



إيواء عوا  
EWA

مراكز إيواء النساء والأطفال  
SHELTERS FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN  
دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
UAE

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ANNUAL BOOK 2011

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Humanity is  
living with  
dignity

**Ewaa shelters for  
women and children victims  
of human trafficking**

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Thanks to Those Who Inspired us with the Luxury of Giving

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UAE



“The human resource development is the ultimate goal that we make every effort to achieve.”





His Highness

Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

President of The United Arab Emirates  
and Ruler of Abu Dhabi



A nation's greatness is not only measured by its economic and material achievements, but also by its social and humanitarian achievements in ensuring human dignity and legitimate rights. These are the foundations of development and prosperity that were established by Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan, may God have mercy on him. His humanitarian endeavours became known in various parts of the world, and he realized the true meaning of humanity in all its forms actions which have become the pride of his people and an example for his sons to follow.

Everyone in our dear country should accept responsibility for rejecting and fighting these heinous crimes, which are a stain on the face of humanity that God has honored in all divine religions. All of us, citizens and government, have to confront these flagrant attacks on human rights.

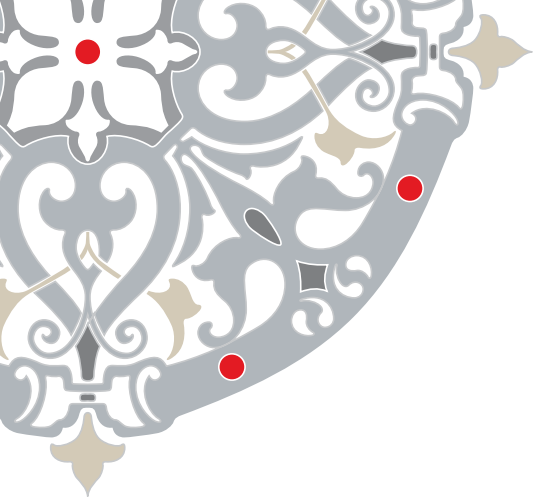
Human trafficking is a crime punishable by law and it violates all international norms and charters. We must spare no effort to fight this crime for the good of the human dignity. The United Arab Emirates will always live up to its humanitarian mission by providing all wide-ranging care and protection to this vulnerable group. It will also work hard and devote its energy to ensuring the security and stability for victims allowing them to recover their dignity and regain their usurped rights.





Sheikha Fatimah bint Mubarak

Mother of the Nation



“The Justice is a legitimate right for all and the sovereignty of law is above any consideration; it is the shield that guarantees justice for all.”



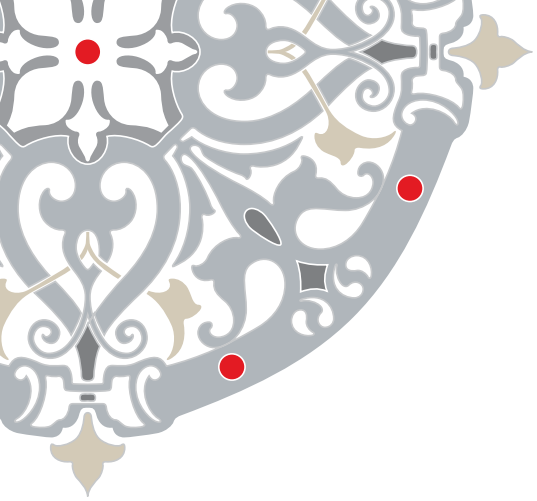




His Highness

## General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi,  
Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces  
and Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council



Amid the vast developments of humanity, economically and technologically, along with its major social and civilizational breakthroughs, challenges intensify and solutions become increasingly difficult to attain. In the past, fighting illiteracy and diseases and exterminating slavery were among the most important indicators of social development. Today, many developed countries managed to deploy several sustainable solutions to keep these drawbacks out. However, man's progress towards development knows no time limits nor boundaries, especially with mobility, connectivity and communication getting better in terms of speed and efficiency. With this in mind, commitment, diligence, and striving to help others become an important indicator of civility leading to the growth and rapid advancement of mankind. There comes the leading role of the UAE locally in adopting the best practices towards building a strong, healthy, well-united, knowledge-based society, and bolstering human development regionally and globally through financial and in-kind assistance provided to poor and damaged communities, along with communities suffering from disease, illiteracy, and crime of whatever type.

