Concert

in aid of
Fondazzjoni St. Jeanne Antide

Spiteri Lucas Band

Saturday, 9th April
Sr. Nemesia Auditorium, Tarxien
Doors open at 7:30pm

Entrance Donation €13
Ticket Hotline - 77053837

Tickets available from
Centru Antida, Tarxien 21809011 & Centru Enrichetta B'Bugia 21652038

Last few
tickets available

Your Support
is greatly
appreciated

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MEET some of our YOUNG VOLUNTEERS from the Children's Learning Support Service

"Volunteering was never something I was very keen on but, due to my present school policy, that of a student having to do at least 55 hours of volunteering during the scholastic year, my opinion changed completely."
Christian

Following an internal evaluation of the Children's Homework Support Service in the mid 2015, something we do each year, a number of changes were made to the approach used to render the service more effective.

The first change involved the training of all Volunteer Learning Support Tutors in teaching and learning strategies that are in use in schools around Malta. Marthese Cini, who co-ordinates the Foundation's Parent and Child Learning Support Service, designed and delivered training for volunteers. Training sessions are on-going to make sure all volunteers are adopting the same methodologies. Special attention is given to the youngest volunteers who have committed themselves, despite their tight study schedule, to a volunteering period of one scholastic year. This special effort is crucial to the stimulation of a loving-kind professional service delivery.

The second change was in the use of time on service delivery days. The new format has the first 45 minutes focused on learn-through-fun activities and games involving oracy, reading, writing, and drawing. The second part of another 45 minutes focuses on homework support.

The third change involves the introduction of non-formal education sessions for parents so as to bolster learning steps being achieved by the children.

Today we would like to introduce our readers to 4 of the youngest Volunteer Learning Support Tutors who will share with you reflections about their volunteering experience.

Christian Galea, 17 years, St Aloysius School: "Volunteering was never something I was very keen on, but due to my present school policy, that of a student having to do at least 55 hours of volunteering during the scholastic year, my opinion changed completely. This change would have never been possible without the St. Jeanne Antide Foundation where I serve as a Volunteer Learning Support Tutor.

Up till now, it has been an amazing experience in which I learned so much including: how to adapt to children of different ages, and a course on how to teach language. Moreover, I grew in many ways such as responsibility taking. I was, and still am, responsible for one child. I also experienced a greater meaning of teamwork and communication with other volunteers. The parents of the children we Tutor and the welcoming staff, quickly accepted us as if they had known us our entire life. Finally, the people at the St. Jeanne Antide Foundation can only be described with one word, that word being marvellous. They truly do care about the children and work above and beyond of what is expected of them to ensure that children receive the best treatment and education whilst keeping a warm and welcoming environment."

Shelby Aquilina, 17 years, St Aloysius School: "I have been volunteering at SJAF for 4 months. It has been such an enriching experience from which I have learnt a lot. During these months of helping the children with their homework, we developed a great bond. Apart from this, I have broadened my knowledge regarding the learning difficulties children may face and which is the best possible way to help. The reading programme course for volunteers has taught me better ways of guiding the children to improve in their literacy skills. This experience has taught me so much and helped me become more aware of the struggles people face. I have learnt to appreciate my life more and am very grateful to be able to help others."



Rebecca Bilocca, 17 years, Gian.Franġisk Abela School: "My experience with SJAF is one where I achieved a great appreciation of what I have. When I am helping others in their difficulties, I realise how fortunate I am. By tutoring 'my' child, I feel a sense of achievement and happiness, as I am helping others to achieve a better understanding not only of education but also of life. This experience with SJAF will surely remain with me in my future."



Kurt Aquilina, 17 years, St Aloysius School: "Over the last few months that I have been a Volunteer with the Learning Support Service of the Foundation, it has been of great satisfaction knowing that I am able to help the children in their educational journey. Moreover, from a personal aspect, I have learned various different techniques on how to help children with different abilities. Overall it has been a great experience."

Kimberly Magro, 17 years, Gian.Franġisk Abela School: "My volunteering experience with the St. Jeanne Antide Foundation helps me develop my character as I learn how to act when I'm with children. Through helping my child, I learnt different ways of teaching and how children react to it and learn. This experience will help me in my future as I will surely use these techniques that SJAF is teaching me to apply in teaching."

X'għidulna l-vittmi u survivors tal-vjolenza domestica—it-tielet parti

Infittxu l-Ġustizzja— minn Marvic Manicaro u Yvonne Scicluna, Kumitat SOAR

Riċerka ipprezentata waqt il-Konferenza Nazzjonali, 4 ta' Diċembru 2015.

