

The YWCA of Palestine in a Glance



About the YWCA

The YWCA of Palestine was first initiated in 1893 by informal groups of Christian women who were meeting in Jaffa and Jerusalem as YWCA groups, and later in the year 1918 was officially established in Jerusalem. Currently, the YWCA of Palestine has four local associations operating in East Jerusalem, Jericho, Ramallah, and Bethlehem in addition to two centers in Aqbat Jaber and Jalazone refugee camps.

The YWCA of Palestine is a national membership based women organization registered locally as a non-governmental association affiliated with the World YWCA movement, which has a special consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).



YWCA Vision

Women, and especially young women as decision-makers, agents of change and leaders in a society where equality, freedom, tolerance, justice, peace and dignity are promoted.



YWCA Mission

The YWCA of Palestine empowers women and youth to demand, exercise and protect their economic, social and political rights.



Economic Empowerment

Programs under this thematic area are intended to empower women to demand their rights from duty bearers and at the same time creating employment opportunities through vocational training programs and entrepreneurship development so women, especially young women can live a dignified life.



YWCA Thematic Areas



Leadership & Civic Engagement

As a young woman centered organization, the YWCA offers safe spaces for young women to grow, learn and engage in their communities. It also strives to build the knowledge and capacity of young people around the importance of their participation and engagement in decision-making in their local communities, local councils, and organizations and on the national level.



Just Peace

The YWCA strives to build young women's capacities and understanding of Human Rights and UNSCR1325 and UNSCR2250 to enable them to effectively influence the global agenda on just peace. This is especially important since the YWCA is a member of a large global movement of women, the World YWCA, that has one bold and transformative goal, "By 2035, 100 million young women and girls transform power structures to create justice, gender equality and a world without violence and war; leading a sustainable YWCA movement, inclusive of all women."