



المركز العربي للخدمات الاستشارية والتدريب
Arab Center for Consulting and Training Services (AWT)

Annual Report
2019





Dear friends and partners,

We are delighted to share our 2019 report with you. This report allows us to celebrate and recount the activities that took place. 2019 was significant for us as we celebrated our 20th anniversary. One of the biggest blessings was a memorable visit from President George Bush and his wife, former First Lady Laura Bush. Since Ruba is an alumna of the Bush Institute's We Lead Program, this was a particularly unique and encouraging occasion for us.

ACCTS continues to mature and grow. Blessings overflow each year as we see milestones achieved in serving God's people and investing in his kingdom in the Arab region. With Jordan being an oasis of refuge for those escaping the horrors of war and violence, we long to utilize every God-given challenge and turn it into an opportunity to influence, change, and nurture the lives of those with whom we cross paths. We see these challenges as open doors to fulfilling the Great Commission.

With your prayerful and financial support, dreams have unfolded into becoming a reality. It would not have been possible without your support and encouragement! We look forward to 2020 being another year of bringing light and hope to people in the Arab region. We are excited about the opportunities to grow and expand

the impact we can make in their lives and our society. Every physical, spiritual, economic, and emotional need met is a victory by God's grace.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Blessings,

Nabeeh and Ruba Abbassi



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ACCTS History

ACCTS began in 2012 as an organization registered under the ministry of culture. However, it is not how it all started. Our organization started initially as a woman's ministry called Arab Woman Today (AWT) in October 1999.

20 years of shedding light and walking the extra mile

2019 marked AWT's 20th year of ministry before becoming a department under ACCTS. How did this happen?

The beginnings

AWT began as a radio program to reach and encourage Arab women with the love of Jesus Christ. Ruba Abbassi, AWT's founder and manager, had a burden to reach women outside the walls of the church. Around her, she faced women without hope, women who would never enter the doors of a church.

In the beginning, she forged a partnership with the International Broadcasting Radio Association (IBRA), producing a radio program to speak to the hearts of women in the Middle East and North Africa. Ruba and the AWT team produced 422 radio episodes. The TWR's studio in Jordan recorded and edited the radio program and broadcasted it twice a week in North Africa and the Middle East.

In 2003, AWT launched an Arabic website. The website addresses many topics for today's Arab woman and provided access to radio broadcasts. In 2006, AWT launched an English website to facilitate Western awareness and to serve as a source of accurate information concerning the Arab woman's life, her needs, and the challenges she faces in her society.

In addition to media, AWT has established a network of godly, Christian Arab women in leadership roles throughout the 22 Arab countries. AWT began to hold an annual conference for these women in Amman, Jordan. During this conference, women discuss current

issues, receive training, and take time to develop ties and partnerships. Over the years, AWT has progressively penetrated more in-depth into the Jordanian society and reached other regional countries such as Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq with its message aiming to see the woman reconciled with God, herself, and her community.

The journey of ACCTS begins

In 2012, God opened the doors for expansion. The ministry saw the needs in the region and sought to widen its boundaries to reach not only women but also the community. 2012 marked the establishment of the Arab Center for Consulting and Training Services (ACCTS). ACCTS obtained the added honor and flexibility of being a registered non-governmental organization (NGO) under the Jordanian Ministry of Culture. Since then, AWT has become one department under ACCTS. AWT continues to serve Arab women by engaging them in programs such as the Nouara program, awareness workshops, local church visits, and TV broadcasts on SAT7- addressing common emotional, spiritual, physical, and professional issues faced by Arab women throughout the MENA region. AWT reaches Arab women and walks with them their journey to pursue a change in their spiritual, social, and personal life to be change agents through producing and creating its messages in creative and insightful ways using social media platforms.