Based on this, the achievements of Ewa'a Shelters for Women and Children, victims of human trafficking, do not only constitute the backbone for humanitarian work proactively carried out by the UAE Red Crescent Authority (RCA), rather they become developmental in their impact and civilizational in essence. These achievements, with their sustainability and excellence, stem primarily from the public policy of the UAE in respecting and preserving human rights and dignity as per international laws and standards. With this vital connection between Ewa'a's achievements and RCA charity on one hand and the civilizational progress of the UAE on the other, it's undoubtedly highly lofty and noble to provide shelter, care, and rehabilitation for human trafficking victims whilst helping blending them socially, which acts require constant follow up and development from relevant officials and a sense of maintaining true and deep cooperation with all partners regionally and globally.

With these achievements, and this kind of cooperation, we are still working hard to enforce deterrent laws so as to prevent the dangers of such social malaise, and to complement relevant global efforts. This shall definitely enhance our social security domestically and protect human dignity. In light of the achievements made so far, we all share the same faith that the UAE civil society institutions primarily concerned with social development and protection, with Ewa'a Shelters being the foremost among them, will all spare no effort and will constantly strive to do the best to ensure the provision of the best services and achieve the noble objectives of humanity.

Allah is the Grantor of Success





His Highness

**Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan**

Ruler's representative in the Western Region  
and Chairman of the UAE Red Crescent Authority



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## Message from the executive director

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With the nobility and sublimity of our humanitarian work at Ewa's Shelters for Women and Children victims of human trafficking, we could not have been more excited and committed to achieve full development and excellence and to attain a top-class social service provision. Our work motivates us to go the extra mile so as to fully achieve Ewa's vision and objectives. Perhaps we would have never been able to reach this top level of achievement, even with all this effort and such commitment given so far, were it not for the unlimited support and guidance that our wise leadership permanently avails to us together with the leaders' instructions of providing all safety and security requirements and safeguarding rights. This enabled us to implement the Shelters' work strategy confidently and accurately.

This report reflects, with all the accomplishments, facts, and figures included, the efforts made in many consecutive days which in turn reflect Ewa's work and activities throughout 2011.

A year that marked another major improvement in the Shelters' services and an increase in Ewa's set of activities quantitatively and qualitatively. In 2011, we managed to intensify our close and efficient cooperation with our partners and expand our global relations to serve issues of common interest. We also stabilized the presence of the UAE in many international events by taking part in relevant anti-human trafficking activities for protecting and supporting the victims.

Acting from the social responsibility concept which lies at the core of all what we do, Ewa's focused primarily on improving the standard of its activities nationwide in protecting, healing, and rehabilitating human trafficking victims whilst enabling them to get back to their normal lives supported by the skills, self-confidence, and self-esteem they gained back

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*This report reflects, with all the accomplishments, facts, and figures included, the efforts made in many consecutive days which in turn reflect Ewa's work and activities throughout 2011.*

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## Sarah Shuhail

Chief Executive Officer  
Ewa'a Shelters for Women and Children  
Victims of Human Trafficking

after being abused and humiliated. Due to the credibility and nobility of our work, the Shelters joined several initiatives to establish social responsibility partnerships as our partners believe in the Shelters' excellent performance, being well informed about the service development and the supporting administrative performance. Therefore, the Shelters' performance and its successive achievement of goals in coordination with local partners serve as a good model for sustainable social responsibility, and a white spot that reflects how far the UAE society has developed on the civilizational level.