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Daħla

Għal survivor ta' vjolenza domestica, il-Qorti hi xi ħaġa inevitabbli. Tfitteq lil seħibha bil-Qorti għax qed tiġġieled għall-kustodja. Tfitteq bil-Qorti għall-manteniment tat-tfal. Ikollha tidher il-Qorti għax hija xhud tas-swat li qalgħet u abbuż iehor li garrbet. Trid titlob lill-Qorti biex seħibha li abbużaha jitneħħa mid-dar matrimonjali. Tithabat bil-Qorti biex tiġġieled għal Ordni ta' Protezzjoni. Terga tiġi b'zonn tidhol il-Qorti għax seħibha qiegħed isus il-passi tagħha u jwerwirha. Iddur għall-Qorti għax mhux qed iħallas l-ispejjeż għall-edukazzjoni jew għas-saħħa kif miftiehem. Mara abbużata, anke wara separazzjoni u s-suppost bini ta' ħajja mill-ġdid, tħossha ankrata fil-Qorti għax il-harassment ma jintemm qatt.

Imma, biex taċċessa s-sistema ġudizzjarja, mara għandha b'zonn avukat u għalhekk għandha b'zonn il-flus. U il-kontijiet għall-passi kollha li semmejna ma jispiċċaw qatt. U minn fejn u kif se ġġib il-flus meħtieġa?

Avukati

L-avukati huma fdati bi rwol sensitiv u kruċjali ħafna. Vittmi u survivors jitolbuhom għajna biex tassigura l-passi kollha meħtieġa biex ma tibqax imjassra u maħqura. Ikunu f'qagħda li jiżvelaw il-verità dwar iċ-ċirkostanzi tas-sitwazzjoni li tkun tinsab fihom il-klijenta tagħhom bil-għan li jitolbu l-qorti timplimenta l-proċeduri meħtieġa biex il-ħajja u l-interessi tal-klijenta tagħhom u uliedha jitharsu b'ġustizzja.

Naturalment, wieħed jassumi li l-avukati jafu u jifhmu x'inhija il-vjolenza domestica u x'effetti koroh thalli fuq il-vittma. Nistaqsu: jagħrfu s-sintomi kumplessi ta' vjolenza domestica meta jiġu wiċċ-imb-wiċċ ma' klijenta li ilha fi stat ta' vittma? U, għandhom b'zonn ta' aktar taħriġ? Il-ħafna nisa membri tas-SOAR ta' spiss jgħidulna:

“L-avukat tiegħi ma fehemx minn xiex kont għaddejja. Trattana ta' koppja fejn jiena u żewġi ma qbilnix. Ma rrealizzax li jien kont vittma ta' kriminalità u li, fl-istess kamra ma' dak li jaħqarni flok iħobbni, jien imbikkma u imbeżza' tant li ma nistax inlissen il-verità.”

“Ma fehemx. Kien għal kollox insensittiv!”

Is-Survivors tagħna jinsistu li l-avukati għandhom b'zonn taħriġ addattat fuq il-vjolenza domestica. Dan it-taħriġ irid jibda mill-Università. Ma nistgħux nibqgħu f'sitwazzjoni f'Malta fejn għandna biss ftit avukati li huma sensitivi u jifhmu sew din ir-realtà. Ftakru li qed nitkellmu fuq realtà fejn waħda minn kull erba' nisa huma milquta minn vjolenza domestica li hi att kriminali!

Is-servizz ta' l-avukati huwa imprezzabbli. Biss, is-servizz jiswa ħafna speċjalment għal min jispiċċa bla mezzi. Is-servizz bla ħlas tal-Għajnuna Legali, kif kulhadd jaf, għandu d-diffikultajiet tiegħu. Hawn ftit mill-kummenti tan-nisa li ħadu sehem fir-riċerka tas-SOAR:

“Fittixt Għajnuna Legali. Hassejtni li dak li għidt lill-avukat daħal minn widna waħda u hareġ dritt mill-widna l-oħra.”

CHARMAINE “L-avukat huwa tac-cajt. Mhuwiex verament interessat biex jaħdem. Għidtlu li kienet emergenza u qalli biex nerga' incempel fi żmien ġimgħatejn.”

ELAINE “L-avukat kien verament inutili. Lanqas huwa avukat li jipprattika l-ligi tal-familja. Ġie biex isaħħan is-siġġu u ma qal xejn. Tkellemt jien biss. B'xorti tajba jien issa drajt immur il-qorti u kont naf x'għandi ngħid biex id-drittijiet tiegħi u t'uliedi jkun mħarsa.”

