Kurdistan
Save the Children
2009
Kurdistan Children's Fund
Charity Number 1027522
Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC-KCF)
2009 annual report
For every child: Health, Education, and Protection
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Content

Kurdistan Save the Children .................................................. 3
KSC mission ................................................................. 4
KSC in 2009 ................................................................. 5
KSC – Sulaimaniya Office .................................................. 8
Child protection Sector ...................................................... 9
Sponsorship Sector .......................................................... 13
Education Sector ............................................................ 16
Health Sector ................................................................. 22
Training & Documentation Sector ....................................... 26
KSC – Kirkuk Office ........................................................ 29
KSC – Erbil Office ............................................................ 32
KSC – Duhok Office .......................................................... 37
Figures & Facts 2009 ......................................................... 40
Abbreviated Organization Chart of KSC in 2009 ................. 43
Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC - KCF)

Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) is an independent non-governmental children’s organisation, working in Iraq in general and Iraqi Kurdistan in particular.

We have been around since 1991, founded by Ms. Hero Ibrahim Ahmed and other dedicated people who believed in every child’s right to a troublefree childhood.

We are working with children in various fields of child protection, sponsorship, health and education. Our main aim is to work directly or indirectly, to ensure a better future for all children, through improving and providing their various physical, medical, social, economic and educational needs.

Our main office is in Sulaimaniya in Iraqi Kurdistan. Kurdistan Save the Children is also registered in the UK under the name of Kurdistan Children’s Fund (KCF). KCF works as the international fund-raiser in London.

KSC mainly works in Iraqi Kurdistan Region; however, we have also been extending the activities to the disputed areas, such as Kirkuk and Khanaqin, as well as to Baghdad, which has slowly become possible since the collapse of Saddam Hussein’s government in April 2003. As the security improves in Iraq, there will be more opportunities to expand the work even wider.
KSC mission

Kurdistan Save the Children is a non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian organisation that provides assistance without regard to race, gender, traditions, political or religious affiliation.

Kurdistan Save the Children exists to support social and educational projects all over Iraq, relieving suffering, hardship and neglect wherever they arise and to help children overcome the trauma of war.

Kurdistan Save the Children work to improve the quality of children’s lives. By working hand in hand with local communities, we create programmes that are driven and championed by local people.

Kurdistan Save the Children is committed to supporting long-term projects, helping people to help themselves.

Kurdistan Save the Children believes that children are our future. We work for their right to live in an environment which allows them to not only grow up healthy, but to realise their potentials.
Kurdistan Save the Children in 2009

The main focus of Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) activities in 2009 was on strengthening its relations abroad, on continuing to reduce the phenomenon of child labor and on protecting Children’s Rights.

KSC worked hard to strengthen its relations with some doctors in the Tuscany region in Italy for sending more sick children there for medical treatment in the future. With the intention of increasing their aid and of focusing it more on the Kurdistan region, a delegation of doctors headed by the Minister of Health and accompanied by the Head of the Foreign Relations of Tuscany region, visited the KSC main office in Sulaimaniya in May 2009. In the outcome of this visit, a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in various fields, especially in providing treatment for sick children, was signed between the Head of the Delegation and the Governor of Sulaimaniya.

In August 2009, the KSC Programme Director and the KSC Health Senior Officer visited three pediatric hospitals in the Tuscany region. An agreement for treating 100 children, who have holes in their hearts, was signed with each of these three hospitals. For each operation, KSC will pay one fifth (3500€) of the cost, the rest of which will be covered by the Tuscany region. According to the agreement, KSC is also able to send children with leukemia and other related diseases to Tuscany for bone marrow transplantation. After the agreement was signed, the preparations were started for sending the children to Italy; however, some problems with visas appeared, which by now, have been solved.

Since there are many cases of children with heart diseases, all the efforts were made to find new channels for sending those children for treatment. In 2009, an agreement was signed with the Shavel organization, according to which KSC will send 100 children in 2010 for surgery to Tel Aviv, prior to which only 18 children received the treatment. Currently we are selecting the children who are in most urgent need for treatment.

The KSC Health Sector continues to make every effort for providing necessary treatment for sick children; however, KSC is unable to provide treatment for everyone who approaches us, due to limitations in budget and due to the fact that appropriate treatment is not always available, and also in some cases the disease is incurable.

In 2009, 700 children visited the KSC Health Sector, 530 of whom were registered for treatment. Also 145 children examined by an Italian team will be sent to Italy, depending on the urgency of their condition.

In addition to those children who were cured in Kurdistan, 196 children received medical care in Iran, Turkey, Tel Aviv, Italy, UK, Jordan, Holland and Austria, among others. A mobile medical team was formed for visiting remote areas of Kurdistan, and throughout 2009, the team visited 38 villages, checking up 580 children and treating 233 of them.

An example of a successful project, run jointly by KSC and the Sulaimaniya Health Department, is providing assistance to the Teaching Children Rehabilitation Centre (TCRC), where thousands of children with different disabilities get treatment, as mentioned in the Health Sector's report.

The Distance Sponsorship Programme is the first and the oldest project of KSC. At the beginning, there were only 20 children who were sponsored, and at present 1558 children get monthly support on this programme. Throughout the years, more than 5000 children have been assisted, and all of them were able to finish school with the given support.

Inflation causes an ongoing problem for the Sponsorship Programme. In the past, KSC provided 10-15 US dollars monthly;
equal to 200-300 Swiss print Iraqi Dinars. This amount was sufficient for the whole family to live on. The inflation of the Iraqi Dinar and the ensuing higher living costs in the Kurdistan region were the reasons for a decision to increase the amount of financial support to 30-35 US dollars, which is still insufficient, even for the child alone. As a solution for the problem, within the budget limitations, the number of the children on the programme was slowly reduced during the past few years.

KSC Child Protection Sector continued to work on reducing child labour, especially of children under 15 years of age, who work without the supervision of their families. This is another significant KSC project, effectively operating in the cities of Erbil, Sulaimaniya and Duhok.

The project on child labour started in 2007, when KSC carried out a survey to find out the number of working children in the cities of Sulaimaniya, Erbil and Duhok. From there on, the Child Protection Sector has been focusing on the issues of child labour. After the field officers’ careful examination of each case, KSC provides the amount of money that the child earns by his work for their families, so that the children can continue their education. Active participation in education is a requirement for receiving the financial support, and regular visits are made to the family by the KSC field officers, to make sure the requirement is still met, and to send the children back to school whenever necessary.

In the process of reintegrating children into school, KSC still has to establish stronger cooperation with the police department and with the court to ease the existing tensions that limit the possibilities in handling the issue of working children and taking care of their educational needs. KSC is unsatisfied with, but unable to intervene in current police and court practices in dealing with the families that break the legal obligation of not sending their children to work.

While continuing to financially support street children of both genders, who are at a greater risk of becoming offenders, the Child Protection Sector has also been engaged in helping the imprisoned children to get through the process of detention and legal procedures in 2009. The KSC field officer, with the support of the KSC lawyer protects the children and the adolescents and advocates their interests through the procedures of the police and the Juvenile Court. The Sector also assisted both the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, and the Law Enforcement Office in providing some basic needs, such as clothing and other necessities to the detained children and adolescents.

In 2009, the KSC Training Sector continued to deliver training courses and workshops for employees of governmental institutions that work with children to strengthen their professional competence. The main objective of the courses and workshops was to provide latest scientific information in the different fields of human sciences for creating change in the individual and in the society. Particular attention was paid to cooperating with the Kurdistan Regional Government for establishing a diagnostic centre for persons with disabilities in the Kurdistan region.

Throughout 2009, the Training Sector organized 5 workshops for 106 participants, addressing the issues of child development, child care, including care for children with autism. In addition to this, 10 courses in psychological counselling and guidance, IQ testing and speech therapy were conducted for 202 participants. KSC appreciates and expresses gratitude for the work done by Ms Lana Dawdi, who taught most of the above mentioned courses as a volunteer.

The KSC Education Sector coordinates the activities of the Children’s Cultural Centres (Kaziwa), Youth Centres, Shahid Jaber Exemplary School, Children’s Music Band, and Sara Cultural Centre.
Annually, thousands of children and young people participate in various activities offered by the Centres. Through these activities, the children and youth find their gifts and talents and have an opportunity to develop a variety of practical skills. The centres also provide a space for organizing seminars and gatherings for youth, where opinions and ideas can be expressed and exchanged with others.

Shahid Jabbir Exemplary School, where education is given in English and in Kurdish, is a project of KSC Education Sector. In the academic year 2009, 246 students were enrolled, and according to the results of the examination of the final year students, the school was ranked on the second place on the list of Kurdistan region’s academic performance level.

Both Education and Child Protection Sectors in the KSC Kirkuk office were successful in carrying out their activities in 2009. The multicultural and multiethnic composition of the city mirrors the diverse population of Iraq and the tensions underlying this diversity. In this conflict-ridden city, however, the cooperation between the Kaziwas and Youth Centres, and within them, the peaceful coexistence, unified atmosphere and the interactional learning between different ethnic and religious groups set an example for peaceful individual and collective development. With similar mediating efforts, the Kirkuk Child Protection Sector, among other activities, continued providing legal assistance for the juveniles involved in crime.

In 2009, both Duhok and Erbil offices successfully worked on reducing the number of children engaged in child labour. The success of this project depends on close cooperation between the Juvenile Police Department, the Juvenile Court and the KSC.

Again this year, His Excellency, Nawzirwan Barzani, the Prime Minister of the 5th cabinet of the Kurdistan Regional Government, donated 500,000 US dollars to the KSC office in Erbil to support its projects. KSC greatly appreciates this gesture of good will and the genuine interest in the wellbeing of the children in Kurdistan.

Dana Hussein Qadir
Programme Director
Strengthening KSC Activities and Services in 2009

In 2009, as in previous years, KSC continued to provide service and ongoing support for the children in affliction and in need through the KSC Health, Sponsorship, Child Protection and Education Sectors.