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*With the preparation of this annual report covering Ewa'a achievements, I would like to stress the fact that these Shelters with the policies and procedures adopted throughout 2011, strengthens their leading role being one of the effective cornerstones in sustaining the local community and supporting and complementing the activities of its security, judicial, and social institutions towards the achievement of common goals.*

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With the preparation of this annual report covering Ewa'a achievements, I would like to stress the fact that these Shelters with the policies and procedures adopted throughout 2011, strengthens their leading role being one of the effective cornerstones in sustaining the local community and supporting and complementing the activities of its security, judicial, and social institutions towards the achievement of common goals. In this context, the Shelters played a vital role as a credibly authorized source for increasing awareness of trafficking dangers and how far it has become obligatory to fight such phenomenon instantly and efficiently being everyone's responsibility. This helped achieve satisfactory results concerning social awareness, and earned us great recognition and appreciation locally and globally.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and thankfulness to Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Supreme Chairperson of the Family Development Foundation, President of the General Women's Union, and Honorary Chairperson of the UAE Red Crescent Authority, for her constant support and her direct, unwavering follow-up for the Shelters' activities. I would like also to sincerely thank her for providing all what we need to succeed in our mission and achieve our common goal.

Allah is the Grantor of Success



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## Humanity is living with dignity

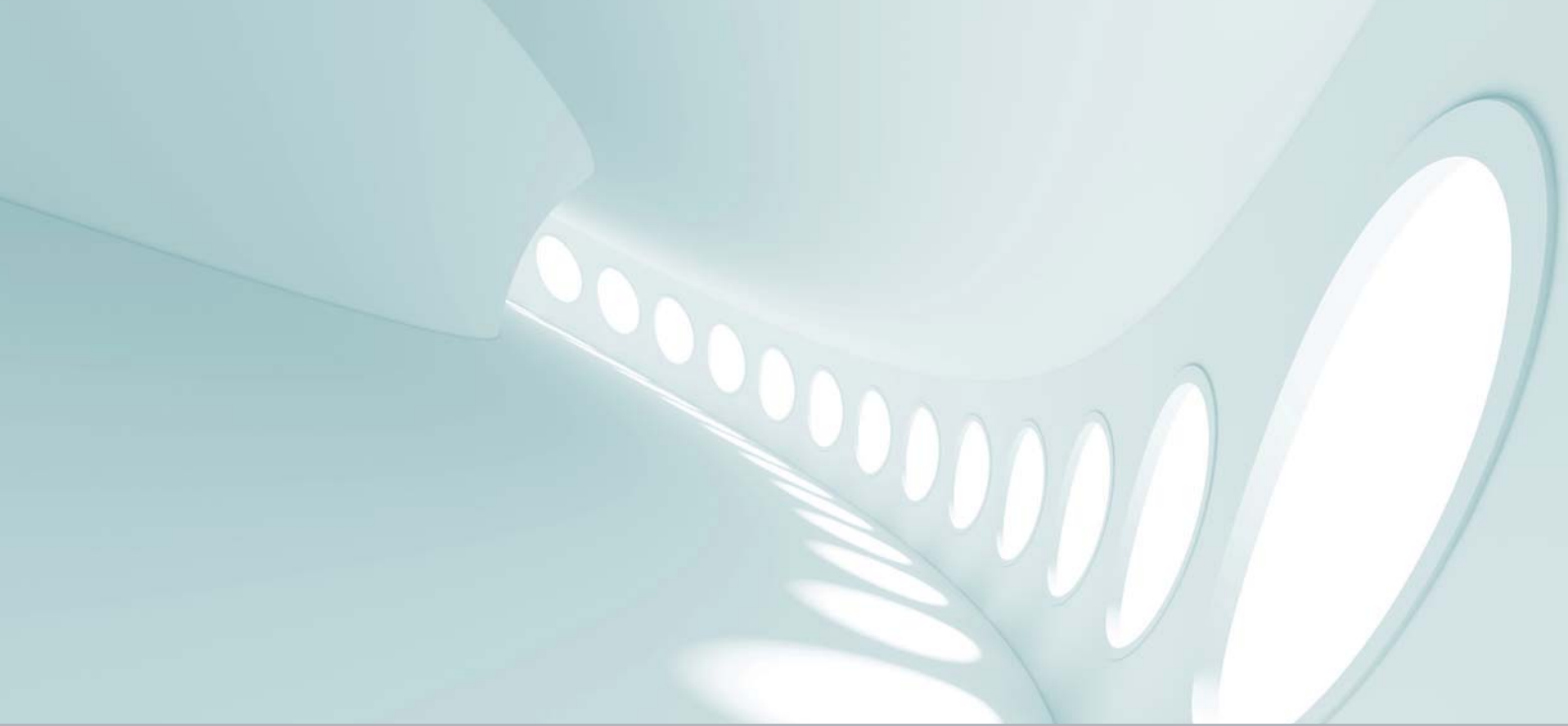
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Since the launch of Ewa'a Shelters for Women and Children Victims of human trafficking in 2008, after the establishment of the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT) in 2007, the United Arab Emirates passed through a notable development in fighting this malicious crime. Such development includes social awareness, enacting all necessary legislative and regulating frameworks, promoting cooperation nationally, regionally, and internationally, building a safe shelter for victims, and providing them with full support.

