

News Of Hope

LEBANESE EVANGELICAL SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL WORK & DEVELOPMENT



Dr. Lina Kurdahi Badr

PRAYER REQUESTS

- New transportation van.
- Donations to send more kids to schools.
- Funds for diesel during the cold season.
- Funds for urgent projects.
- Professional staff.

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A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

In the valleys and hills of the Bekaa valley lived a little girl called Lina who had just arrived to a little village with her parents from the Gulf. Lina did not know the ways of the children in the village nor their language and traditions but she soon met John. Together they climbed hills, swam in streams and clambered trees. They talked about school, love, hope and the future. On Fridays they danced to the Beatles and on Sundays they sang hymns in the Presbyterian church that was built by Lina's paternal grandfather over 75 years ago. However, the war in Leb-

anon and immigration to the USA separated John and Lina for thirty years. Then, one day in the year 2000, the little girl who was now 50 years old and back in Lebanon received a call from John saying he is opening a home for abandoned street children. Lina rushed to see the center and the minute she saw the children she was hooked, after all she is a pediatric nurse and loves all children.

John has long left the center and has been replaced by Maher. But I, Lina still visit the center. I kiss the children, buy them little gifts, play with them and tell them sto-

ries.

It is not what I do that is special; it is what the children have given me back that is so special. When they call me "mama Lina", when they run to kiss me with their dirty faces and innocent eyes, when they share their dreams, I am the happiest woman alive. John, Maher, I and others will come and go but these beautiful, innocent abandoned children will always be with us and will need out love and care.

**Dr. Lina Kurdahi Badr
RN, PhD, CPNP, FAAN
Professor of Nursing
Leader of Research
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DEFEAT THE EVIL

We have been called not only to pity, but to compassion and action. It is our duty and our privilege to serve these children. Our hope is that every child who enters our doors will truly feel that they are Home. We solemnly ask

that you share with us in this mission to bestow hope to the hopeless and home to the homeless.

It has been said, "All that is needed for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing". Let it not be

said of us that we dared not defy the injustice and evil of this world.

Join us in giving a home and hope to a generation of children who have neither.

*Maher Tabarani
Director*

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NEW BANK INFORMATION

For your donations:

**LEBANESE EVANGELICAL INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL
WORK & DEVELOPMENT**

USD IBAN : LB43 0001 0005 5266 1512 0030 4001

LBP IBAN : LB53 0001 0005 5266 1512 0010 4001

SWIFT CODE : FSAB LB BX

FRANSABANK – HAZMIEH BRANCH



ONSITE DENTAL &
HEALTH CLINIC

LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVE ...



RENOVATED MANAGEMENT FLOOR



CCTV SECURITY CAMERAS

Once Upon a Child

Once upon a time, a time much like your own, lived a little girl named *Profit*. She lived alone with her mother and father, but she rarely spent any time with them. *Profit* could scarcely remember a time when her mother was home in the evening. Her mother would commonly bring strange men over to the house for short periods of time. Sometimes when *Profit* came home from school she would find her mom with these strange men in the house.

As she grew up she began to realize what her mother did. One day her mother came and told *Profit* to get dressed and come with her. Hesitantly, *Profit* wore her clothes and went with her mother. The place they went to had many strange men and many women dressed like her mother, in flashy revealing clothing. *Profit* was scared and begged her mom to take her home. Her mom disappeared for some time, and after what seemed hours, returned and took *Profit* home. However, the little girl promised herself she would never go to a place like that again.

A few days after *Profit*'s mother told her there were some men who wanted to meet her. She knew what that meant, and so the next morning she put some clothes in her school bag, waited for her mom to leave, and ran away. *Profit* knew that she had to go to the police. She searched for a policeman and finally found one, who took her to the police station. The police asked her many questions about her mother and father. When they had finished talking to her *Profit* told them, "I don't want to go home; I want to go to an institution".

That afternoon the police took her to a place where they said she will be safe. They arrived to a big building with a sign written above the entrance, "Home of Hope". She could see other children inside playing and others carrying books as they returned from class. She was met by a tall man who asked her what her name was. She replied confidently, "My name is *Profit*, but I do not want that name anymore". The man gently asked, "What do you want to be called?" She answered happily, "*Precious*".

Note: Once Upon a Child is a dramatized, but not exaggerated, narrative of a child previously or currently present at the Home of Hope