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Hebron, Occupied West Bank  
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I hold a Masters Degree in Political Science, and an International MBA from Bar Ilan University

I am the Founder of the Hebron International Resources Network (HIRN), a very grassroots Organization based in the city of Hebron, We work to meet some of urgent needs the most vulnerable of Palestinian communities in the Hebron and Bethlehem Governorates, most of which are located in Area C of the West Bank.

Most of our projects center on the right to education.

A Palestinian, I was born in Kuwait and lived in Dubai, as well as years of study in the US. I came back to Palestine in 1997.

Excerpts from the 2016 Hebron International Resources Network (HIRN) Annual Report:

#### **Renovation of Al Shuahada Street Kindergarten.**

The Shuhada Street Kindergarten is located in a very sensitive location across from the settlement of Beit Hadasa in the Old City of Hebron. Its presence means the creation of a breathing space where the children of the Shuahada Street can live their childhoods away from the pressure caused by Israeli forces and the violent settlers living in the vicinity.

Work in the project was suspended as of October 2015 due to the prevailing deteriorating security situation. Yet, finally, work was done satisfactory (thanks largely to Youth Against Settlement) in 2016.



#### **Zif Girls School**

A dream came true with a new start for a number of girls to continue their education in the community of Zif. The area of Zif had only one school due to the fact that it is located in Area C. We noticed a sharp dropout rate of girls after the 5th or 6th grade due to the issue of mixing of the sexes; boys and girls in the same classroom. Due to the conservative nature of the community, parents tend to force their daughters to drop out of school.

We started back in August 2015 raising funds for this project. Once all ends were met, a formal agreement was signed between all parties. At the Opening, smiles were on every girl's face, chants and dabke were performed in front of the large audience that came out to reaffirm the rights of girls to education and to promise additional aid to the school to allow it to provide educational services to increase the number of girls in the coming years.