The establishment of Ewa'a Shelters was one of the major landmarks in building a comprehensive system in the UAE. This system aspires to achieve complementarity in fighting against human trafficking as per the Federal Law No. 51 of 2006, which considers trafficking a crime punished by law. The Shelters are governed by strategic objectives including efficient coordination with relevant stakeholders, increasing social awareness about human trafficking, building highly efficient human resources, and achieving excellence in organizational performance.







To achieve these objectives, Ewa'a Shelters operate in Abu Dhabi, Sharjah and Ras Al-Khaimah based on a non-profit strategy within the scope of the UAE RCA activities and in cooperation with the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT). The scope of activities is expected to expand to be fully nationwide, with more intensification of operations to achieve the vision for which Ewa'a was initially established and that is:

“To participate in achieving a society free from all forms of sexual violence and become a global leader in rehabilitating victims of human trafficking.”

Ewa'a spares no effort for a true application of the slogan: “Humanity is living with dignity”, making it a firm principle and a perceivable fact that everyone living in the UAE can touch and see. This will be achieved through a noble mission that runs as follows:

“Protect the women and children victims of human trafficking and sexual abuse in all Emirates, by offering them safe shelter and care, rehabilitating and reintegrating them in society in coordination with the relevant stakeholders, and increasing awareness to limit acts of human trafficking.”



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## Strategic Objectives

- Provide immediate and long term support for victims of human trafficking
- Establish and maintain effective coordination with relevant stakeholders
- Increase society's awareness about the existence of human trafficking victims
- Build up capable human capital and capacity
- Deliver excellence in organizational performance

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## Scope of Work

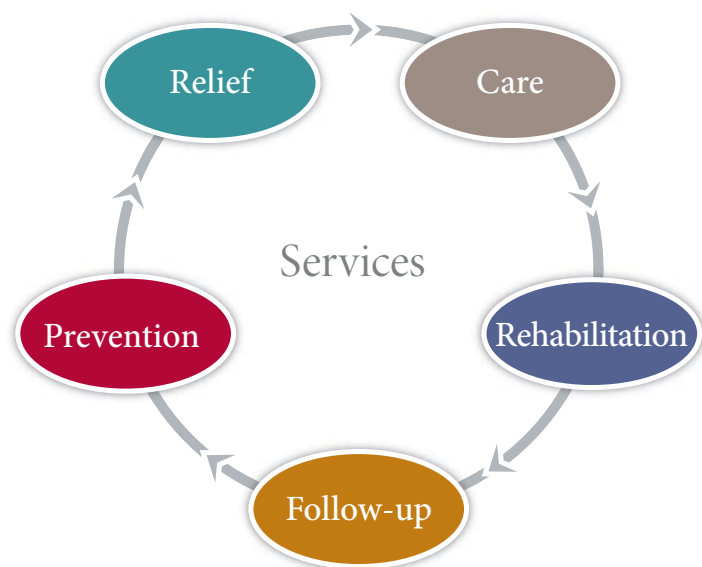
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Ewaa Shelters receive female and children victims only. Besides, the shelters give particular priority to receiving and providing care to victims of sexual abuse, considering the fact that they are among few entities specialized in this field in the UAE.