Dawn kienu espressjonijiet ta' persuni mifnija u frustrati mis-sistema. Biss niltaqgħu wkoll ma' oħrajn li kellhom esperjenza pożittiva.

Bi pjaċir ninnutaw li s-servizz ta' Għajnuna Legali għaddejja minn riforma. Aħna nixtiequ noffru l-għajnuna tagħna wkoll u minn hawn nistiednu lill-avukati li jipprovdu Għajnuna Legali biex jistaqsuna jekk ikollhom b'zonn xi taħriġ jew assistenza. L-għan tagħna hu dejjem li noħolqu aktar għarfien dwar ir-realtà ta' din il-kategorija ta' ċittadini mill-perspettiva ta' survivors. Dan l-invitu huwa miftuħ għall-avukati kollha.

Il-Waiting Room

Fl-aħħar naslu għall-qorti, imma qabel irridu ngħaddu mill-ħolma kerha tal-waiting room tal-qorti. Jekk nieħdu per eżempju il-waiting room tal-qorti tal-familja, immaġinaw daqsxejn kamra tnaq il-pied bi ħmistax li jrid iservi mill-inqas għoxrin ruħ. Immaġinaw x'ser tħos survivor magħluqa go din il-kamra faċċata tal-perpetrator. Immaġinaw l-anzjeta psikoloġika li trid tgħaddi minnha kull darba li tmur il-qorti.

Staqsejna lill-vittmi li intervistajna dwar kif iħossuhom meta jsibu ruħhom fl-istess kamra ma' dak li jaħqarhom u jabbuza minnhom.

Qalulna:

ANNE “Qatt ma kont dħalt f'kamra tal-qorti qabel. U kien qiegħed hemm. Kienet iżzejjed. Sthajjiltni se jħossni ħazin u naqa'.”

YVONNE “Rajt lil żewġi faċċata tiegħi. B'zajt inlissen kelma.”



CHARMAINE “Inkun beżgħana ħafna u jkolli attacki ta’ paniku. Naċċerta ruhi li ma nkunx waħdi miegħu.”

ELAINE “Ħassejtni anzjuża u waħdi.”

ANNE “Il-kawża tiegħi kienet l-aħħar waħda; kien hemm hu biss u assolutament ma ħassejtnix sigura.”

YVONNE “Kienet ħaġa ridikola li kellna nistessew fl-istess post.”

CHARMAINE “It-tensjoni li kien hemm fil-kamra kienet inkredibbli. Ħassejtni se nirremetti.”

ELAINE “Kien ikun jistenna fl-istess kamra. Kien jagħmel minn kollox biex iwaqqagħni għaċ-ċajt u jkompli jimbarazzani. L-abbuż baqa’ għaddej anke fil-Qorti.”

Xi wħud min-nisa jiżguraw li ma jkunux weħidhom billi jkunu akkumpanjati mill-avukat tagħhom, qrafa u xi drabi anke l-pulizija.

ANNE “Jien kelli l-appoġġ tal-avukat tiegħi u tal-pulizija fil-Waiting Room tal-qorti.”

Imma, nistaqsu, għandu jkun hekk? Huwa sewwa li vittma terġa’ tkun vittimizzata anke fil-qorti? Staqsejna wkoll lis-survivors biex jissuġġerixxu xi soluzzjonijiet.

YVONNE “Il-Waiting Room għandha tinqasam. Il-vittmi u l-aggressuri m’għandhomx jiltaqgħu fl-istess Waiting Room.”

Xi wħud lanqas fil-qorti stess ma ħassewhom siguri. L-aggressuri jsusu l-passi tal-vittmi u xi drabi anke jwaqqfuhom meta jkunu ħierġa mill-qorti weħidhom. Jissuġġerixxu:

CHARMAINE “Aghmlu aktar użu ta’ *video conferencing*.”

Il-konkluzjoni tagħna hija li l-vittmi m’għandhomx jithallew jistennew fl-istess kamra mal-aggressuri u li s-sistema għandha tadotta uħud minn dawn is-suġġerimenti ġusti.

Issa ser tkompli tkellimna Yvonne dwar l-esperjeza fil-qorti.

Fil-Qorti

Għal ħafna nisa, li tidhol il-Qorti għall-ewwel darba hi esperjenza li timlihom b’anzjetà u biza’. Ma jafux x’se jkun qed jiġri. Ikunu draw jisimgħu l-aggressur jheddidhom b’se jagħmililhom jekk jazardaw jirrapurtawh u jispiċċa l-qorti minħabba fihom. Is-survivor timtela b-biza mill-qorti meta tisma theddid bhal dan:

ELAINE “L-imħallef jeħodlok it-tfal.”

