Annual Report
2019
Our Mission

Our mission is to protect women from exploitation, stand by persecuted women and seek to develop their skills in protection, health, education, and economic aspects to build a decent life for them.

Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development

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This Annual Report is also available on our website, www.dakngo.org
**WHO WE ARE**

**Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development** is a humanitarian, developmental, non-profit, non-political, non-governmental, and independent women’s organization, working for women’s development, empowerment, protection, and peace-building by strengthening women’s decision-making. It is also a feminist organization that fights for women’s rights by empowering women and building their capacities in different walks of life.

**Our Mission**

Our mission is to protect women from exploitation, stand by persecuted women and seek to develop their skills in protection, health, education, and economic aspects to build a decent life for them.

**Our Vision**

Building a healthy society free from violence and protect women’s justice and human dignity.

**Our Aim**

Build a brightened human culture that promotes social justice and sustainable development and enables women to realize their value and discover their potential to enhance their ability to influence and change.
OUR OBJECTIVES

- Organizing and uniting efforts of women to defend the cause of Yezidi women who are survivors of sexual violence and to strive to obtain their material and moral rights.
- Pressing decision-makers to compensate women affected by sexual violence and to try criminals to obtain their fair punishment.
- Emphasizing, enhancing the position and role of women in society. Also, enabling them to practice their rights as citizens, workers and homemakers, based on the principles of equality, justice, equal opportunities, participation, and respect for their dignity.
- Raise women’s awareness of their role and rights and enhance their participation in various fields.
- Seek to integrate women in the local community’s development and strive to improve their social position, in addition to enable them to invest in their creative and productive capacities better.
- Seek to overcome legislative, economic, social, cultural, and other obstacles that prevent the full realization of women’s rights as stipulated in international covenants, including the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and the guarantee of their rights under the Iraqi constitution.
- Attempt to enable women to obtain health care and protection in general and in reproductive and sexual health and maternity and childhood care in particular and spread a healthy culture between them.
- Spreading a culture of peace and enhancing the role of women in peace-making and peace-building processes.
- Provide women with the skills, knowledge, experiences, capabilities, and various services enabling them to contribute to building their society.
- Contribute to literacy for women in the alphabet, legal, cultural, and political fields.
- Develop women’s leadership capabilities based on the values of ethical leadership.
OUR FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

- **Audacity** Dak endeavors excellence while being bold and courageous.

- **Gender Equality and non-discrimination** equality is an essential aspect of life from a women’s perspective; it is suitable for all of us. Women’s equality ensures a more peaceful and prosperous society for women, men, and children. Inequality in the workplace, policies, organizations, communities, and families gives rise to exclusion and can lead to violence.

- **Advocacy** the movement towards equality requires social change. Dak movement is committed to identifying barriers to women’s equality through advocating for their health, education, protection, and somehow changes in social norms.

- **Empowerment** we strive to increase the sense of self-worth and self-confidence of every woman connected in any manner to the Dak. We believe that every woman has the right to have her voice heard and make her own choices about how she lives her life.

- **Education** education leads to empowerment. We provide women with access to a wide variety of information so that they can make educated decisions. A large part of our work is educating the community about women’s issues: safety, violence, and respect. Through education, we can get ahead of these problems.

- **Accountability** we are here for all women, whatever their story, background and we profoundly encounter the most complex of challenges. We appreciate diversity in every context and are committed to helping women achieve their potential regardless of their background. Each story matters the most as the most complicated one to us as Dak.

- **Progress Together** we make progress together. We’re ready to trust, partner, and stand with others who share our beliefs.

- **Women Centered Approach** all of our attempts through activities and initiatives focus on females.

- **Respect** is the core of all of our values mentioned above. It is the skeleton of our organization.
After opening the Yoga session for eight children, the teacher asked the participants for feedback and to share their feelings by the end of the session. She discovered that two of these children had personal issues, so the teacher inquired about their willingness to be referred to a psychologist; they were eventually referred on the second day.