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## Policy for joining the shelters

- No direct receipt of victims is made. Our policy is to maintain utmost confidentiality of its location at all times to ensure the safety of our residents and staff.
- The shelters receive the victims in co-ordination with the authorities which has registered the victims for refuge, such as the Red Crescent Authority, embassies, hospitals, places of worship, similar shelters, and other concerned authorities.
- Victims are also received through the hot line contacts.
- Victims are transferred from police stations after initial investigation into their cases. They are housed temporarily until it is determined whether their case is related to human trafficking crimes or not.



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## Rebuilding hope

Nothing is nobler than devoting oneself to get a victim of crime back to life again; here the essence of Ewa'a work. Throughout the year, Ewa'a provides protection, care, and rehabilitation for victims whose morale and capabilities were broken down due to the injustice and criminal nature of others. Ewa'a regards its day-to-day activities a noble humanitarian mission that knows no boundaries. This mission provides for all the requirements for the victim's rehabilitation physically and psychologically, ensuring that he/she is back again healthy and rebuilding his/her trust in the environment and society at large. Ewa'a also aims at supporting victims head back to the future with professional skills that make life easier for the victims, giving them hope and reasons to believe in a better future. This is a crucially decisive phase in the lives of those victims which Ewa'a takes special care of by rebuilding hope and giving out seeds for a new life.

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### Weekly Art Courses for Emotional Release

Ewa'a shelters hold art courses over the year for women and children victims of human trafficking. These courses are given as part of the psychological therapy to help them release any negative feelings they might have due to the hard experiences they passed through.

### Vocational Training Course

Beside the psychological support the victims receive, Ewa'a shelters also hold educational and vocational training courses. The primary aim for these courses is to make efficient use of their spare time thereby helping them in their future. Courses include: learning languages, basic professional skills, and handicrafts like sewing and embroidery.

### Entertainment Tours

The Shelters have also organized several outdoor tours for the victims, including trips to natural places and in the open air, as part of psychological relaxation sessions that help the victims regain a sense of safety and security.





### **“Picasso” ... Child’s Innocence Regained with Scratches of Art**

On the sidelines of the Abu Dhabi Classics, held in June, and in cooperation with Abu Dhabi Music and Arts Foundation (ADMAF), the event organizer, Ewa’a Shelters organized the Picasso event at Abu Dhabi center. This special program was an excellent opportunity for Ewa’a children to express their inner selves in artistic sessions; a chance for them to regain innocence through artistic scratches that give hopes of a better tomorrow. Their tool was drawing using oil paints, coal, sand, and pastels. “Picasso” was one of many activities held by Ewa’a aiming at rebuilding the children’s self-confidence and developing their creative skills.

### **Sports for anti-depression and regaining trust**

Sports are considered an integral part of Ewa’a therapeutic and rehabilitation programs. Every shelter has a fully-equipped gym and swimming pools for women and children to be used in their daily anti-depression programs or for those suffering from any other symptoms. The daily exercise sessions help victims regain their self confidence and enhance their health conditions.



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## Commitment towards Women and Children Rights

As part of our overall framework, and with the unlimited support we receive from H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, President of the General Women's Union, as well as the relevant governmental and non-governmental bodies, our shelters directly and effectively contribute towards supporting the legitimate rights of women and children. This is achieved through the joint efforts and activities of the shelters in coordination with the relevant judicial, legislative, and security entities as well as family development institutions and different social support groups. Therefore, Ewa'a with its programs, operations, and initiatives push forward the governmental efforts in the UAE and the corresponding international efforts in promoting women and children rights.

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### Distinctive Participation in Social Violence Workshop in Kuwait

With a highly distinctive participation, Ewa'a attended "Social Violence" workshop organized by the Kuwait Society for Ideal Family (KSIF) in cooperation with UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Papers presented in the workshop addressed gender-based violence against women and children. Participants focused on defining the basic concepts and legal approaches to limit down verbal and physical abuse and methods for treatment and protection. The workshop also discussed violence against children and means for protection and prevention. Sara Shuhail, CEO of Ewa'a, presented a paper about Ewa'a model in the UAE.