In 2009, 1,558 children benefited from KSC sponsorship program, with each child receiving monthly an amount of 25,36 thousand ID, including 358 children on the overseas distant sponsorship programme at the time when inflation continues to have its negative impact on living standards, which is most visible among the poorest. Further, KSC health sector facilitated the treatment process of 600 sick children inside and outside Kurdistan, with 183 of them having undergone surgery.

Child Protection team continued to reach out for each and every working child, crying out for help. In close cooperation with the juvenile police department as well as with the Ministries of Social Affairs and Education, they continued the work of reducing the number of working children. The team also continued to help the imprisoned teenagers, in undergoing their legal procedures. The work of reintegrating the dropout children to school also continued.

The stories of children, once living and working in the streets around the city, and eventually helped by KSC were collected and are being published in a weekly journal. In the end of 2010, all the stories will be gathered in a book, which will be published.

The Education Sector team continued to serve the children and the youth through educational activities offered in Children’s Cultural Centres (Kaziwas), and in Youth Centres in Sulaymaniya. The activities we provide become more and more appreciated and the public becomes more confident that the activities are beneficial to the children and to the youth. Through this recognition, closer ties are being established between KSC and the ministries and the government departments that work with children and with youth. In their own projects, especially the Ministries of Culture, Social Affairs and Youth have started to apply the practices we have found efficient. Another sign of the recognition of our effectiveness is that some heads of districts and heads of sub districts approached KSC with the request to open Kaziwas and Youth Centres in their areas. Understanding our task in working for the well being of the children and understanding the necessity of these centres in all communities in the Kurdistan region, we feel disappointed that due to limitations in budget, we, at the moment, are unable to open new centres. However, the fact that such requests are made, shows how the public awareness on the importance of the civil society is increasing, which in itself paves way for the people to understand the significance of their role in developing the community and participating in governance by being more active in community activities and in volunteering.

In another development, some medical teams visited KSC and offered their services for examining sick children, in particular those with heart conditions. Among them were several teams from Italy and Germany as well as from other places. Also some other institutions and organizations assisted us, such as Shevet, Samaritan Purse, Chain of Hope, Buy Shoes Save Lives, also Ms. Trudy Weber, our longstanding supporter who is responsible of the distant sponsorship programme in Switzerland, accompanied by other Swiss sponsors, visited sponsored children in Kurdistan. Also sponsors from Finland and from Britain came to Kurdistan to visit their sponsored children. Also this year some artists and groups from abroad visited Kurdistan and made performances and delivered training and other projects. Among them were Ms. Christine Stevens, music therapist, and Dr Craig Woodson, music educationalist, from the USA, who initiated Peace Drum Circle during their previous visits, and demonstrated how drumming together in a group reduces stress and how to make and decorate your own instruments from available resources and recycling materials.

A number of Kurds and foreigners came to visit Kurdistan and voluntarily offered their services to KSC, each in their own fields. They conducted training courses and held discussions during which life experiences in Kurdistan and in their countries of residence were exchanged. Among them was Dr. Rod Monger, an American teacher in the American University of Sulaimaniya, who volunteered to teach English at Shahid Jabbar Exemplary School.

Mohammed H. Tofiq
Sulaimaniya Programme Manager
Child Protection Sector

Throughout 2009 the Child Protection Sector worked to develop a programme to limit child labour in the city of Sulaimaniya. The main aim of the programme is to prevent children from undertaking work that might stop them from continuing their education or may be harmful to their physical and psychological growth.

The programme was implemented in five separate projects working to:

* Raise parental awareness about the negative effects of child labour and educate them about the laws regulating child labour.

* Provide financial assistance for needy children to ensure their continuation of education.

* Prohibit children under 15 years old from working, according to article 24 of the Juvenile Observation Law.

* Prohibit children from undertaking work without supervision of adult family members

* Introduce Children’s Rights to teachers and pupils.

In parallel with these projects, KSC offered assistance to the Observation House and Juvenile Correction Facility. The Observation House was established for the detention of delinquent juveniles. KSC engaged a handicraft teacher and provided tools to the Observation House detainees so that they could learn useful skills whilst in custody. In addition two refrigerators and two seesaws were provided, and flowers were planted for the Juvenile Department of Sulaimaniya Correction Facility.

Two surveys were carried out: The first about the detainees in police stations outside the city of Sulaimaniya, and the second survey to seek public opinion about the Child Help Line project in the cities of Erbil, Sulaimaniya and Duhok.

Project 1

*Raise parental awareness about the negative effects of child labour and educate them about the laws regulating child labour.*

The aim of this project was to raise the
awareness of parents of children studying at the basic stage about the harmful consequences resulting from child and juvenile labour, and to educate them about the laws which regulate child labour.

The project achieved its aim by:
* Developing an education and awareness programme to deliver to parents.
* Arranging 7 meetings in a school and issuing invitations to attend, to 280 parents.
* Providing education and awareness sessions for 197 parents.

**Project 2**
Provide financial assistance for needy children to ensure their continuation of education.

The aim of this project was to prohibit children from dropping out of school during the compulsory attendance stage. To achieve this aim the project workers contacted 45 social workers who were able to provide information about children who had stopped attending school in 2009. 155 children were identified. Intense follow up action was undertaken in which 123 schools were visited. This resulted in:
* 57 children being reintegrated into school.
* 53 children being identified as above 15 years.
* 5 children were in an unfit health condition and unable to return to school.
* 4 children had moved abroad with their families.
* 27 children, and their families, couldn’t be traced.
* 9 families disagreed with sending their children back to school.

Additionally financial assistance from KSC has been arranged to support 38 children in need, amounting to 75000 Iraqi Dollars each month.

**Project 3**
Prohibit children under 15 years old from working, according to article 24 of the Juvenile Observation Law.

The aim of this project was to prevent children working who are under 15 years and who are not under the supervision of their families. 300 children in this category were identified: 261 of them were identified by the Juvenile Police Department, 23 were spotted by social workers in the bazaars and 16 were identified in the Kaziwas Children’s Cultural Centres run by KSC. Project workers completed information forms with the details of each of these children.

Field visits were made to 203 homes of the children to assess their family situation. Parents were informed about the laws which regulate children working and advised about
the negative effect working can have on their children’s future. As a result of the family assessments:

* Financial support has been provided for 68 children.
* 123 children were supplied with clothing, and 13 of them were also supplied with items needed for school.
* KSC has ended monthly support for 24 children because 13 had passed the KSC’s qualifying age, the financial situation of 6 families had improved, 3 children continuously failed at school, and 2 children went back to work.

A further 430 field visits were made to 120 families to ensure that the children continued their schooling and were not sent back to work.

Project workers carried out spot checks to prevent 88 children from working in the streets and roundabouts.

**Project 4**

*Prohibit children from undertaking work without supervision of their family members.* The aim of Project 4 was to:

* Stop children from undertaking work that would affect them negatively.
* Prevent children under the age of 15 from undertaking work without supervision of their family members.

1244 field visits were made to places of work during the daytime and 205 visits to bars and hotels during the night time. This resulted in the identification of 46 violations against children. In each case warnings were given to hirers and 43 children were saved from dangerous occupations.

**Project 5**

*Introduce Children’s Rights to teachers, pupils and the general public.*

The aim of Project 5 was to educate teachers, parents and the public to the Children’s Rights laws. Forty five schools inside Sulaimaniya city were visited by KSC field officers to obtain permission to carry out the project work. Pictures illustrating the rights of children and the way teachers and parents must treat children were drawn on the walls of the 45 schools. Six illustrations were drawn on the exterior walls and five on the interior walls.
Hemn was a working child!!

Hemin was a 14 year old boy, who lived together with his parents and his two brothers and a sister in a rental house, which was in a miserable condition. Hemin’s mother was a housewife and his father was a handicapped elderly man who worked as a cleaner.

Each month, they had to pay 250,000 dinars for the rent, and the father’s small salary was not enough for them to get by. For the bad financial situation, both Hemin, who as the oldest sibling had to provide half of the needs of the family, and his little brother had quit school, and worked every day from dawn to dusk.

One day, a man approached Hemin, and asked him to buy food and to go on a picnic together. Hemin knew the bad intentions of this man from previous experience, and he refused. In the evening, when Hemin returned home he told his mother about the man, and together with a relative they made a complaint to the police who then took the man in custody.

During the police investigations on the case, when Hemin visited the Juvenile Police Department, the KSC officers talked with him and together they filled in the KSC information forms on working children. The officers also visited Hemin’s home and based on their report KSC decided to provide support for Hemin’s family to ensure education and a healthier future for him and for his siblings. With KSC help, Hemin is now happy to be back in school and away from the dangers of working in the bazaar.

There might be many children like Hemin, facing the same dangers while working. Let us then unite our efforts for keeping our children away from the bad influence of the streets and from exploitation. Let us work together for providing better life and better educational opportunities for all children. - KSC
Sponsorship Sector

The main objective of the Sponsorship Sector is to provide financial support for poor families. This service is a great help to single mothers who find it difficult to provide a decent standard of living for their children. Although the amount of financial assistance KSC donates to a family may seem insufficient nevertheless it is a valuable source of income that enables mothers to provide for their children. KSC’s Sponsorship and Child Protection Sectors work together to identify families in need of assistance and enable them to receive a good source of income.

During 2009, 1558 beneficiaries received assistance from the KSC’s Distance Sponsorship Programme DSP, which is less than previous years. The main reason behind this is inflation, leading to lower purchasing power of money and higher cost of living. For this reason, it was decided to increase the amount of financial assistance per child by reducing the number of children to be sponsored. Consequently, starting from 2008, the qualifying conditions for assistance were changed to allow financial resources to be more focused on the poorest families. This resulted in the termination of assistance when a child reaches the age of 18, completes education, drops out of school, and also it is terminated for families whose financial circumstance has improved. Following this policy, the funds on President Talabani's sponsorship programme were directed to support 1200 children in 2009, instead of 2000 children in 2007. Even though, whenever there are families in dire need for assistance, the Sponsorship Sector cooperates with the Child Protection Sector to provide it. After changing the qualifying policy, 225 children could no longer meet the qualifying conditions and were excluded from sponsorship in 2009.