Individual interviews were done with both of them by the psychologist, and they were both females in the same school and 4th grade. The first had a phobia from the MARIAM game, and The psychologist obtained permission from both of them to attend their school. Following these interviews, both the consultant and the Yoga teacher made arrangements for how they would handle these cases; in the end, they agreed to contact the school and discuss their complaints with the school administrators without revealing their identities in order to protect confidentiality.

The yoga instructor went to the school administration and explained the center’s programs to them, after which she looked into the allegations. The manager was very helpful and stated that he would investigate the allegations. After getting approval from the school administration, the Yoga trainer and the counselor debated her idea to provide programs for all of them with other friends, including the student who was creating problems. The day began with an introduction of the members, followed by the Yoga teacher telling a story with the aim of getting to know each other and their interests, and then a motivational video about learning and being successful in life. We asked for opinions on the video and story at the end of these events, and they expressed their enthusiasm and delight in them. After that, the psychologist conducted private interviews with all of them. The first person’s fear of the MARIAM game had vanished.

Both said that all of their issues, such as coping with teachers and colleague disruptions, had been resolved, particularly after engaging in our activities together and becoming more positive and relaxed. Finally, the second case made a heart-shaped piece of paper and wrote the names of the participants on it, including a colleague who had previously caused complications. They now have a strong friendship and participate in the center’s events together.
WHAT WE HAVE IMPROVED

We have improved our employees’ and volunteers' capacity through involving them in different trainings and workshops. Their participation in these courses has helped enhance their skills in the fields of psychology, social support, coaching, leadership, psychosocial and recreational. For instance, suicide prevention, PSS, advocacy, the importance of women works, how to deal with people with special needs, remote psychological first aid, leadership, the role of women in decision making, MHPSS, communication skills and self-care, effective communication, time management, HLP and DWHLP..
OUR WORKING SITES

Duhok Governorate (Sharya Complex, Khanke Complex, Sharya, Kabarto camp 1&2, Khanke, Qadia Camp, Hamdania / Bartla, Bersive 2camp.

Sectors we shed light on

- Protection
- Health
- Livelihood
- Education
PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY OUR ORGANIZATION

123 Females and males received training on Alternative Violence Program (AVP).

274 Women received support through women’s awareness and empowering activities.

30 Families and males received Non-food items and food items.

141 Females and males of all ages received PSS support services.

525 Females and males of all ages received social and capacity building support services.

12 Volunteers were trained and given capacity building about volunteering and working in organizations.

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OUR PROJECTS

Capacity Building and Social Cohesion for actors in Hamdania District

This project aimed to encourage youth to think creatively to build connections and social cohesion among community members and other community members and the strength of relations between individuals no matter the community and the religion. This project implemented by Dak and Al-Afaq organizations, with the support of IOM.

Project Location

Nineveh Governorate, Hamdania/Bartla

Total number of beneficiaries

+ 350
Enhancing Psychological, Social and Recreational support in Sharya and Qadia

This project aimed to strengthen the social cohesion between IDPs and the host community and support community residents with psychosocial services in sharya sub-district in Dohuk governorate. With the support of IOM, The project duration was five months, targeted all categories. And consists of different activities to provide services of social consideration on basic services and security, family and community-based services, psychological interventions and specialized intervention for all categories service are focused on following interventions:

Person-focused interventions:
- Specialized Services.
- Focused, non-specialized support.

Community-focused intervention:
- Community and family support.
- Basic services and security.

Project Location
Duhok (Sharya Complex, Qadia)

Total number of beneficiaries
+ 4000

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Enhancing Social cohesion through Alternatives to Violence in Duhok

The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) is a volunteer-run conflict transformation program. Teams of trained AVP facilitators conducted experiential workshops to develop participants’ abilities to resolve conflicts without resorting to manipulation, coercion, or violence. For AVP trainers, each workshop lasts 18–20 hours over a three-day period.

The workshop events placed a strong emphasis on the experiences of the participants, building confidence that everyone contributed to something for violence prevention. The first month was dedicated to preparations to make everything ready for activities. Dak then spent four months implementing its activities. These activities focused on vulnerable communities, people in need of psychological and psychosocial treatment, people healing from the scars of torture/refugee trauma, and who were rebuilding their lives in the Duhok urban area, Khanke, Shariya camps and surroundings.