Since then, the ministry has been growing, and it initiated multiple programs. In 2016, ACCTS founded the Irbid Community Center (ICC) in the north, which provides refugees and vulnerable Jordanians with vocational skills and training for economic empowerment through various programs. The ICC also offers educational opportunities for young children. In 2018, it launched the Youth Initiative to empower today's Arab youth and set an example of genuine citizenship. It is in addition to the Women Economic Empowerment program, the campaigns launched, and the counseling services provided through our social media pages. The Arab Men Today Department (AMT) is now under development to provide Arab Christian men with the tools they need to be influential in their churches, workplace, families, and circles of influence.





The Arab Center for Consulting and Training

SERVICES

VISION

- To see the Arab community living in peace and harmony, empowered in spirit, soul, and body

MISSION

- Reinforcing intellectual freedom and acceptance of others in society
- Developing individuals in spirit, soul, and body to participate in building the society

VALUES

- Openness
- Integrity
- Transparency
- Respect
- Creativity
- Courage

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Encouraging positive practices for community development through holding seminars, specialized conferences, and other available means
- Seeking to build bridges of cooperation and partnership with official and non-official bodies and organizations to achieve common objectives
- Building the individual's capacities through holding specialized conferences, training courses, and other available means to provide necessary consulting and guidance services
- Building bridges of open dialogue to promote freedom of thought and cultural exchange
- Working to raise awareness among community members about new and relevant amended legislation
- Equipping and developing the individual in leadership skills through training programs
- Carrying out social responsibility through providing various services (relief, medical, and educational, to name a few)
- Building the institution's capacities in terms of competencies and resources

ACCTS-AWT STRATEGY

ACCTS implements a variety of projects and activities to achieve its mission and goals. Our outreach ministry serves both churches and communities in Jordan and the region.

Someone once said, "The sad reality is the daily lives of many people in our churches mirror those of non-believers. Leading without being changed, when we are disconnected, is affecting our being and our doing."



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Arab Center for Consulting and Training Services (AWT)



المراة العربية اليوم
ARAB WOMAN TODAY

PROJECTS

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

ANNUAL NETWORK CONFERENCE

One of the main activities to equip women leaders in the Arab region is the Annual Network Conference. The conference targets two generations, the millennials and Gen X. Being that both generations value diversity, growth, and influence, we aim to utilize this joint base between them.

The goal of spiritual formation is Christian growth. It entails the development of character, inner transformation, and deepening friendships with God and others. Besides, women have the opportunity to network and exchange experiences and knowledge to develop themselves, and those they influence.

2019 marked the fifteenth Annual Network Conference. Fifty-three women from eleven Arab countries attended the event. This year's theme was "From Pain to Hope." Women from across North Africa and the Middle East came to learn how to manage and deploy pain in their lives as leaders and disciples. Trainees gathered for teaching that strengthened them with knowledge and armed them with skills to help them deal with pain as leaders and disciples of Christ.

Two leaders led the sessions, addressing the issue of pain from a leadership, spiritual, and psychological view. While at the conference, the women had the chance to network, share their experiences, learn from each other, and start new partnerships.

"The training I received at AWT was a door to a new way of life so that my family and I can find restoration following practical steps. Now we are ready to influence others!"



"There is no doubt that I acquired knowledge, but this knowledge changed me and my decisions. I took the first step to change my path when I heard the voice of the Lord and moved to work elsewhere to serve the Lord."

A. ANNUAL NETWORK CONFERENCE



In our last network, **53** women participated in the conference.

However, in 2018, the program equipped **60** women who, in turn, and during last year, equipped another **234** women,

from which **54** leaders emerged

We are looking forward to seeing FRUIT IN THE LIVES OF WOMEN THIS YEAR, TOO.

Countries: **11**

- 1. Holy Land
- 2. Iraq
- 3. Jordan
- 4. Tunisia
- 5. Sudan
- 6. Egypt
- 7. Lebanon
- 8. UAE
- 9. Kuwait
- 10. Saudi Arabia
- 11. Syria



“Every real, apparent change in me reaches those close to me and in my circle of influence faster and easier. Those with whom I frequently deal can see this change in my attributes and behaviors.”