Overseas Sponsorships

Although 24 new children were sponsored in 2009, sponsorship from overseas is gradually decreasing with only 358 beneficiaries receiving support in 2009. This is mainly due to the sponsors not renewing their sponsorships with a new child once their original children no longer qualify for assistance.

The number of overseas sponsorships differs from one country to another. For instance, Italy supports 85 children, Finland 24, Holland 34, Denmark 40, Switzerland 104, England (UK) 37, France 6, Germany 2, Australia 1, Canada 1 and finally, USA 2. And there are 22 children who get support from local sponsors. We greatly appreciate the help we receive from Switzerland, Italy and England who always try hard to find and maintain new sponsors. Throughout 2009, sponsored children have sent letters expressing their grateful thanks for the support and gifts they receive from their Italian sponsors.

In 2009, Ms. Trudi Weber, the Swiss sponsor and longstanding KSC supporter, visited Kurdistan with other Swiss sponsors, Hans Peter, Marianne Meier and Peter Oberholzer. Ms. Maureen McLuckie, a sponsor and longstanding KSC partner in Britain, was part of the group. They visited 34 children delivering letters and gifts on behalf of other Swiss sponsors, who were unable to visit Kurdistan so far.

Field Visits and Follow Up Action

In 2009, DSP’s field officers made 3013 visits to children and their families: Sulaimaniya office 501, Halabja office 271, Kalar office 633, Qaladiza office 465, Koya office 754, Chamchamal office 389. Regular visits are made to check on the children's welfare and also to gather details of changes of circumstances so that records can be kept up to date. The DSP's field officers in Sulaimaniya and outside Sulaimaniya are always ready to help the families and in particular to help those children in need of more care. All the information related to sponsored children, field visits and follow up actions are carefully preserved as part of the Sector database, which is regularly updated.

Since continuing education is one of the qualifying conditions, DSP’s field officers also visit schools when there is a signal that the child may have dropped out of school. KSC has printed and issued 1500 letters of certification for children at different stages of school to demonstrate that they are KSC DSP beneficiaries. Beneficiaries who are at institute and university stages are asked to bring certification letters to prove their education is continuing.
In addition to regular activities and field visits the Sponsorship Sector undertakes ad hoc activities as the need arises. Below are some examples of such activities undertaken in 2009:

* 6 children, 4 in Halabja and 2 in Sulaimaniya, who had dropped out of school, were reintegrated into regular education. The Sponsorship Sector and Child Protection Sector worked together to achieve this.

* Provided household goods for the home of a sponsored child

* Renovated the roof of a house of a sponsored child and whilst doing that identified the poor circumstances of the family who were then given financial support from KSC

* Supplied 2 families with sewing machines, one provided by KSC and the other by Ms. Trudi Weber, a KSC partner.

* DSP’s field officers regularly helped 2 children as their guardian was unable to do shopping and provide their daily needs.

Problems and Issues

It is increasingly difficult to find new sponsors. Sometimes sponsors think that the financial situation in Kurdistan is improving and has stabilized so they terminate their sponsorship. President Talabani’s sponsorship programme for aiding excluded children has a limited budget that is insufficient to help the great number of children in need of support. At present, according to the Sector records, there are still 493 families in need of assistance and waiting to be sponsored in 2010.

There is a long waiting list of children needing help. There are plenty of families living in desperate conditions hoping that someone will give them a hand. Even when help is provided for a family it is hardly enough to fund the needs of a single child.

The Free Project

A new project, “The Free Project”, will be introduced in 2010. The aim of this project is to provide support for exceptional cases of hardship. The project will assist families in poor circumstances that do not satisfy the usual KSC sponsorship conditions for support. Funding for The Free Project will come from KSC’s already stretched and limited, sponsorship budget. Therefore support will be achieved in the best way possible according to a structured criterion.
KSC support Azad’s family

Azad’s father was killed in the chemical attack on Halabja in 1988; he was buried in his uncles’ yard without any proper burial ceremony as it was impossible to take him to the cemetery due to the intense bombardment of the town. Azad and his siblings remained with their mother. As the situation intensified they fled to Iran with his uncle’s family. They remained in “Saryas” refugee camp until the situation had returned to some kind of normality. They then returned to Iraq but were captured by Iraqi forces and deported to “Nugra Salman” a notorious prison well known for detaining Kurdish civilians during the ANFAL campaign. They were then transferred to another place where they managed to escape and fled to Sulaimaniya where they stayed until the uprising of 1991. Due to the bad conditions they were living in and their poverty they returned to Halabja.

Since its foundation in 1991, KSC has given help to the whole family. Aram and Avan, two siblings of Azad were housed in the Olf Palme house in Sulaimaniya whilst Azad and Alan his brother who both had special needs stayed with their mother. She found it extremely difficult to support her two sons and eventually handed custody of them to their uncle, she then remarried.

The family was now all separated, Avan and Aram’s lives were relatively better as KSC provided them with almost all their needs. KSC also tried to find a solution to Azad and Alan situation but it proved very difficult due to their severe mental disabilities.

All four children were eventually reunited and returned to live in their old dilapidated house in Halabja. All four of them were put on the KSC sponsorship programme and received monthly support from a Finnish sponsor. They were then provided with a house by a German organization. The sponsorship aid proved to be a good income for the four orphans.

As Azad and Alan’s health condition aggravated, their sister decided to leave school and dedicate herself to taking care of her brothers, fortunately Aram was able to continue with his education. The sponsorship aid was a good motivator for him and he is now a qualified teacher working in Halabja.

The children are now adults, but nevertheless they still receive aid from their sponsor which is very much appreciated not only by the family but by KSC. Although Azad does not go to school, KSC continues to help him and Alan. KSC has become a surrogate father to these children as their father never had the chance to see his children grow into adults.
The establishment of this sector can be traced to the cooperation between KSC and the Ministry of Education of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) when KSC assisted the Ministry in running Second Chance Schools for Adolescents. After KSC handed over the administration of those schools to the Ministry, the main focus was shifted to the Youth Activity Centres, the children’s cultural centres (Kaziwa)s and the Children’s Music Band, all of which offer educational opportunities to children and youth. KSC also runs Shahid Jabbar Exemplary School, and the Sara Cultural Centre, a place that provides a reading space for everybody.

1. Youth Activity Centres
   
   There are seven KSC Youth Activity Centers located in Sulaimaniya, Ranya, Koya, Darbandikhan, Kalar, Khanaqeen and Halabja, where ongoing training is offered to young people in using computer and Internet, in music, theatre, graphic arts, and sports, with each centre having its own library. In some centres, extra activities are introduced, such as viewing films at the Cinematic Centre of the Sulaimaniya Youth Centre and performances of Drum (Daff) Group in the Darbandikhan Centre. The mission of the Youth Activities Centres is to develop the potentials and talents of the young people of both genders between the ages of 15 and 30 by giving a chance to daily and/or seasonally participate in the Centres’ projects, activities, and festivities, by providing an opportunity to be tutored by skilled and experienced teachers and trainers, and by creating a space where young people can freely exchange their ideas.

   In 2009, the overall number of the centres’ beneficiaries reached 11275 young people aged 15-30; 1993 (32.82 %) females, and 9282 (68.17%) males.
2. Children Cultural Centres (Kaziwa)

There are four Kaziwas run by KSC: Sara, Sarshaqam, Bazian, and Chwarta. In all Kaziwas, there are the following departments: computer, drumming, acting, drawing, video games, ceramics, graphic arts, handicrafts, sewing, and sports. Each Kaziwa has its own library. Apart from participating in different courses, offering various benefits to participants, children visiting Kaziwas spend their time there by playing video games and watching videos. The mission of the Children Cultural Centres is to provide the children between the ages of 6 and 14 with an opportunity to fulfill their potential and realize their aspirations by enhancing their creative and intellectual development, as well as introducing them basic concepts of children human rights.

The Centre took an active part in various educational events and public festivals including annual events, such as Nawroz festivities, International Children Day, Kaziwa annual festivities, and International Music Day. The attempt was made to bring together children from different Kaziwas in joint activities of all Kaziwas.

In 2009, an overall number of children beneficiaries of the KSC Kaziwas was 3008 children; 2085 (68.30%) males and 923 (32.69 %) females.

3. Children’s Music Band

The band was founded in 2003, with the aim to teach children how to play on different musical instruments, such as, violin, flute, guitar, piano, synthesizer, santur, clarinet, and others. Children are free to choose any instrument they want to play. They are admitted to a course taught by musicians and music performers free of charge.

While the course participants have to attend daily, others can visit and learn as well, especially during the summer holidays. The only problem is that KSC does not have a building for the band, and, therefore, has had to rent a house for the purpose on a monthly payment basis.

In 2009, the total number of the beneficiaries of the band was 286 children; 193 male and 93 female.

4. Sara Cultural Centre

The centre consists of a reading hall and a library, where an undisturbed atmosphere has been created to allow the readers to enjoy their time reading. The centre is a meeting place for writers, readers and intellectuals, as well as for students, retired persons and numerous people from different walks of life. The centre provides a variety of newspapers and periodicals to its readers. The library is always open for those who desire to borrow a book or to read at the centre.

There are 2457 books, 2062 various magazines. The number of the centre visitors in 2009 was 2785; 2210 male and 575 female.

5. Shahid Jabar Exemplary Secondary School

The school was established in Sulaimaniya in 2001 by KSC and since that time it has been run by KSC in cooperation with Directorate of Education. KSC provides all needs including administrative costs, whereas the Ministry of Education provides teaching staff, some textbooks and some other requirements. All subjects in science are taught in English.