Dak targeted 80 trainers of both genders, including disabled people from different areas and backgrounds that were fully trained on AVP (basic, advanced, and facilitation) and became trainers. Those 80 candidates were divided into different groups and sent to camps and communities and conducted simplified AVP trainings to 1000 people in Sharya, Khanke camps as well as dohuk city.

Project Location
Duhok (Sharya and Khanke Complex)

Total number of beneficiaries
+ 1240
My right in reparation campaign

This project provided awareness raising activities to CRSV Yazidi women and girls survivors, their families and communities about the right of CRSV survivors in reparations from the state. This campaign used different tools to promote the right of reparations in both community and governmental levels. Moreover, this project aimed to build the capacity of a group of survivors to create role models and representative survivors who will be able to engage in the advocacy and raising the awareness during this proposed project and other initiatives related to the reparations.

The “My Right in Reparation Campaign” project, was a partnership among Better World Organization for Community Development with Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development with the support of IOM, and a close coordination with Directorate of Yazidi Affairs and the Office of Rescue of Kidnapped Yazidis in Duhok.

Project Location
Duhok (Sharya ,kurtoo 1&2 and Khanke)

Total number of beneficiaries
+ 500
In 2019, Dak Organization projects were funded by foundations and donors, either directly or through partnerships. Supporters include the USAID, AUSTRALIAN AID, IOM, UN Women, UPP, MSI and other partners and donors.

The total expenses for 2019 were **82993.65 USD**, and it has been spent as follows:

- Management & General Expenses: %12.72
- Program & Projects Expenses: %87.28
25 participants (female and male) were trained on how to design small projects in partnership with DAI. The course covered how to plan and select small projects; organize them; prepare an economic feasibility study; including project costs; and how to encourage participants to start and improve their own small projects.

Under the slogan “We Can,” Dak organization tested 100 women in Sharia complex including IDPs and host community in collaboration with Erbil Governorate General Directorate of Health and the Breast Disease Diagnostic Center.

The Dak organization participated in an exhibition funded by UN Women and the Women’s Fund for Peace in the province of Mosul-Bashiqa on the follow-up project on the implementation of the Iraqi National Action Plan for UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The Baghdad Women’s Association sponsored the exhibition.

With the support of IOM, Better World and Dak organizations conducted an open debate about “Rights of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Survivors in Reparations.” The stakeholders from government and civil society attended with the survivors that were part of capacity building training; the organizations conducted part of their “My Rights in Reparations Campaign.”

In partnership with IOM, Dak commemorates International Volunteer Day; on this occasion, awareness session was conducted by Sharya center manager to volunteers and activity participants. They also talked about their voluntary work. The staff and volunteers also cleared Sharya community streets.
We believe that accepting, embracing, and appreciating volunteers among us would add tremendous value in what we do to support us in accomplishing our mission and speed up implementing our strategy. Therefore, we have involved our volunteers in various training and workshops and gave them a chance to work within the staff and acquire new skills. Giving presentations, awareness and facilitation sessions, psychological training, capacity building, computer skills improvement, and training courses on self-confidence are all instances of the offered workshops and training to our volunteers.
The following organogram shows the structure of Dak Organization:

- **Board**
  - **President**
    - **CED**
      - **Public Relations**
      - **Programs**
      - **Finance and Operations**
        - **Finance**
        - **Logistics**
        - **Human Resources**
        - **Support Staff**
      - **Coordination**
      - **Media and Advertisement**
      - **Projects**
      - **Office**
      - **Centres/Field work**
Official name: Dak Organization for Ezidi Women Development
Year of establishment: 2015
Headquarter: Shariya, Semel, Duhok, Iraq.

We are also active online. You can find us on:

Website: www.dakngo.org
LinkedIn: Dak Organization
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/dak4women
Twitter: https://twitter.com/DakOrganization
Instagram: dak.organization

Email: info@dakngo.org

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