ANNE “Jekk titlaq, titlef kollox.”

MARVIC “Jien naqla’ flus aktar. Ovvju li l-imħallef se jagħtini l-kustodja tat-tfal.”

Għan nisa li jfittxu l-ġustizzja, hemm triq quddiemhom mriegħda bil-perikli.

CHARMIANE “Nidħlu hemm ġew u nittamaw li l-maġistrat jifhem is-sitwazzjoni tagħna.”

ELAINE “Nittamaw li l-maġistrat jagħraf minn verament huwa l-aggressur.”

ANNE “Nittamaw li l-maġistrat jifhem kemm aħna beżgħana u jagħtina ż-żmien nispijegaw.”

MARVIC “Ħassejt li fehem, u anke staqsieni jekk kellix bżonn

interpretu.”

CHARMAINE “Tant ridt ngħid affarijiet! Imma ma kontx naf jekk stajtx ngħidhom, meta stajt ngħidhom jew jekk stajtx inwieġeb għal dak li kien qed jingħad.”

Jidher li xi drabi, il-maġistrati, jista’ jkun li ma jirrealizzawx biżżejjed x’tattiċi manipulattivi jużaw l-aggressuri.

ELAINE “Il-maġistrat, fuq l-insistenza tal-avukat ta’ zewġi, ġagħalni nizvela quddiemu li kont qed noqgħod Merħbabik.”

ANNE “Aktor ma tkellimt fil-qorti, aktor ġejt meqjusta bħala l-provokatrici!!”

MARVIC “Meta kont il-qorti dwar drittijiet ta’ aċċess, il-maġistrat ġgħalni nissorvelja l-viżiti tat-tifel tiegħi mal-aggressur tiegħi, mhux talli hekk, imma talli is-sorveljanza tal-visti kellha ssir ġod-dar matrimonjali! Jien kont ħrabt minnu u hi reġgħet poġġietni hemm ġew miegħu għal 8 siegħat ta’ turment kull ġimgħa.”

Il-caseload tal-qorti ma tgħinx. In-numru ta’ kazijiet li jrid ilaħħaq magħhom maġistrat wiehed f’seduta waħda mhuwiex raġonevoli u jaffettwa l-andament tal-kawża. Minħabba hekk, jista’ jkun li l-perspettiva tas-survivor tkun waħda negattiva ħafna.

CHARMAINE “Donnu li l-maġistrat kien mgħaġġel ħafna biex jipprova jlaħħaq ma ħafna kawzi.”

ELAINE “Stajt nitkellem biss meta l-avukat tiegħi ma kienx preżenti, għax is-soltu l-avukat biss jitkellem.”

ANNE MARIE “Ħafna drabi tlaqt bla ma għidt dak li kelli bżonn ngħid għax ma ġejtx mistoqsija id-domandi pertinenti.”

Għaldaqstant, ir-realtà tal-vittma tibqa’ mistura jew aghar, mhux emmnuta.

Waqt il-proċeduri fil-qorti, il-Pulizija ġieli joħorġu mill-awla biex jistaqsu min huma dawk li lesti li jaħfru. Ħafna nisa jiddeciedu li jaħfru lill-aggressur u l-każ jaqa’ awtomatikament. Meta mara tiddeciedi li taħfer, tagħmel hekk għal diversi raġunijiet: biza’ mit-theddid, għejja emozzjonali u psikologika, biza’ li uliedha se jibqgħu jobogħduha għax kient il-kagun li missierhom daħal il-ħabs, tama li forsi tirrizolvi kollox, u raġunijiet oħra.

Imma aħna nafu li xejn ma jiġi rizolt. Hija taħfer, il-maġistrat jagħlaq il-każ u l-ewwel darba li jsawwatha jgħidilha:

MARVIC “Mur ħa.. mur iġri għand il-pulizija ja miġnuna, imbilli ttelegħni l-qorti? Ma tafx li għalxejn? Pulċinella. Ħa. Ħu l-mobile. Ċempillhom ħa. Mur ħa ddaħħaq l-għassa bik, ja bela.”

Lill-ġudikatura ngħidu mill-qiegħ ta’ qalbna li tkunu qed tonqsuna meta twaqqgħu l-każ. Tafu li tistgħu tkomplu għaddejjin bis-smieġ u bl-għoti ta’ sentenza. Jekk inthom ma tiprotegħu lil din il-mara, min se jiprotegħiha biex issir ġustizzja? Mhix ġustizzja li r-risponsabbiltà tas-sistema titfarfar fuq il-vittma. Irridu nagħrfu li l-vjolenza domestika hija att kriminali u huwa dover lejn is-soċjeta li il-każ ikompli. Il-qorti trid terfa ir-responsabilità li tara li ssir ġustizzja. Il-maħfra m’għanda jkolla l-ebda effett fuq il-każ, u mir-ricerka li għamilna għal-din il-konferenza toħroġ biċ-ċar li survivors esperjenzaw izjed vjolenza meta il-qorti waqqgħet il-każ.