The school admits 50 grade 7 students every year, who graduate upon the completion of grade 12. The graduates of the 2008-2009 academic year were admitted to the universities both inside and outside Kurdistan region. The overall number of students, attending the school in the academic year of 2009-2010, is 264; 117 male and 147 female.

Education Sector's activities in 2009 briefly included:

* Providing the children’s activity department at the General Library of Sulaimaniya with stationary and drawing facilities to assist in carrying out the summer drawing course for children.
* Participating in the implementation of a cultural exchange project for Kurdish-French children, in which four children and a trainer from Kurdistan took part in and completed a three-week course in painting and story writing, held in France from 13/3 to 2/4/2009.
* In April 2009, Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) Education Sector took part in organizing Ms. Christine Stevens and Dr. Craig Wood's visit to the Peace Drum Circles at the Sulaimaniya, Darbandikhan, Halabja and Koya Youth Activities Centers; the visits were concluded with a donation of drums and other musical instruments to the centres drum teams.  
* On March 21, 2009, the Education Sector took part in Nawroz national festivities by organizing festivals in Kaziwas of Sarshaqam, Sara, Chwarta and Bazian, presenting different activities to the enjoyment of the audience.  
* On 1st June, 2009 – World Children's Day – KSC Education Sector organized a joint performance by Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas and the Children Music Band at the Nali Park in Sulaimaniya. Also, a football match between the teams of Sara and Bazian Kaziwas was held at the stadium of the Youth Activity Centre, with purpose of bringing together children from different Kaziwas.  
* On June 4, 2009, as part of World Children's Day programme, KSC presented gifts (pieces of clothing, balls and toys) to 500 schoolchildren of Tawela, Biara and the surrounding villages. The gifts were also presented to 60 children of the displaced families, currently staying at Zirgwe village.  
* In March 2009, scientific trips were organized for students of the Shahid Jabar Exemplary School to the universities, factories and museums in Sulaimaniya. Also, one of the teachers of the school participated in the British Educational Council meeting held in Jordan in November 2009, with the aim at establishing relationships between Shahid Jabar Exemplary School and schools of England.  
* A competition for the best essay in English was held in Shahid Jabar Exemplary School, with separate awards given to the best essay writers among junior and high school students of the school. In April 2009, the essays were evaluated by a committee composed from the teaching staff of the American university, An idea to have such a competition belonged to Dr. Rod Monger, a member of the teaching staff of the American University, who also teaches English at the Shahid Jabar Exemplary School as a volunteer.  
* In July and August 2009, Lasian, Soma and Daroon, three Kurdish girls who live in Sweden and Britain, on a visit to Kurdistan, worked as teachers in the Shahid Jabar Exemplary School and the Youth Activity Centre, teaching English and giving information on how young people can deal with their problems by depending on their own abilities.
KSC Education Sector provided a teacher for 2-month training of the children in Raniya Cultural House in computer during summer vacations. Also, four trainers were provided for 3-month summer training courses for children in computer, music, acting and drawing at the Chwarqurna Cultural House.

Upon a request of the Sulaimaniya Directorate of Social Development, KSC Education Sector provided salaries for three trainers in sports, music and drawing for the period from 1 March to 15 July 2009 for Child Protection Centre in Kalār and Darbandikhan. Also, salaries were provided for four trainers in computer, music, graphic arts and sports for designing and delivering training courses for the children in the region.

Annual festivals were held by KSC Youth Activity Centers in Sulaimaniya, Darbandikhan, Halabja, Koya, Rania, Kalār and Khanaqin on various respective dates, with young people from different departments of the Centre taking part in the event by introducing an outcome of their activities in the department to an enthusiastic audience.

On 21 July 2009, the Youth Activities Centres of Sulaimaniya, Kalār and Khanaqin took part in a joint graphic arts exhibition at the gallery of the National Hall. The main purpose of the event was to promote creative exchange between the artists.

For the annual commemoration of Antal Campaign, the graphic arts department of Koya Youth Activity Centre organized an exhibition at Klessa village and another one at Khidran village. Also, the music department recorded six songs for the local TV channel.

On 19-21 May 2009, a delegation from the city of Doloz, USA visited Rania Youth Activity Centre to establish cultural relations with Rania. On the same occasion, the Governorate of Sulaimaniya provided the centre with a data show projector, synthesizer, violin, guitar and lute.

The Daff (Drum) Group of Darbandikhan Youth Activity Centre took part in commemoration of the bombardment of Sewsenan village by chemical weapons on 22 March 2009. They also performed in a concert held in honour of Maulana Khalid at the International Conference commemorating his life.

The music department of the Halabja Youth Activity Centre participated in the commemoration of Halabja bombardment by performing some songs and playing music. On another occasion, International Children Day on 1 June, the group gave a concert to the youth kept at the Sulaimaniya Juvenile Delinquency Centre.

On 19 August 2009, Youth Activity Centers in Khanaqin and Kalār organized chess and ping pong competition at the Khanaqin Youth Activity Center. On 9 September, in Kalār, the two centers organized a joint graphic arts exhibition,
attended by many people from different walks of life.
* Two teachers from KSC Sarshaqam Kaziwa drew cartoon characters and paintings on the walls of paediatric teaching hospital in Sulaimaniya, after it had been repainted by volunteer doctor students.
* Miss Maureen McLuckie, KCF Coordinator, conducted a 5-day renovation and painting workshop for the young people in the Sulaimaniya Youth Activity Centre, as well as for the staff of Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwa(s).
  The workshop combined theory and practice, and was held in Sulaimaniya Youth Activity Centre and Hamdi Basic School in November 2009.

In 2010, KSC Education Sector, in cooperation with Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), carried out the following construction and renovation projects:
* Building a gym in Darbandikhan Youth Activity Centre, financed by Sulaimaniya Governorate Council.
* Youth Activity Centre of Koya took over the running of a footsal playground from Koya Municipality.
* The second floor was built at the Rania Youth Activity Centre, with the KRG Council of Ministers allocating an amount of 20000 $ to equip it.
* Arrangements were made for designating a location and building a Gym Hall for Girls in Halabja. For this purpose, a proposal was developed with the help of the Engineering Department of the Sulaimaniya Governorate Council and sent to the KRG Council of Ministers for approval and inclusion into 2010 budget.
* Renovation of a fence at the Bazian Kaziwa was done in cooperation with Bazian Municipality and Sulaimaniya City Council.
* Interior repainting of Sara Kaziwa was implemented on the budget allocated by Sulaimaniya Governorate Council.
* The exterior walls of Sulaimaniya Youth Activity Centre were repainted; the project was financed by Sulaimaniya Governorate Council.

Problems and issues:
In 2009, due to the lack of an appropriate building, houses were rented for some of KSC projects, such as Kalar Youth Activity Centre, Halabja Youth Activity Centre, and Children’s Music Band.
In 2010, we are planning to conduct workshops and courses for the Sector staff to expand their knowledge about how to deal with children.
Aghi, his dreams and the Kaziwa

My name is Aghi, I had a dream to be a painter since I was a small child. At school I used to partake in many school activities. In 1998 I participated in a children’s summer course that was organized by the children’s department of the Sulaimaniya General Library. One of the courses was for drawing which I took part in.

I had heard of a centre called the Kaziwa’s which was run by KSC so I joined immediately and was a regular visitor. The KSC had various departments; my favourite was the Arts department. My sister Astera used to come with me sometimes as she was also interested in painting. I received great support from my art teacher as he was aware about my interest and my wish to become an artist in the future.

After I gained experience of using the various painting tools and the correct colours, my teacher decided to move me to an upper level where I attended extra classes and had much more time to practice. We studied how to sketch, how to use water based paints and finally, we worked with oil paints. It was such a great experience to me. We were a good group that we exhibited our works in a show that was organized at the Kaziwa. Every day after I had finished my painting, I also visited other departments such as the computer and English learning.

It was such a good feeling to see our paintings being shown inside and outside the Kaziwa, they were even shown in countries as far away as Canada, Japan and France. In France they used one of my drawings for the front cover of a book that was published about children’s rights. Sara Children’s Cultural Centre (Sara Kaziwa) gave me the greatest opportunity; it was my motivator and a source of inspiration. There, I had the chance to develop my abilities. I had an unforgettable experience.

After I reached the age of 14, I had to leave the Kaziwa and give a chance to other children to learn and follow their dreams. I continued my studies at school but gave up my dream of being an artist. I am currently in the 4th grade as a medical student. I hope to become a successful doctor and serve my community in the best way, the way I did in the Kaziwa.
Throughout 2009 KSC’s health sector continued to provide care for sick children, particularly for patients with chronic diseases. In 2009 more than 700 sick children visited KSC’s health sector for the first time. The range of assistance required, varied widely from serious cases, of which some unfortunately were incurable, to others needing only medication. Before referring an ill child for treatment, consideration has to be given to the type of illness, to the number of patients on the waiting list, and to the social and economical circumstances of the child’s family.

According to the doctor’s medical reports, 530 patients were examined and treated. Medical services were provided for urgent cases with assistance from partner medical services both in- and outside of Kurdistan. All patients are required to complete documentation to register their personal details before being examined by the Health Sector doctor. This information is stored in the Sector’s database for future reference.

In 2009, 275 male and 255 female patients visited the KSC Health Sector. Some of them were treated by the KSC’s doctor and didn’t need further treatment elsewhere; some others were existing patients visiting for follow up appointments.

The rest had the following treatments arranged by KSC with medical organisations:

* 47 patients had surgical operations, financed by KSC, performed in private hospitals in Sulaimaniya.

* 13 children had surgery performed in private hospitals in Erbil.

* 4 children with bone problems had surgery performed by a German team specialising in vertebral diseases, which was organized in cooperation with the Health Directorate of Sulaimaniya.