The paper highlighted the services provided to victims and efforts made by the UAE in this regard, with special focus on anti-trafficking programs launched nationally and how the UAE supports women and children rights, being among the leading countries in this field.





### **Effective Contribution in “Know Your Right” Workshop in Abu Dhabi**

A delegation from Ewa’a took part in “Know Your Right” workshop organized by the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood in Abu Dhabi through a series of programs about women rights in different fields. The main aim of the workshop was to specifically identify issues approved by law and religion for women, yet unknown to many women.

### **Regional Workshop on “Human-Rights-based Approach to combating human trafficking”**

In December, Ewa’a Shelters took part in the regional training workshop on adopting a “Human-Rights-based Approach to combating human trafficking” organized by Human Rights Department, Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre (UNHRTDC) for South-west Asia and the Arab Region.

The workshop highlighted the role of Ewa’a as the perfect model for humanitarian work to protect women and children victims of crime and how far it provides them with everything needed for a safe return home.

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## Cooperation is key to success

Ewa'a's mission and vision might never have been actualized were it not for the cooperation and coordination approach it followed since its launch. Most of the Shelters' activities focus primarily on cooperating with local, regional, and global partners operating in the field of human rights and combating human trafficking. Such cooperation is achieved through regular meetings, and entering into bilateral agreements and memoranda of understanding that aim at building long-lasting partnerships, which efforts have successfully made anti-trafficking operation an efficient, successful, all-inclusive process. Through their achievements on the ground and wide-scale cooperation with partners, Ewa'a showcased a remarkably leading role in fighting human trafficking, which earned it the recognition of many local and international partners through which they stressed the Shelters' success in the protection, care, and rehabilitation of trafficking victims, whether women or children, as part of the fast-moving national efforts to fight back against this crime.

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### **MOU signed with Fujairah Police**

In September, 2011, Ewa'a signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Fujairah Police. The MOU stipulated the enactment of efficient mechanisms and the adoption of legal procedures in all human trafficking cases. Both parties also agreed to work jointly to use all human and financial power as applicable to provide psychological, social, legal, medical, educational, and professional care for trafficking victims, whether women or children.

### **Preparational Meeting with the ADP Criminal Investigations Department**

In the first quarter of 2011, Ewa'a had a meeting with the Criminal Investigations Department, Abu Dhabi Police (ADP). The meeting aimed at sharing views for the draft memorandum of understanding (MoU) to be signed later. Both sides also discussed the electronic connection between them, ways to improve the hotline, exchanging expertise, and training in combating human trafficking. They both discussed the idea of having a special office to cover Abu Dhabi whose mission will be to investigate in human trafficking cases within an appropriate social and psychological setting. .





### **Ewa'a.. the Strategic Partner for Sheikh Saif Award for Professional Excellence in MOI Meeting**

Following a recommendation from the Committee responsible for preparing the conditions for “Sheikh Saif Award for Professional Excellence” competition, Abu Dhabi Police (ADP) and Ewa'a held a joint meeting at the Ministry of Interior (MOI) for nomination to the award. The nomination was given following the achievements made by Ewa'a since its establishment.

### **MOU with Sharjah Police**

Ewa'a Shelters signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Sharjah Police Headquarters. The MOU stipulated that both parties shall boost joint operations with each other and with other relevant entities. It also included the enacting of efficient anti-trafficking mechanisms and the adoption of applicable legal measures in relevant cases. Both sides also agreed to promote joint partnership concerning the provision of top-class service to residents of Ewa'a shelters in Sharjah



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## Our Partners

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Ministry of Interior



National Committee to Combat  
Human Trafficking



SEHA شركة أبوظبي للخدمات الصحية  
Abu Dhabi Health Services Co. P.J.S.C



الهلال الأحمر الإماراتي | العناية بالحياة  
UAE RED CRESCENT | Care for Life



مجموعة أبوظبي للثقافة والفنون  
Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation



Mosques

Churches

Embassies

Hospitals



IOM • OIM



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

**UN.GIFT**  
Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking



**UNODC**

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## Awareness at the heart of our work

Awareness is one of the major tasks carried out by Ewa'a. It is considered the backbone for our strategy with the support provided to all services, activities and efforts we do and offer nationwide.