THE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

NOUARA

The Nouara program targets women ages 45-25 who are striving to find meaning and purpose in their lives, but lack the methods and support needed to pursue change. Nouara, which means “blossom,” is a tool to increase our sphere of influence among different groups lacking resources in different countries.



“I decided to enjoy my life again. I started to read my Bible more and spend time studying it.”



“I loved this journey of dealing with my past and broken home. I want to be fruitful and live my original image created by God.”



THE NOUARA PROGRAM

equipped **34** women who, in turn, equipped another **12** women, from which **7** leaders emerged.

THE AWARENESS PROGRAM

JORDANIAN WOMEN

The purpose of the awareness program is to empower women and motivate them to look deeper into their lives and see their values, roles, and position in societies in ways that contribute to community development. These programs allow us to show women they have many strengths and to encourage them to use them for change. When women are empowered to express their perceived strengths and weaknesses for themselves, they are motivated to grow in areas of weakness and develop their strengths. Moreover, through this program, we seek to build bridges with society, increase knowledge, embrace positive attitudes, and motivate women to break the cycle of destructive social practices.



5 workshops,
88 people impacted,

TOPICS:

- Gender roles
- Gender equality and awareness
- Economic empowerment
- Personality types

GROUPS REACHED:

- Women from the community
- Women activists
- Beneficiaries from the Irbid Community Center



"I thought women were weak and couldn't support other women. However, the details of the lecture proved to me that a woman could contribute to many things. Trust and support among women can change the status quo."



"I consider AWT a lifestyle and a vital part of my life. I share what I learn with friends and acquaintances."





SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

AWT continued to make an impact in the community through social empowerment workshops and seminars focusing on creative, experimental learning and teaching methods.

26 people impacted
Groups reached:
Teachers and administrators
Church leaders



CHURCH EMPOWERMENT

AWT is influencing women in local Jordanian churches by equipping them to follow Christ and grow in their relationship with him. Women from AWT made church visits and spoke about various topics from the Bible.