* 145 children were examined by an Italian medical team, from the Florence region. To date 3 of the children have received heart surgery in Italy.
* 11 children were examined by an Italian medical team from the Ivrea-Qaladiza Twinning Committee.
* 55 children were sent to Tehran, Iran, to receive medical treatment for different diseases.
* 2 children received heart operations, via the British organisation Chain of Hope: one – in UK and the other – in Qatar.
* 5 children were sent to Ivrea, Italy, for treatment of renal and heart diseases.
* 67 children had heart surgery in a variety of countries:
  * 18 in Tel-Aviv.
  * 19 in Turkey.
  * 10 in Austria.
  * 3 in Italy.
  * 2 in Iran.
  * 5 in Jordan.
  * 2 in Holland.
  * 8 in Erbil Cardiac Centre, Kurdistan.

196 children have had heart conditions and other medical problems cured, after receiving treatment from either inside or outside of Kurdistan.

**Working with Other Organisations**

To facilitate the treatment of sick children, KSC Health Sector works with several other health organisations. In 2009, the sector welcomed a number of visiting medical experts. These included a German team, an Italian team, who came via the Ivrea-Qaladiza Twinning Committee, an Italian team from Florence and an Italian doctor who examined many patients that were registered with KSC Health Sector.

A medical team of doctors and specialists from Samaritans Purse were also welcome visitors. The aim of their visit was to evaluate heart surgery processes to make sure that good results would be achieved. After their visit, they showed their readiness to send an echocardiograph specialist to examine 100 patients, and refer them to hospitals outside the region.

An Italian team consisting of the Head of Siena University, General Director of Siena hospital and a specialist radiographer visited Kurdistan. They plan to work with the Department of Health in Sulaimaniya and provide Kurdish students the opportunity to study at medical colleges in Siena.

A contract between KSC and Toscani, Italy, will facilitate the treatment of 100 children with congenital heart diseases; each child’s treatment costs 3500 euros, and treatment for 15 children with leukaemia. Also a contract with Towards the Health of Kurdistan was signed in December 2009 by KSC’s programme manager and the manager of the company at Siah-Iran. Towards the Health of Kurdistan will assist patients and their escorts during the treatment process and during their staying in Iran in translating documentation related to the treatment process.

Trudi Weber, a longstanding partner of KSC, visited Kurdistan and KSC with some friends in March 2009. During their stay they visited the income generation project in Halsho district. Hopefully they will be willing to finance another project for the surrounding villages in the Qandil area.

KSC Health Sector has had a new project proposal accepted by the Ministry of Health. The objective of the project will be to register children with cancer in the cities of Kurdistan. KSC offices in Sulaimaniya, Erbil and Duhok will work together on this.

In February 2009, KSC staff members visited Istanbul to get first hand knowledge about the treatment process for patients sent there jointly by KSC and Buy Shoes Save Lives. All the sections of the centre were visited and treatment processes discussed.
An agreement was made with the Shevet NGO to send 100 children with congenital heart diseases for treatment in Tel Aviv’s hospitals. The KSC will pay an amount of US$ 4,000.00 per each child, whereas Shevet will cover the cost of the child’s stay at the hospital.

Health sector in cooperation with KSC Training and Documenting Sector organized the following courses for:

* Staff officers of child rehabilitation centre.
* Managers of the nurseries and kindergartens.
* Workers of the autistic centre.

The Mobile Medical Team Project

KSC’s Health Sector organized a mobile medical team to visit remote areas of Kurdistan that do not have any medical centres or hospitals. The team comprised of the KSC health sector’s doctor, an assistant and a driver. A schedule for visits was compiled which allowed the team to visit remote areas and villages every two months. The team started its visits in Jafayati Valley, Qarahanjeer, Takiay Jabbary and Rizgary Subdistrict. During visits all of the children were given a check up. Those that were sick were given immediate treatment and those who were in need of further medical care were sent to Sulaimaniya. In all, 38 villages have been visited, 580 children examined and 233 received treatment.

Children’s Rehabilitation Centre

The Children’s Rehabilitation Centre (CRC) was given increased attention and resources during 2009. The Centre’s buildings were repainted by KSC and the centre’s financial budget was increased to two million Iraqi dinars (1000 pounds sterling) per month. A new physiotherapy section was opened and training courses were provided for the physiotherapist and workshop staff.

As an incentive and a reward for their past hard work staff bonuses were increased.

In 2009 in the CRC:

* 2346 new patients were registered; 1569 of them were provided with aids and artificial limbs.
* 6712 radiography tests were carried out on 5552 patients.
* 1153 children with mental disorders received follow up checks.
* 1166 new patients with orthopaedic disorders were registered.
* 5550 children with bone problems received follow up checks.
* 2589 children received assistance and treatment.

The Autistic Centre

The Autistic Centre was officially opened in June 2009. It was funded by the Civil Society Organizations Fund set up by President Talaibani. KSC produced the initial proposal for the centre, which was submitted to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for approval. The Ministry agreed to provide a building and staff for the centre. KSC oversaw the renovation of the building, provided equipment and funded training for the autistic centre staff. Training was also offered to the children’s rehabilitation centre staff, and managers of the nurseries and kindergartens.
Ilham’s treatment

Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC) has always had a policy of helping sick children. Medical care is the main purpose which many patients seek when visiting KSC’s office. With our limited resources, we try our best to help children who have a chronic disease and diseases which are incurable inside Kurdistan.

The Health sector of KSC provides medical care for patients either inside or outside the Kurdish region. Ilham S. Hamarahim is one of the many patients that visited KSC; she was born on February 20th 2005 in Arbat town just outside Sulaimaniya. The family consist of Ilham, her parents and her little sister Payam.

The family are very poor they live in a 75 meters residence comprising two rooms with a wooden roof. Her father is a construction labourer; his small salary is insufficient to get by.

Ilham is the families first born; she had a congenital heart disease of the type known as Teratology of Fallot (TOF), this meant that a surgical operation was inevitable. This type of heart operation cannot be performed either inside Kurdistan or Iraq.

As Ilahm’s family is poor and their only source of income is her fathers salary. KSC found it necessary to do what they could to save Ilham. We managed to send her and her mother twice to Austria, as the operation needed two sessions to be successful.

Ilham is now like any other normal child; she lives with her parents and leads a very normal life.
Training and Documentation Sector

Lydia Shaswar / Senior Officer

Strengthening bilateral relations between Kurdistan Save the Children and the Kurdistan Regional Government was a focal point of the Sector's activities in 2009. The impetus underlying the KSC Training Sector projects in 2009 was related to strengthening bilateral relations between the Kurdistan Save the Children and the Kurdistan Regional Government. These relations were established in the process of conducting training courses and workshops for those employees of the Kurdistan Regional Government who work with children. In carrying out the training projects, particular attention was paid to cooperating with the Kurdistan Regional Government for establishment of a Diagnostic Centre for Persons with Disabilities in Kurdistan Region. In this process, the role of the Kurdistan Save the Children was to prepare trained staff for the Centre. Another aspect of the Sector's activity involved the necessity to address states of psychological confusion both in children and in adults by offering courses in psychological counselling and educational guidance.

The main intent underlying the 2009 training projects was to create an atmosphere where changes beneficial both for the individual and for the society as a whole could take place.

In 2009, the KSC Training Sector carried out five workshops for 106 participants, which addressed the issues of child development, child care, including care for the children with autism. In addition to this, ten courses were conducted for 202 participants in psychological counselling and guidance, IQ testing, and speech therapy. With regard to the workshops, a three-hour workshop, under the title Developmental Delays: Child Neurodevelopment, was offered to two groups of 45 paediatricians at the Child Hospital in Sulaimaniya on April 7-8, 2009. The main objective of the workshop was to awaken interest in neurodevelopment paediatrics, which could lead to establishment of a Centre for Early Diagnosis and Intervention of Child Developmental Delays in Kurdistan Region. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Hawar Taib Mohammed Golani, consulting paediatrician in the United Kingdom, who volunteered to present the workshop agenda and developed a proposal for establishing a Centre for Early Diagnosis and Intervention of Developmental Delays in Kurdistan.

Further, a three-hour workshop, under the title Taking Care for Infants and Children in Nurseries / Kindergartens: Experience of Working in Child Care System in Holland, was offered to
two groups of 58 managers and nursery/kindergarten child caretakers in Sulaimaniya on August 9-10, 2009. The main objectives of the workshop were to share an experience of working in a child care system in Holland and to engage participants in describing their own experience. A focus of the workshop was on the recognition of and respect for child rights in child care. Ms. Swa F. Gharib volunteered to design a workshop agenda and to present it to the participants. A two-day workshop, under the title Raising Competence of the Caretakers Working with Children in Autism Centre, was organized in cooperation with the KSC Health Sector and conducted on August 18-19, 2009 for 7 teachers of the Autism Centre in Sulaimaniya, established earlier in the year.

The main objective of the workshop was to develop a programme of action for working with the children with autism in the Centre. With regard to KSC courses in 2009, a course, under the title Psychological Counselling and Guidance, was offered to two groups of 48 employees of the Soz Psychiatric Hospital for Women in Tasiluva. The first group attended the course on May 24-28, 2009, and for the second group, the same course was offered on June 7-11, 2009. The main objective of the course was to teach hospital employees how to deal with the patients admitted to the hospital (some of whom were teenagers), as well as with their relatives.

Also, a 15-hour course, under the title Psychological Counselling and Guidance in Educational Settings, was offered to five groups of 100 school supervisors in Sulaimaniya, Rania, and Qaladze. The main objective of the course was to teach school supervisors how to train teachers of primary and intermediate schools in psychological counselling and guidance. In Sulaimaniya, 58 school supervisors were divided into three groups, and the course was offered to the first group on May 31-June 4, 2009, to the second group – on June 14-16, and to the third group – on July 5-7, 2009. In Rania, 25 school supervisors took part in the course on November 7-9, 2009, and in Qaladze, the same course was offered to 17 school supervisors on November 10-12, 2009.