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Our 2011 awareness campaign featured three basic elements:

1. Building social awareness about human trafficking crimes and their inherent dangers in a manner that ensures efficient protection and fighting back especially at the regional level. This is achieved by attracting the public interest and engaging it in this war against trafficking in every possible means.
2. Improving awareness, readiness, and cooperation levels at all anti-trafficking, governmental and non governmental institutions, locally and globally.
3. Targeting trafficking victims who are still under the mercy of traffickers and encouraging them to run away and seek help. This phase targets also those vulnerable to trafficking and the potential victims. We strive to enhance the perception of victims to know all the routes leading to victimization.

Throughout the whole year, Ewa'a relied heavily on comprehensive awareness programs that featured wide-scope media coverage, organizing events more related to women and children, and using every possible channel that can help expand the scope of awareness, protection, and combat against human trafficking.



### **Charity Market for Ewa'a Victims**

Under the slogan “Humanity is living with dignity”, H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, President of the General Women’s Union, Supreme Chairperson of the Family Development Foundation, and Honorary Chairperson of the UAE Red Crescent Authority, opened a 3-day Charity Market at the Women’s Union headquarters. The market revenues went to human trafficking victims. This charity market marked a landmark achievement for Ewa’a in 2011, as it was organized in cooperation with the General Women’s Union, Gardens and Flowers Group, and TwoFour54 Company, which prepared documentary films and educational materials for the event. The market also featured the sale of a collection of suitcases, galabiya, and Abaya donated by the public along with other hand-made and embroidered products made by victims. The event was a big success as it increased awareness of human trafficking victims and created a positive reaction with the public.

### **Hotline launched in different languages**

In cooperation with the MOI Human Rights Department, the Ewa’a hotline was launched marking a big leap forward towards promoting awareness and standard of relief. The new hotline (8007283, “800SAVE”) is available using state-of-the-art equipments installed and deployed at the Shelters. Female employees were trained to work permanently on the new line in 6 languages: Arabic, English, Russian, Urdu, Filipino, and Bengali. More languages will be added in the future. Since this hotline was launched, hundreds of calls have been received whether from inquirers or victims.



## Ewa'a website officially launched

On the sideline of the charity market held by Ewa'a, H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, President of the General Women's Union, Supreme Chairperson of the Family Development Foundation, launched the Shelters' official website. The new site, in its Arabic, English, and Russian versions, is considered a strategic communicational channel for Ewa'a as it provides rich information about the UAE Shelters' mission and vision, along with a crystal clear review for human trafficking. The website also provides corrections for some public misconceptions. It is also considered an important means to enhance the levels of social awareness and protection as well as acting as a good tool to help victims by offering them means for assistance and relief. The newly launched site additionally highlights the activities and achievements of Ewa'a in Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, and Ras Al-Khaimah.

## Supporting the Anti-Trafficking Annual Report

As part of the ongoing efforts to prepare the annual report for combating human trafficking in the UAE, under the supervision of NCCHT, Ewa'a actively participated in reporting the activities, achievements, and future plans and measures of the shelters. This will guarantee the implementation of international commitments and recommendations adopted and approved by the UAE concerning fighting human trafficking and protecting the rights of women and children.





## Briefing Tour for Students of Emirates Institute for Naturalization and Residency and Port Affairs to Abu Dhabi Shelter

In May, 2011, a briefing tour was organized for students of the Emirates Institute for Naturalization and Residency and Port Affairs to Ewa'a Abu Dhabi. During the tour, students were given a brief illustration about human trafficking and how the shelters provide help for victims through standards in the provision of health, psychological, social, legal, and professional care to them. The tour was a good opportunity for visitors to know more about Ewa'a shelters and the importance of cooperation, as these students represent one of the notable entities responsible for the early detection of these crimes.

## Intensive Media Coverage

Beside the traditional targeting of local Arabic- and English-speaking newspapers to cover Ewa'a activities and events which receive remarkable attention in the press, the Shelters tended to be the focal point for many TV reports throughout 2011. These reports aimed at shedding more light on human trafficking and victims, together with the initiatives launched for this particular group, including relevant relief and support organizations.