4 churches
350 women impacted

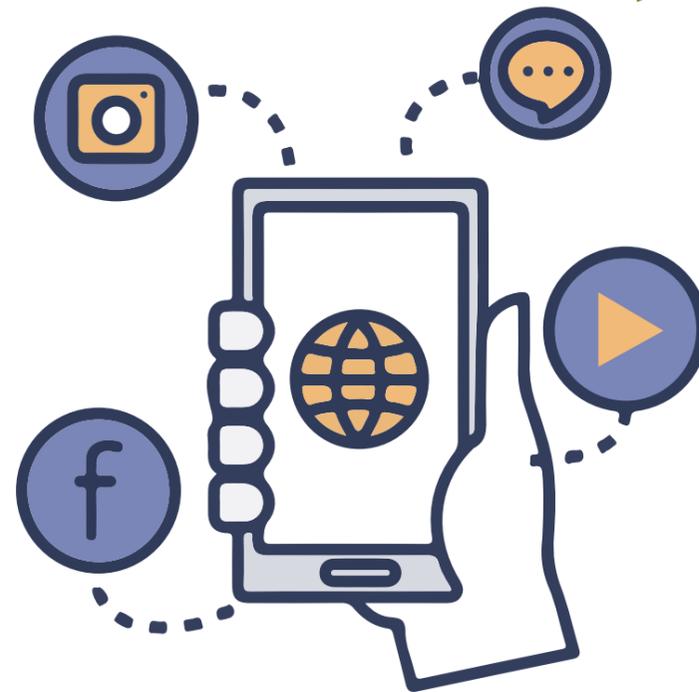


SOCIAL MEDIA

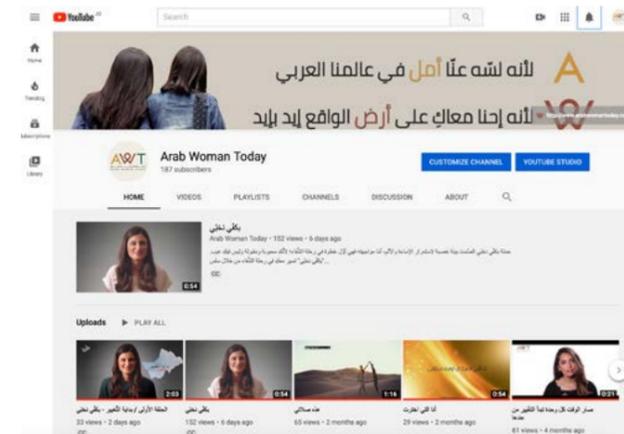
Conservative and traditional society has raised young Arab women to feel less valuable and competent than men. Arab Woman Today reaches Arab women with God's unconditional love, walking with them through their journey of pursuing a spiritual, social, and personal change in their lives to fulfill God's purposes. Since different social media platforms have become those women's primary sources and tools for communication, we produce messages in creative and insightful ways to reach out to them.

5,460 visitors reached monthly
15,748 page views monthly

"I was raised to believe I am insufficient and inferior to men, that I am only a tool created to fulfill men's desires and bear children to fill the earth. Because of you, I began to express myself and question the values instilled in me from my family, environment, and society. I started to learn about my value in the eyes of God."



396,832 engaged users
1,319 followers disciplined



One woman tried to commit suicide but failed. She suffered from emotional abuse for years. She contacted us for help through our TV Facebook page. Through the page, she was able to see her image and value rightly. We were able to provide her with helpful resources from our Arabic website. This woman appreciates the .refuge she found on our page

One woman came to our page with an enormous amount of pain and distrust. The gentle treatment she received through our page surprised her to a point where she questioned the motives. After a lot of dialogue and patience with her, she started to build trust, broke the barriers, and began to believe in herself, her value, and her ability to bring about change.

2,095 Facebook video clicks
28 new short clips

1305 posts
83 receiving one-on-one counseling regularly

THE YOUTH INITIATIVE

Churches in Jordan do not address the issue of citizenship and often emphasize one's heavenly citizenship. Today's Christian youth are not encouraged to participate or engage in politics. As a result, they remain unaware of their rights and unmotivated to advocate for needed changes.

This initiative seeks to see the Jordanian youth able to practice their proper role as genuine citizens, empowered to make the right, positive change. ACCTS has a mission to prepare a genuine Christian generation who is loyal, aware, educated in terms of their rights and duties, and active in facing the social challenges in their homeland.

The Youth Initiative conference began in 2018 and reached out to young men and women ages 20 to 35 years old. They came from several cities in Jordan to attend this one of a kind conference. This program grants the youth the opportunity to enjoy networking, experience fellowship, and undergo personal growth. Moreover, this initiative allows us to empower the youth and set an example of genuine citizenship.

In these gatherings, we invite distinguished guests to attend opening sessions or participate in panel discussions. These may be local or foreign parliament members, political figures, and current or former ministers.

The conference tackled the topics of epistemology, calling and roles, and maintaining balance in life. In one session, we gave a chance for one of the youth to share an initiative he launched. His passion drove him to use his talents in film production to serve his society by highlighting and reflecting the reality and needs of the community. He launched several videos raising awareness on social issues, giving an example of a good citizen.



"It has been a bold move forward. The practical, rich content and the realistic presentation of the topics impressed me. I learned that I have a continuous decision to make to live as a good, effective citizen. Despite being a senior student with a legal background, I still did not have the chance to gain such a rich experience. I appreciate all the efforts, time, and prayers poured into the conference. It was worth it!"



IRBID COMMUNITY CENTER (ICC)

Women and children have been those most affected by the conflict in Syria. Since the crisis in Syria has increased, women saw its harmful effects day after day. Many of them lost their fathers, brothers, sons, or husbands, resulting in their taking the place of the lost loved ones. Wives have had to take the roles of being a mother and father at the same time. Daughters have had to carry the burdens and responsibilities of taking care of their families.

Proceeding from the faith of ACCTS leadership to help these two categories in mitigating the effects of the crisis on them in particular and the family in general, the ICC continued serving the affected groups in the north as well as vulnerable Jordanian families.