Ms. Lana Dawdi, a faculty member of the College of the Human Sciences of the University of Sulaimaniya, volunteered to design and deliver this course. Ms. Lana, a PhD candidate at the University of Damascus, is currently writing a PhD dissertation on a topic that integrates the fields of special education and psychology. She has been voluntarily cooperating with KSC since 2008. In 2008, Ms. Lana Dawdi delivered six KSC courses in Sulaimaniya, Hawler, Duhok and Halabja for 134 beneficiaries. In 2009, the number of courses, which she delivered to 171 beneficiaries in Sulaimaniya, Rania, Qaladze, and Erbil, was eight. For two years, the total of 305 trainees got benefit from her knowledge, expertise and first-hand experience in special education and psychological counselling.

Two 16-hour courses, under the title IQ Testing, were offered to 31 employees and teachers of students with special needs at the educational institutions affiliated to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government in Erbil and Duhok.
In Erbil, the course was delivered on October 4-8, and in Duhok – on October 10-13, 2009. The main objective of the course was to train employees for conducting IQ tests in a Diagnostic Centre for Persons with Disabilities. Another related objective was to continue lobbying for opening such a centre in Erbil, Sulaimaniya and Duhok.

The course was designed and delivered by Dr. Qabeel Kudi Hussein, professor at the College of Education of the University of Mustansiyah, Baghdad.

Finally, a 16-hour course, under the title Training Trainers in Speech Therapy, was organized for 23 teachers of students with special needs at the educational institutions affiliated to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Kurdistan Regional Government in Erbil. The main objective of the course was to teach the participants how to assist the students who have speech / hearing problems. Another related objective was to prepare trained staff for working at a Diagnostic Centre for Persons with Disabilities.

The course was delivered On November 22-25, 2009 by Ms. Lana Dawdi. At the end of the course, her Excellency Minister of Labour and Social Affairs was present at the ceremony of awarding Certificates of the course completion to the participants.

As an outcome of the Sector’s activity in 2009, training certificates of participating and completing a course were awarded to 202 participants in a ceremony where senior officials of the Kurdistan Regional Government were present.

In 2009, a great deal of efforts was made to establish a Diagnostic Centre for Persons with Disabilities in Erbil, Sulaimaniya, and Duhok. The issue was taken up to Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and also discussed with her Excellency Minister at the certificate award ceremony on November 25, 2009. In the outcome of the discussion, a pledge was made to open such a centre in the nearest future.

In recognition of the Kurdistan Save the Children efforts in organizing and conducting training courses, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs issued a Letter of Gratitude to the Kurdistan Save the Children at the end of 2009, and the General Department of Social Protection and Development in Erbil sent as a gift a decorated clay jug skilfully created by persons with disabilities working at one of the workshops affiliated to the Ministry of Labour.
KSC - Kirkuk Office

In 2009, as in previous years, under the conditions of unstable security, KSC Office in Kirkuk did its utmost to provide best possible service to the children and the youth of Kirkuk in the fields of education, intellectual growth, child protection, health and humanitarian aid.

Education Project

In the KSC Kirkuk office, the educational and intellectual activities are carried out at the KSC Youth Activity Centre and KSC Children's Cultural Centre (Kaziwa). In 2009, the doors of both centers were continually open, without any discrimination, to all children and youth, representing the diverse population of the city. In the outcome of ongoing educational courses, provided free of charge, to all willing to participate, without any discrimination on ethnic, religious, or sectarian grounds, some outstanding children and young people with distinctive talents and abilities were identified, which was possible due to the dedicated commitment of the KSC Kirkuk Office staff.

The overall number of beneficiaries in both centres in 2009 was 24716, of whom 17396 were male and 7320 – female.

Kirkuk Youth Activity Centre in 2009

In 2009, the Youth Center conducted various activities in its different departments. The total number of beneficiaries of the Youth Activity Centre was 10419, of whom 12362 were male and 4057 – female.

The courses were organized as follows:

* 12 courses were organized by the Art department for the total of 487 participants.
* 12 courses were organized by the Computer department for the total of 682 participants.
* 5 courses for learning English were conducted for the total of 516 participants. The courses were delivered by the computer instructor, who holds BA in English language.
* 15 courses in playing football and ping pong, as well as in athletics and bodybuilding were delivered to the total of 11300 participants.

In addition, Kirkuk Youth Activity Center organized cultural events and musical parties for the young people from different ethnic groups living in the city. Art exhibitions were also opened for the talented young artists from the art department. Sports competitions were arranged inside and outside the Centre. The students from the Kirkuk Sports College of Kirkuk frequently visited the Centre and participated in its activities.

Since the Sports College does not have its own stadium, the Kirkuk Youth Activity Center has been cooperating with the students of the Sports College by offering them the Centre facilities for practicing what they had learned theoretically. Good working relations have been created between the administration of the Youth Activity Centre and the College administration.

In the Kirkuk Youth Activity Centre, several seminars and meetings were held for the youth and students. The doors of the Centre library were open for all those who wanted to read a book or to borrow it. The Youth Centre also cooperated with other NGOs by offering them a space for seminars and other projects on the issues relevant to the youth.

Kirkuk Children Cultural Centre (Kaziwa) in 2009.

In 2009, the Kirkuk Children Cultural Centre continued offering new projects and organized different cultural and educational services to the children from different ethnic groups living in the city. The total number of children beneficiaries of the Centre visitors in 2009 was 8297, of whom 5034 were male and 3263 – female.
In 2009, the Kirkuk Kaziwa organized 45 training courses in music, computer, drawing and sports for 564 participants. The following courses were carried:
* 12 training courses in drawing for 190 children.
* 12 courses in music for 180 children.
* 13 courses in computer training for 204 beneficiaries.
* 8 courses in sports for 250 children.

Furthermore, KSC Kirkuk Kaziwa organized several art-related activities, musical parties, and drawing exhibitions for children. Also, Kaziwa children were given an opportunity to participate in special exhibitions, either organized by the Kirkuk Cultural Department or in cooperation with it, which had a great impact on the inspirational goals of Kaziwa children. On the occasion of the World Children’s Day on 1 June, the children from Kaziwa prepared a special programme and performed it at one of the Kirkuk playgrounds, with the performance attended by a great number of children from different ethnic groups living in the city.

In 2009, Kirkuk Kaziwa arranged a carnival for the children of Qarahanjeeer town, in which a thousand children took part. The carnival agenda included an art exhibition, music and dance performance, and sport competitions.

Child Protection Project

One of the ongoing projects of the Child Protection Sector is juvenile delinquency, which is one of the operating projects of the KSC Kirkuk Office that provides legal protection to the children involved. The KSC project officers work in close cooperation with police officers at the juvenile police station and at the juvenile court for protecting legal rights of the children involved, for following up their cases in court, for negotiating shorter periods of detention for them, as well as prompt reunion with their families and social rehabilitation. They also regularly visit the detainees at the places of detention, and, upon their release, they provide psychological counselling for them and their families. The KSC Kirkuk Office was also engaged in monthly providing for the needs of the detained
adolescents, in regularly talking to them so as to raise their awareness about the crime they were involved in and to counsel them how to move away from it and be reintegrated into the society as respected individuals.

In 2009, the overall number of the detained adolescents in Kirkuk was 110. The KSC office assisted 94 of them; 6 were transferred from the juvenile prisons to the prisons for adults when they reached an age of 18 and were no longer considered juveniles; and the other 10 were sentenced to be imprisoned in accordance with the crimes they had committed. The KSC Kirkuk office still works to ease the imprisonment period of those 10 detainees, for KSC is the only organization in Kirkuk consistently working in the field of child protection; this claim can be readily supported by the officers working at the juvenile police station in Kirkuk.

Sponsorship Project

Sponsoring children without a guardian is another ongoing project of the KSC Kirkuk office. In 2009; the KSC Kirkuk office continued to strengthen economic and social status, as well as the psychological state of the families with limited livelihood, and, by a financial support, to assist widowed mothers to take under control of temporarily bad financial situations without deviating from the road of honour by taking a step, which is bound to have a devastating impact on their children.

By offering financial support, KSC financially assists the project beneficiaries for improving their livelihood. Also, the sponsorship project has had a great role in reducing the number of school dropouts less and motivating children to continue their education. Additionally, in terms of contributing to social wellbeing, the ongoing visits by KSC social workers of troubled families contributed to identifying and solving numerous domestic problems in the families of sponsored children or at schools.

In 2009, KSC social workers were able to pay 194 field visits to the homes of sponsored children including those that live outside Kirkuk. Also, information forms were filed in for 15 children and 11 final sponsorship reports were prepared; furthermore, 12 sponsored children wrote letters to their sponsors living overseas. In addition to this, in 2009, the KSC Kirkuk office was engaged in helping the parents seeking the KSC assistance for their sick children with medical conditions that cannot be treated in the region. The necessary documentation was prepared and sent to the KSC Health Sector in Sulaimaniya so that possible arrangements could be made for the treatment of those children.

KSC Kirkuk office has been working in the city since 2003. Its mission of helping all children, regardless of their ethnic or religious background, is greatly appreciated by the people of Kirkuk, who consider KSC Kirkuk office as one of the trusted NGOs working in the city.

Najmadin Nuri Muhammed
Kirkuk Program Manager
In 2009, KSC Erbil office continued to work on the programme of setting up boundaries for child labour and reintegrating dropout students into school system while simultaneously carrying out other projects, such as developing a draft for amendments to the Law on Child Labour; conducting an evaluation of the conditions of detained adolescents at the police stations in Erbil and small towns around it; conducting a survey about the Child Help Line project; cooperating with different NGOs and centers working on child related issues; conducting research on cancer in children and other projects.

1. Child Protection

1.1. Child labour

One of the main tasks of KSC Erbil office is implementation of a programme of setting up boundaries for child labour and reintegrating drop-out students into school system. The programme is motivated by intent to protect children from economic exploitation. A two-tier approach has been used in the implementation of this programme. Initially, an assessment of life conditions of working children under the age of 15 who work without supervision of their families has been made. This was followed by allocating financial assistance to low-income families who send children to work, on a condition that the child would not be sent to work again but would continue his/her education.