CHARMAINE “Il-klema ta’ qorti wasslet għal aktar vjolenza u swat għalija. Kissirni mniehri u kelli bżonn kirurgija kostruttiva. Le, dil-‘gustizzja’ ma għgħalnix inħossni sigura.”

ELAINE “Helisha hafif bi twissija. Lanqas biss ta kasha.”

ANNE “Qatt ma hassejt li s-sigurtà tiegħi kienet importanti għalihom. Riedu biss jagħlqu l-każ u jaħslu jdejhom mill-ġenr tiegħu.”

Nissuġġerixxu li il-qorti tagħmel użu mill-istrumenti kollha li tagħtiha il-liġi, inkluż multi, probation, ordni ta’ trattament u ordni ta’ protezzjoni għall-mara u l-ulied.

Li kieku l-vittmi u survivors kellhom ibiddlu haġa waħda, kienu jibdlu dawn li ġej:

MARVIC “In-notifiki tal-qorti għandhom jipprovdu aktar informazzjoni u għandhom jiġu servuti b’identifikazzjoni u firma legibbli.”

CARMAINE “It-tifla kellha hafna xi tgħid u ma ngħatatx l-opportunità għaliex dak iż-żmien kienet minorenni. Imma meta ġejna għall-aċċess, hallewha tagħti x-xhieda tagħha

imma bla għajnuna ta’ *social worker* jew ta’ avukat tat-tfal! Il-vuċijiet tat-tfal hemm bżonn li jinstemgħu b’mod sigur.”

ELAINE “Id-dewmien fil-kazijiet huwa inkredibbli. Zgur tlajt il-Qorti 80 darba! Illum inħossni qisni sejra coffee morning. Jonqosni biss il-kafe u cake!”

ANNE “Harrġu lill-maġistrati biex jagħmlu l-mistoqsijiet pertinenti u biex jidhlu aktar fil-fond qabel ma jaslu għal decizjonijiet mgħagħla.”

MARVIC “Hemm bżonn li l-qrati ma jagħtux aktar chances ripetutament.”

CHARMAINE “Hemm bżonn li l-qrati jitrattaw il-vjolenza domestika bħala kriminalità kontra l-umanità – aħna nibqgħu inbatu minn trawma anke wara li nkunu tlaqna r-relazzjoni abbużiva minħabba n-nuqqasijiet tal-qrati.”

Hafna minn dawn ir-rakkomandazzjonijiet diga saru mill-kumitat parlamentari dward l-affarijiet soċjali u ir-rapport gie ipprezentat f’nof Awwissu li għadda. Nistaqsu, f’ liema stat wasalna f’dawn ir-rakkomandazzjonijiet u x’hinuma l-intoppi li qed izommu il-gvern milli japplikhom skond il-konvenzjoni ta’ Istanbul.



voices
FOUNDATION



IL-PREMJU TAL-PRESIDENT
GĦALL-KREATTIVITÀ

JIENA VOLUNTIER – niltaqgħu mal-Voluntiera Anna Busutill

Qabel bdejti niġi l-Fondazzjoni St Jeanne Antide biex nagħmel xogħol volontarju qatt ma kelli xi herqa speċjali għall-volontarjat. Kont ngħid "dan kollu mhux bħar-riħ bla xita?"

Illum nirrealizza kemm kont żbaljata għax għalkemm is-sehem li nagħti huwa pjuttost żgħir, inħoss li veru jiġi apprezzat kemm mill-istaff kif ukoll mill-klijenti.

Immur id-dar mimlija b'*sense of fulfillment* u meta għal xi raġuni jkollni infalli milli mmur, inħoss li l-ġimgħa tiegħi ma kenetx kompluta.

Fiċ-Ċentru Antida tiltaqa' ma' kull tip ta' nies. Jlen ma nsibhiex faċili biex nagħmel f'bieb, iżda hawn inħossni veru aċċettata u tgħallimt hafna anke mingħand sħabi l-voluntiera l-oħra.

L-akbar tagħlima li ħadt kemm ili niġi l-Fondazzjoni St Jeanne Antide hi li qatt m'għandi niehu il-ħajja *for granted*.