In 2019, the center served **688** beneficiaries, including Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians.

Programs provided by the center include:

- Psychosocial Protection Program
- Daycare Activities
- Informal educational program activities
- Other activities, such as English conversation courses, psychological sessions, diabetes, and blood pressure screenings
- Celebrating events like Mother's Day and Christmas
- Economic resilience and livelihood program: small home projects providing generated income for beneficiaries:
 - Soap making classes: %35
 - Sewing classes: %32
 - Handicrafts: %33



Total Beneficiaries:

688

Syrians: **400**
Jordanians: **280**
Others: **8**



A tour inside our community



MEDICAL CAMPAIGN

The sixth medical campaign took place in Huson, Jordan, at the Huson Baptist Church



Specialties:

- Professional counselors
- Ultrasound technician
- Cardiologist
- Emergency Room doctors
- Hairstylist
- Dentists and dental assistants
- Childcare providers



Shireen was one of the Syrian refugees who joined the three-month sewing course at the center. She was very active during the training. She wrote a note to the center's management before her graduation day, saying, "I was so happy to register for the sewing course provided by the community center because I had a passion for learning and practicing sewing. The center management provided us with all the materials needed for the training. I became skillful in sewing after three months of training, and now I can support my family by saving more money since I do not need to visit a tailor anymore. I used to suffer from severe depression and sat at home before engaging at the center. The way the staff and the trainer at the center treated us played a pivotal role in my recovery."



THE GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL CENTER VISIT

On October 24, the ACCTS-AWT team had the privilege of hosting President George Bush and former First Lady Laura Bush at our office in Amman. Mr. and Mrs. Bush, along with six board members of the George W. Bush Presidential Center and the chargé d'affaires and the Deputy at the American Embassy in Amman, participated in a training workshop. Ruba Abbassi conducted this workshop on economic development titled, "Is the woman a fighter or a victim of poverty?"



"Change begins with an individual, and the individual can change society"
President George W. Bush



The lecture focused on identifying the concept of a strong influential woman who can find her own way to increase her family's income, have insurance and benefits, and realize her self-worth through economic empowerment. The participants included Jordanians, Syrians, Iraqis, and one Sudanese woman. They represented northern Jordan and the eastern region of Amman. Our guests, along with some of our board members, engaged in ongoing activities and helped facilitate table discussions.

After the session, the accompanying delegation and ACCTS board members had some fruitful conversations, talking about the general situation in Jordan and the Middle East.



REGIONAL PARTNERS

- House of Counseling (Mental Health Service)–Egypt
- Delta Ministry–Egypt
- SAT7-, a Christian satellite television network–Lebanon
- Near East Organization (NEO) Lebanon
- Women in the Window International (WiW)–USA
- The New Life Church–USA
- Media Impact International (MII)–USA
- The Bright Arab Woman Today–Tunisia

2019

REGIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS



LOCAL PARTNERS

- Local churches and women's ministries in Jordan
- Sisterhood Is Global Institute (SIGI)
- Arab Women Media Center
- Princess Alia University College
- Madaba Cultural Consortium for Children
- Al-Salt Association for Women
- Sayidat Nashmiat Facebook Group

Your prayers and financial gifts help sustain the projects mentioned in this report.
We appreciate your partnership and support!

**YOU CAN SEND
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS**

TO:

• Checks:
Payable to: Christar
1500 International Parkway, Suite 300
Richardson, Texas 75081

Please designate checks to
Project 3089#
(Arab Woman Today) in the memo line or a
separate note.

YOU CAN SEND NON-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS TO:

Name: Arab Center for Consulting and Training Services (ACCTS)
Address: Building 5#, Al Rusafa Street, Al Rabieh 11185 Jordan
Bank Name: Bank Al Etihad
Bank Address: Milano Suites Building # 13, Siqilyeh St, Amman 11180 Jordan
Account #: 0370212261215101
IBAN: JO83UBSI1250000370212261215101
SWIFT CODE: UBSIJOAX

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