In the process of the programme implementation in 2009, the following activities were carried out:

* In 2009, 1817 field visits were made to licensed working places during the daytime and 345 visits during the night time to identify children under the age 15 working without their family’s supervision, and also to identify children at the age between 15 and 18 who were engaged in activities that had negative impact on their moral conduct and health.

* In the outcome of these visits, interviews were conducted with, and information forms
were filled in for 414 children who were either employed by a business or working on their own.
* In cooperation with the Juvenile Police Department, 218 heads of families agreed to sign 293 legal obligations not to send their children to work.
* Financial support for the amount of 98,328,000 Iraqi Dinars was provided to 342 families to ensure that their children would quit working and continue their education. As a follow-up, 2400 field visits were made to the families that receive monthly support from KSC to make sure that they do not send their children to work.

1.2. Conducting a survey about the Child Help line project.
A survey was conducted to find out the opinion of the child and the adult population about the implementation of the Child Help Line project, which is expected to be launched in Kurdistan region by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in cooperation with the UNICEF. The survey was conducted in Erbil, Sulaimaniya, and Duhok Provinces by asking 900 persons (a sample population) to fill in a set of three questionnaires or to be interviewed about the child conditions and the significance of establishing a Child Help Line. The sample was chosen to represent different groups in the community, such as children at school, working children, children with special needs, religious scholars, parliamentarians, workers, lawyers, teachers, doctors, police officers, and shopkeepers. A group of children interviewers was trained in how to create an atmosphere of trust during an interview with a working child so that answers accurately and truthfully describe the reality of the child’s experience.

1.3. Drafting Amendments to the Law on Child Labour.
In the process of implementation of this project, efforts were made to introduce amendments to the Law on Child Labour. According to the amendment, children could not be used for earning a family livelihood. The amendment was developed on the basis of Article 23 of Children’s Rights Treaty, as well as other relevant international conventions. The suggestion was made to introduce a financial assistance to families with inadequate income, who are forced to use their children as a means of earning the family livelihood.

Problems:
* Juvenile courts till now do not consider that economic exploitation of children constitutes a legal violation. Courts are more prone to being sympathetic to families who force their children to work, rather than defending children’s best interests firmly grounded in recognition of children’s rights.
* The police department in Erbil did not take any actions against those families whose income is adequate and who having signed a legal obligation not to send their children to work, continue doing so.
* Some heads of families whose income is good and who having signed a legal obligation not to send their children to work, continue doing so in violation of the signed obligation.
* There is an inadequate number of Second Chance Schools for Dropout students, who cannot be admitted to mainstream schools because of their age.
* The education policy of Kurdistan Regional Government does not permit accepting a dropout student in the second half of an academic year, even as an auditor. This presents a problem for reintegrating a dropout student to school.

2. Education
There are reciprocal relations between education and child labour, with school dropout being one of the reasons behind child labour. The better the education is organized, the more students are attending school, and then fewer children will be engaged in child labour. On these grounds, the efforts of the KSC Erbil Office were always directed to reintegrating dropout students within the school system, improving teacher-student relationships, and organizing summer courses for children from low-income families.
2.1. Reintegrating dropout students into school
* In 2009, 154 dropout students were identified from 414 working children. They were all interviewed and information forms were filled in for each one of them.
* In the process of reintegrating these students, as well as in a follow-up for those who were reintegrated previously, 377 visits were made to schools and as a result, 82 dropout students were reintegrated to school in 2009.

Reasons for being unable to reintegrate all identified dropout students:
* Some children were identified after the first half of the academic year was over, and the educational policy does not permit reintegrating children in school in the second part of the academic year.
* In areas such as Hasarok and Pirzin, where there are so many cases of dropout students who could not be reintegrated into mainstream schools because of their age, there are not enough Second Chance Schools or Centers to reintegrate them either.
* In some cases, the child’s family or the child himself was against continuing education.

2.2. Strengthening relations between school-children and school
Creating attachment of children to school through their participation in school activities is an initial step to make them feel that school is a place where they belong to. When children participate in any activity, they take responsibility for it and take care of it. That is why it is necessary that children are engaged in a process of creating a more comfortable atmosphere at school till they become advocates for their school. In this light, a project of strengthening relations was started, which involved 200 talented children drawing pictures on the walls of 26 schools under supervision of artists. The drawn images reflected socially acceptable behaviour and illustrated some articles of the Children’s Rights.

2.3. Summer courses for child empowerment
Attending school reduces child labour and develops children’s capabilities. That is why conducting summer courses for children and engaging them both in intellectual and in physical activities develops their personality and keeps them away from bad habits and street influence. In accordance with these guidelines, the following activities were carried out in 2009:
* Organizing and carrying out 8 courses for 1260 children for developing their capabilities in the poor neighbourhoods of Erbil and in some surrounding communities.
* Presenting puppet theatre performances at some schools in Erbil and surrounding villages for guiding and advising children.
* A play, called “Moments on the Street”, was performed to some school children to demonstrate the bad influence of being engaged in child labour and staying away from school.

3. Media and Social Awareness
Nowadays, media is part of every household and plays a great role in family and in social gatherings, as well as in changing corruptive attitudes and firmly establishing upright practices. Also, since children spend a lot of time in front of TVs, TV channels were used, as much as possible, to inform both children and adults about children’s rights. For this reason, 9 television interviews and 8 radio programs were organized, 13 interviews on news papers were carried out. Awareness posters were distributed in schools and in public places. Also 5 TV commercials, in which the negative effects of child labour was explained from the perspectives of religious scholars, judges, police officers, pediatricians and psychologists, were broadcasted and shown.

4. Health

4.1. Treatment of sick children
Although there is no health Sector in KSC Erbil office, we did our best to provide assistance to the families of the sick children who visited our office, and to facilitate their visit to KSC Sulaimaniya Health Sector by preparing the required documents and forms.

In 2009, health forms were filled in and sent to the KSC Health Sector in Sulaimaniya for 31 sick children who visited KSC Erbil office. Out of those 31 children, 29 visited Sulaimaniyah Office and they were examined by a KSC doctor. Treatment was provided for seven of them, 19 of them are waiting for treatment and there is no treatment available for three of them.

4.2. Research about Cancer among children
This research project hasn’t been finished yet. The aim of the research is to gather statistic data about the number of children with cancer in Kurdistan, and important initial information about the kinds of cancer in the Kurdistan region and the causes behind them.

5. Training social workers from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.
To raise the competence of the Ministry’s social workers, and to inform them about the activities of the KSC Erbil Office, all social workers from the General Department of Social Development and Protection will be working at the KSC Erbil office for three months, two persons at a time, after which there will be another pair completing the same on-the-job-training. In 2009, 7 social workers finished their on-the-job-training at the KSC Erbil Office.

6. Cooperation with other NGOs and Centers
At the end of 2008, KSC sent a request to three NGOs and two centers working inside Erbil to develop a proposal for a project or more, in the field of child protection, for a budget not exceeding the KSC financing policy, which is 25,000,000 (twenty five million) Iraqi Dinars for each project.

Below are the summaries of the results of this cooperation:
* Assisting an NGO called “Peshangy Mundalai” with a budget of 20,823,000 ID for the Children’s World Day festivities on June 1st, and for organizing a football tournament for 12 local children’s football teams inside Erbil city.

* Assisting the Nerozh Organization with a budget of 24,976,000 ID for conducting training courses for 300 children in three schools in Rizgary sub district.

* Assisting a psychotherapeutic center with a budget of 19,208,250 ID for organizing psychological and social guidance programs for 300 children in three schools in the Rizgary sub district.

* Assisting financially the General Department of Social Development and Protection in organizing psychological guidance courses for 100 teachers working in institutions for children with special needs.

* Assisting Lana Children’s Center with a budget of 11,983,000 ID for conducting an awareness workshop for 40 mothers as well as a workshop in ceramic arts for 10 children.

* Assisting the PAO organization with a budget of 14,430,000 ID for conducting a project for training children to become trainers in the field of the Children’s Rights.

Abdulkadir A. Kakasur
Erbil Programme Manager
Kamran will no longer be deprived from school

In the suburbs of Erbil, there lived a lively child, whose name was Kamran. He was different from other children. Instead of going to school when it was time for it, his family did not send him, because they thought that Kamran was so small in size that other children might be making fun of him. And so it happened that Kamran was denied his right to education.

Through the ignorance and poverty of his family, Kamran ended up working on streets. Every morning, instead of getting ready to go to school, Kamran would be getting ready to go to work, and none was having a concern about the damaging consequences to which a child is subjected when he is sent to work so early in his life. Seasons went by, but every morning Kamran would follow the same fixed routine of going to work...

One day, Kamran came across KSC field officers who were looking for dropouts and working children. The social workers started a conversation with Kamran, asking him about his life, the reasons why he is working, the kind of work he is doing, what his wishes were, and why he is not at school. Through this conversation, he got really interested in getting into school and he welcomed the social workers to visit his family. He also trusted the social workers enough to tell them about some issues at work that he would rather keep to himself. And so the social workers visited his home and had a deep conversation with his family. During this conversation the social workers spoke about the harms of child labor and also about the children’s rights. After the visit, Kamran’s family agreed to send him to school.

Since Kamran was too old to attend the mainstream primary school, it was necessary for him to start his education at a Second Chance School. Unfortunately there were no such schools in Kameran’s neighborhood, and so another solution was found for him to attend school in a nearby neighborhood.

We are happy to say that Kamran is now fully focused in his studies and he is loved by his friends as well as by his teachers. And we, as KSC, wish that all children, who are deprived from education, would be as successful as Kamran in having their desire of going to school realized.
Adolescence is mentally, psychologically, and physically sensitive stage in human development. The years between 12 and 21 are considered a time when the transition from childhood to adulthood occurs, and this transition period should be specifically supported, and attention should be given by the parents and by the extensive family as well as the by teachers and by other adults who are involved in the child’s development and growth. This support will enable them to become self-reliant, active contributors and respected members of the community rather than a burden to the family or to the society.