I ♥
volunteering

Overseas Development Assistance—Running an AIDS Clinic in the Peruvian Rain Forest City of Iquitos, Peru

The Partner for this 2015 project was the Parish of San Martin de Porres, whose Parish Priest is Fr Raymond Portelli, MD. After successfully completing another project entrusted in 2014, the Foundation decided to once again support this parish for year 2015. Upon approval of a grant application to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the amount of €4,377 was granted via the Overseas Development Assistance Unit at the Ministry.

The new project consisted in supporting for the running of a parish-based AIDS Clinic through the urgently-needed replacement of old rickety wooden beds with 12 modern hospital beds. The AIDS clinic Algo Bello para Dios (“Something Beautiful for God”) is financed by donations and voluntary work. It is run by the Parish of San Martin de Porres in the city of Iquitos, pop. 400,000, in the Amazon jungle area of Peru. The city has the most AIDS patients of any city in Peru. The Clinic has provided hospital care to 750 poverty-stricken AIDS patients since 2009. Its capacity is 12 beds, but the existing beds were wooden, deteriorated, unhygienic and unsafe.

In October 2015, 12 new hospital beds for the clinic were purchased. The Clinic is now better equipped to treat all its AIDS patients to the desired standards of care, including full accommodation. The number of AIDS patients at any time is on average around 10 to 14 persons.

A medical team made up of an infectologist and general practitioner carry out medical visits every day. All the patients are of poor social status; most of them do not even have their national identification and therefore cannot receive attention at the local public hospital. All the services in Algo Bello papa Dios are offered free of charge.

The home for AIDS patients offers hospitalization with full board, medical attention, medicines, analysis ordered by the attending medical doctor, recreation activities, handcrafts, spiritual guidance, psychological assistance, antiretroviral treatment in coordination with the Ministry of Health) and wake and burial (if necessary). The full professional team is made up of an infectologist, a medical practitioner, a priest, a psychologist, 5 nurses, a cook, an administrator and a cleaner. By means of this project, a higher and better standard of service provision and care, is being provided to this very vulnerable group, acknowledged to be amongst the poorest of the poor.



Id-Dialogu tax-Xwejjah Josh fuq Monteverde

ix-xwejjah Josh tal-muntanja Monteverde
kien imwarrab minn-nisa w l-irġiel
imma dejjem fittxewh b' imħabba it-tfal

ix-xwejjah jinżel jixxarrab fl-ilma ġieri
ta' nixxieġha ħelwa f-irxiex il-għodwa
sakemm jinħall dak iċ-ċpar -
u kieku inzertajt kont f'sintonia miegħu
kont tisimgħu donnu jitkellem maċ-ċpar

il-kbar ma kinux jagħtu kasu, ħasbuħ marid
imma t-tfal kienu jithassbu: li jwiegħbu, min hu?
hekk darba waħda tifel staħba w ħares u ra
lix-xwejjah Josh jinħasel u jitkellem maċ-ċpar

"Fejn int?" sejjah Josh
*Fis-smewwiet u fil-ġebel kostanti nieqaf jien,
qalet l-arja - u fil-fluss ħaj nitgħaxxaq,
u fl-ilma ġieri.*

"Issa jien midbiel," Josh qal b'lehen għoli
u l-arja wiegħbet,
*Li tiffjorixxi u li tidbiel, għalija l-istess
għax dawn, it-tnejn għandi jwassluk.*

"Qed nistenna l-mewt," ix-xwejjah Josh qal
*Li kont tfittex il-ħajja hu tabilhaqq ġidek,
u għalhekk ma tmutx, meta tmut.*