The youth is the future of the nation; the flower buds of today, and the blossoming flowers of tomorrow. The future potential of the nation depends on their opinions, on their aspirations, on their way of thinking and on their ability and willingness to take actions.

Children and young people are vulnerable to become victims of different kinds of abuse that occur in the society. As a result of this abuse, they will more likely end up getting involved in ethically destructive activities. This is the greatest problem, underlying the issue of child labour. The harmful impacts of child labour came were researched in a survey which was conducted in the city of Duhok by the Duhok office of KSC in summer 2007. According to the results 2560 children under the age of 18 were engaged in child labour and most of them were living in the poor areas of Duhok. The workplaces often open the way for a child to be involved in crime and in other ethically destructive activities, eventually leading to the destruction of the integrity of the child.

The following points will give an insight into the reasons of child labour in Duhok:
* poverty, which forces the family to send the child to work
* the child has to earn the living for the family because the parents are dead or they are divorced, have poor health condition, or a have a physical disability
* some families force the children to go to work
* some children work without a permission or the knowledge of their families, to buy things they desire, like mobiles, clothing and cigarettes
* some children go to work, following the example of other children
* children who do not like going to school or do not succeed, go to work instead
* out of the child’s sense of duty and responsibility in helping the family

The above mentioned reasons are considered the essential and basic factors which motivate the children to work. It is evident, that most children work because of poverty, parent’s unemployment, feelings of discouragement, the separation from the family and the possibility to make money for things that one desires, even if it would lead to illegal activities, and in worst case, drowning into the sea of crime. These factors are inseparable from political, social, economical, health related, and educational incentives. The factors that we would like to focus on in this report are the economical ones, which, as reflected in the points below, are of key importance for reducing the phenomenon of child labour, and the problems which come along with it.

* Unemployment reduced in the city of Duhok in 2009, which improved the economic situation in general by increasing the income per capita as well as the family income, leading to a positive impact on the juvenile criminal record.
* Increasing the number of jobs in 2009 compared to 2008, particularly employment in governmental institutions and in private sector had a great impact in reducing unemployment and helped resolving problems in all the layers of the society, such as reducing child labour.

We introduce here some suggestions for solving problems of the youth and for supporting them in growing up with integrity

* Special and individual care should be directed to the young people, both in- and outside of the family
* The government should make constant efforts for improving the economical situation of the citizens
* Eradication of illiteracy, especially among parents of young children
* Strengthening the education system in all stages, starting from kindergartens till higher education by basing the education on updated knowledge in science and in human science.
* Establishing centres for children and for the youth, to which they can come whenever problems arise.
* Establishing cultural centres that provide facilities for sports and for art and through which
summer camps and other activities for the youth can be organized
* The media should continuously raise awareness about the important role of the youth in the society, to higher their societal status.
* Establishing research institutes specializing in different aspects of social sciences. The research should be aimed towards finding solutions for the various problems of the youth, and the research should be conducted by experts of the area of research.

Since the problems related to child labour are complicated and multifaceted, the governmental institutions, the civil society organizations and the community should cooperate by unifying and strengthening their efforts in finding solutions for the problems that are destructive to the society as a whole.

In 2009, KSC Duhok office worked towards improving economical situation of many families, which is reflected in the following report on the accomplished activities:

* A survey on the phenomenon of child labour, within the framework of the Child Help Line – project, done in cooperation with the ministry of social affairs in April 2009.
* 164 visits to the juvenile police station.
* 405 family visits.
* 313 children were registered in the KSC records.
* 558 children received financial assistance from KSC (49,100,000 IDR).
* 365 children received clothing from KSC (10,500,000 IDR).
* 137 sick children were provided with medicine and other needs (14,190,000 IDR).
* 3 children were reunited with their families
* 366 follow-up visits to make sure the children have not returned to work.
* 308 visits were made by daytime, to places where children often work.
* 178 visits were made during the night, to places where children often work.
* 8 TV-clips of children’s songs were produced
* 2 cultural celebrations were organized in cooperation with the Zewa Centre.
* 4 musical performances were organized with the Children Music Team.
* 150 children participated in the courses offered by the Zewa Centre.
* 4 children were returned back to school
* 3 families were provided each with an approximate 2000$ loan by the Zewa Centre.
* 2 courses were conducted in Duhok, in cooperation with the KSC Head Quarters.
* 30 children took part in a three months course during which they learned to deal with different psychological problems. The course was conducted by social workers.
* 35 meetings on child labour were conducted in cooperation with the General Directorate of Social Development.
* 14,400 awareness booklets with antibacterial information were distributed to nurseries, kindergartens and to some primary schools in the Duhok governorate in cooperation with the General Department of Education of Duhok. Through the same cooperation, distribution of Papula magazine in kindergartens was organized.
* Assisting the juvenile police centre by monthly provision of the required stationery.

Our main supporters in conducting the above mentioned projects were:

1. The General Directorate of Police in Duhok.
2. The General Directorate of Social Development of Duhok.
3. The Department of Education in Duhok.
4. The Trade Chamber in Duhok.
5. Organizations: Horizon, Kurd Institute, Zewa.

Abdullah Ibrahim masiki
Duhok programme Manager
**Figures & Facts 2009**

**1.0 Kurdistan Save the Children’s Total income by source of funding.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Iraqi Dinar</th>
<th>USD</th>
<th>Donor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1- Distant Sponsorship Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>480,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Jalal Talabani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,110</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italy - Ivria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33,652</td>
<td></td>
<td>Switzerland (PIK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,320</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denmark (Dankurd)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11,445</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>526</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rod Monger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>315,000</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,706</td>
<td></td>
<td>Holland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>588</td>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,722</td>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>47,250</td>
<td>12,340</td>
<td>Iraqi Kurdistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of distance sponsorship programme</strong></td>
<td><strong>362,250</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDING:</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,724,893,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.1 KSC expenditure on all KSC’s offices projects in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>Iraqi Dinar</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1- Education</td>
<td>1,584,150,000</td>
<td>22.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2- All KSC offices administration</td>
<td>1,444,262,400</td>
<td>20.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3- KSC Other Projects</td>
<td>1,166,474,550</td>
<td>16.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 NGO support</td>
<td>400,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building 4 lecture halls for Kalar University</td>
<td>138,321,100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building a cafeteria for Kalar University</td>
<td>124,655,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening Summer Courses</td>
<td>112,500,250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building first floor for Ranya Youth Activity Centre</td>
<td>131,408,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducting Survey for Garmian District Villages</td>
<td>11,115,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSC various small projects and activities</td>
<td>248,565,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4- Health</td>
<td>1,152,535,050</td>
<td>16.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5- Sponsorship</td>
<td>811,312,600</td>
<td>11.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6- Child Protection</td>
<td>725,652,000</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7- Papula children’s magazine</td>
<td>101,813,750</td>
<td>1.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8- Training &amp; Documentation Sector</td>
<td>85,952,600</td>
<td>1.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9- Students support</td>
<td>68,542,000</td>
<td>0.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10- Shangal Charity</td>
<td>28,665,550</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL Expenditure** 7,169,360,500 100.00 %

 NB: The amount of 870,000 US$, donated by Deputy PM of the Kurdistan Regional Government at the end of 2009 for children’s heart surgery, will be spent in 2010.
Table 1.0 shows the KSC income by sources of funding in 2009. A substantial amount of the funding came from Kurdistan Regional Government, which funded the vast majority of KSC projects. DSP (the Distant Sponsorship Program) brought in 590,269 $U.S. and 362,250 Iraqi Dinars. Every child is sponsored with approximately 15 - 30 $U.S. per month. Together with various funds for other KSC projects, the grand total of funds was 1,100,662 $U.S. and 6,724,893,000 Iraqi Dinars.

Table 2.1 shows the expenditure of all offices' projects which was 7,169,360,500 Iraqi Dinars. 1,584,150,000 Iraqi Dinars was allocated for the Education Sector. The administration of all KSC offices spent 1,444,262,400 Iraqi Dinars. The KSC other projects spent 1,166,474,550 Iraqi Dinars. (see Table 2-1 on page 40). The Health Sector was allocated with 1,152,535,050 Iraqi Dinars, the Sponsorship Sector spent 811,312,600 Iraqi Dinars, and the Child Protection Sector spent 725,652,000 Iraqi Dinars.

Also, 101,813,750 Iraqi Dinars went to Papula monthly magazine and 85,952,600 Iraqi Dinars was allocated for the Training & Documentation Sector. Among other expenses were the allocation of 68,542,000 Iraqi Dinars for student support, and 28,665,550 Iraqi Dinars for Shangal Charity.

Figure 2.2 illustrates by percentage, the KSC expenditure on all offices projects in 2009. The majority of the funds was used for the Education Sector (22.10%), followed by the administration of all KSC offices (20.14%). For KSC Other Projects was spent (16.27%), and for the Health Sector -(16.08%). Also, (11.23%) of the total amount went to the Sponsorship Sector, (10.12%) - to the Child Protection Sector, (1.42) - to printing of Papula Monthly Magazine, (1.20%) - to the Training & Documentation Sector, (0.98%) - to students' support, and (0.40%) - to Shangal Charity support.
Acknowledgments

Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC-KCF) would like to extend its heartfelt appreciation to all who have contributed to our efforts to promote and protect the children rights of Iraq and Kurdistan.

We are extremely grateful to all our partners without whose continued financial and moral support, the achievements highlighted in this report would not been possible.

Additionally, we would like to say a very big thank you to all the individuals who have volunteered their time and effort in our sectors and overseas. Their contribution has been crucial in enabling KSC to fulfill its role as the biggest local NGO specializing in monitoring, protecting and promoting the rights of Iraq and Kurdistan children.