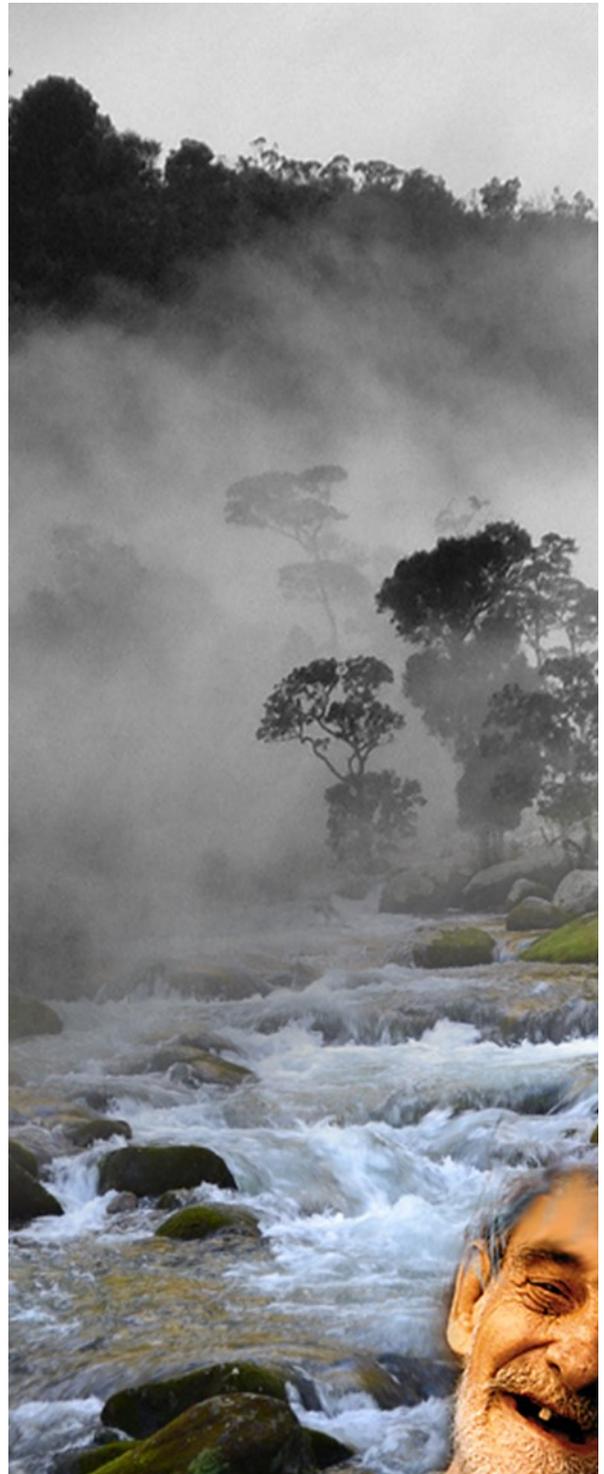
"Kif se mmur?"
*Inti sirt taf minn fejn ġejt,
u għalhekk issa taf kif se tmur.*

"Għamilt tajjeb, jien, li nkun hawn,
ħajja sempliċi bħal din? "
*Jekk inti ma ssibx ruħek fid-dlam,
kif tista' tara lid-dawl?
kliemek huwa jien
smiegħek huwa jien,
maħbub tiegħi, inroddlok is-sliem.*

dija ħelwa nfirxet min hemm
u sat-tifel jittawwal dawwlet iċ-ċpar
u meta sabu dak il-jum
li x-xwejjah Josh kien għadda l'hinn
it-tifel kważi seta' jisma'
fuq il-muntanja l-għanja tiegħu
ta' hena serena.

tony macelli

Pagna Poezija



ESTHER House - preparations for its eventual opening as a night shelter for women in distress

The Sisters of Charity have undertaken extensive works to renovate a small three storey townhouse which will be used as a night shelter for female service users, who for various reasons need protection in a shelter. The house was very recently inherited by a Sister from her family and was immediately allocated by the Sisters for a social purpose use. The house had been in disuse for many years. The first step prior to start clearing the accumulated substantial junk and debris. This initial clearance was ably carried out by a team of around 18 workers from Forestals Group of Companies in March 2014. A detailed site works audit and costings was carried out by an Architect. Following this, fundraising work started in earnest. A contractor was selected using the most economic and advantageous offer.

Out of the needed €76,995, the Sisters of Charity obtained a grant of €32,000 from the VOICES Beneficiary Fund of the VOICES Foundation in early 2015. A further €12,000 have been obtained through the MCCF grant for Infrastructural Projects. The rest of the required sum - €32,495 - was borne by the Sisters of Charity. Fundraising is still being undertaken to cover some of this amount since the Sisters of Charity have a Nursing Home for Sisters to run, a College, 6 convents and financial support to the NGO they run - the St Jeanne Antide Foundation.

Through other donors, second hand furniture and household items have been acquired. The Forestals team have recently (March 19) been back for another day of volunteering as part of their annual Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) day. The team cleaned the house from roof to cellar, fixed tiling in the cellar donated by the company, and painted the wooden banisters. The company will be generously donating the special gypsum to cover three of the very humid cellar walls.

The next step after furnishing will be to recruit a large team of volunteer careworkers who will be trained for night shelter roster duty. The Sisters of Charity have entrusted the management of Esther House to the Foundation.

The Council of the Sisters of Charity would like to profusely thank VOICES Foundation and the Malta Community Chest Fund for their grant without which works would not have commenced. Thanks are also due to Ramla Bay Resort for furniture and household items, to Godwin Darmanin who was responsible for the co-ordination of the refurbishment project during his 11-month secondment, from the Public Service, with the Foundation in 2015; the Forestals Group of Companies and to Manager of Corporate Sustainability at HSBC Bank Malta plc for facilitating the CSR volunteering days.

Anyone interested in donating funds to enable the Sisters of Charity to cover some of the remaining refurbishment expenditure of €32,495 is kindly invited to contact the Administrator of the Province of the Sisters of Charity - anna.sistersofcharity@gmail.com.

Anyone interested in future volunteering for night shift duty can contact the Administrator of the Foundation - melanie.sjaf@gmail.com





Items are on display and for sale on Wednesday and Friday mornings.



Find us on:
facebook®

<https://www.facebook.com/SjafAntideCentre?fref=ts>



DONATIONS

Your donation is truly appreciated. It enables us to sustain our services to vulnerable and poor individuals and families.

Donation to the St Jeanne Antide Foundation can be made as follows:

Cheque issued to The St Jeanne Antide Foundation and posted to the Foundation: 51 Tarxien Road, Tarxien TXN 1092

For **local bank transfers**: **APS** 2000 0681 886 **HSBC** 013175021001
BOV 4002003379-0 **BANIF** 00210404101

If you are a Go/Vodafone/Redtouch subscriber you can donate by sending a **blank SMS** (SMS tariffs applicable):

€2.33 – 50617371 €4.66 – 50618095

€6.99 – 50618909 €11.65 - 50619217

You will receive a text message of thanks and acknowledgement

For **bank transfers from overseas**: APS Bank, 146/147, Antoine De Paul Square, Paola PLA1260

Bank Code (Swift) APSBMTMT IBAN No: MT03 APSB 7708 0005 5047 2000 0681 886 (last 11 digits are the account number).

HOW YOU CAN HELP US - OTHER OPTIONS

- If you are getting married: make a donation instead of buying wedding souvenirs.
- If you are having a birthday party: ask friends to make a donation instead of buying a gift.
- If you are having a wedding anniversary celebration: convince your guests to make a donation instead of buying a gift.
- For funerals: you may wish to make a donation instead of buying flowers.
- Get Together: organise a spontaneous collection.
- You may wish to send us a monthly or annual donation, whatever the amount.
- You can encourage others to consider donating to the Foundation.
- Ask your employer for a matching scheme which will make your contribution go even further!

Become a HELP-SJAF Champion and ask friends and family to make a donation.

CONTACT US: sjafngo@gmail.com

Foundation SERVICES

1. Family Resource Centres:

- **Ċentru Antida** Family Resource Centre, 51, Tarxien Road, Tarxien. Open from 7.30am to 5 pm daily in winter time (sometimes later as well); up to 1pm in summer Serves localities of Tarxien, Paola, Fgura and Santa Lucia. Social Work, community outreach, advocacy, referral, information, emotional support, support groups.

Volunteering opportunities, included inclusive volunteering for service users.

Volunteer Handymen in support of vulnerable and poor families.

Learning Support for vulnerable persons supported by Foundation Social Workers. Includes: *For Children*: weekly learning support for primary level students; *For adults*: non-formal learning opportunities such as self-esteem groups & literacy.

Volunteer Befriending for lonely, home-bound elderly persons **Counselling**;

Bazaar in Tarxien (recycling and fundraising).

- **Ċentru Enrichetta** Family Resource Centre, Misraħ il-Pajtier, Birżebbuġa. Open Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8am to 2pm. Social Work service; Family Literacy Support Programme; MCCF service on Tuesdays from 8am to 11am. Tel No. 21652038—99960381.

2. LWIEN Service – support for family carers of persons with mental health problems. Includes family consultations, counselling, support groups, home-visits, social work.

3. IRENE Service in support of very vulnerable women involved in street prostitution. Dar Hoesa drop-in centre. Tel no. 27133684—99508954.

4. SOAR Service: advocacy and support for victims and survivors of domestic violence. Includes workshops on dating and domestic violence for young persons. Tel No. 99927872 from 9:30am to 5pm. Email: soar-malta@gmail.com.

5. Emotional Freedom Service for persons wanting to be free from their anger, fear or other emotional distress;

6. Overseas Development Projects: SJAF works with partners in developing countries to formulate anti-poverty projects. It has also arranged for public funding of such projects in Pakistan, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Malawi.

7. Centering Prayer Group for contemplative prayer practice.

PUBLICATIONS: ask us for list or visit our website www.antidemalta.org

See "Services" & "Reports" on www.antidemalta.org