The UAE-based Ewa'a was a good example for this, and it received special attention from the top TV channel in the world. The CNN aired a detailed report about Ewa'a shelters; the excellent service it provides, and the noble message it carries. Al Jazeera channel also joined the line and aired another story about a girl, residing in an Ewa'a shelter, and how she was victimized upon arrival at a UAE airport. This was a good informative model. An Iraqi channel, Al Hurra, also broadcasted a full report about relief initiatives in the UAE through Ewa'a and the excellent services it provides to trafficking victims before their safe return to their homelands.



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## Transferring Knowledge and developing Skills

Aspiring to promote its capabilities and expertise in supporting trafficking victims, and to stress its active role in the local community, Ewa'a is so keen to take an active part in every national event that is concerned with human trafficking and human rights in general. These contributions are particularly important in knowledge transfer and to keep up with the recent solutions, challenges, and successes in the field. Ewa'a also organizes many relevant meetings to exchange views, professional studies, and to circulate knowledge in a manner that supports all relevant entities. It also aims at improving its skills in relief, support, and the provision of psychological, medical, and legal counsels, thereby enhancing the level of service provision domestically.

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### Seminars and Conferences in 2011

Date and Location	Event	Organized by
<b>Dubai</b> January 30	Relief Organizations Forum	International Humanitarian City in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
<b>Abu Dhabi</b> February 28th	Seminar about the Concept of Asylum and its relation to human trafficking	Ewa'a in coordination with the UNHCR
<b>Abu Dhabi</b> March 8 - 9	First GCC Forum for Anti-Human Trafficking Police Departments	Human Rights Department, The General Secretariat for the Office of H.H. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, under the auspices of H.H. Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior
<b>Dubai</b> April 11 - 12	Second Annual Anti-Human Trafficking Forum (Media and Human Trafficking)	Dubai Police General Headquarters





Date and Location	Event	Organized by
<b>Abu Dhabi</b> May 4	Combating Human Trafficking Forum	Officers Training Institute in cooperation with Ewa'a Shelters
<b>Abu Dhabi</b> May 30	Seminar - Rules of Separation in the Personal Status Law	General Women's Union
<b>Abu Dhabi</b> September 14th	Seminar – Women and Elections	National Election Commission
<b>Abu Dhabi</b> December 13th	Regional Workshop about Human-Rights-Based Approach to Combating Human Trafficking	MOI Human Rights Department, in cooperation with the UNHRTDC for South West Asia and the Arab Region

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## The Voice of the UAE in International Events

With a strong belief in the national efforts against human trafficking, Ewa'a is keen to be present in all regional and global events held for human rights and fighting human trafficking. Ewa'a regularly receives invitations to attend whether as a guest of honor or a participant with workpapers in many conferences, meetings, and seminars. This reflects how far international organizations are concerned with the shelters' successful experience and the notable rank the UAE has earned, as part of the combined global efforts against human trafficking crimes.

In 2011, we took every possible chance to attend all GCC forums that tackle the issue of human trafficking, as we sought to showcase our model in providing relief and support to the victims, and the UAE efforts in fighting this crime. Ewa'a also aims to get involved in regional activities as much as necessary to fight these crimes more effectively.

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### UK: UNDP Workshop for Donations for Human Trafficking Victims

In March, 2011, Ewa'a took part in a workshop organized by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in London, UK. The workshop was entitled: "The Victims at the heart of Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts." Among the top benefits we gained from this meeting was the launch of the "Small Grants fund" simultaneously with the celebration of the International Women's Day.

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### Kazakhstan: The Fourth Annual Regional Workshop

On November, 9th and 10th, an Ewa'a delegation participated in the Fourth Annual Regional Workshop in Kazakhstan on promoting law enforcement and judicial cooperation between countries of origin and transit countries in the field of fighting human trafficking and smuggling of immigrants in Central Asia.

The workshop was held under the sponsorship of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Several panel discussions held at the workshop examined and analyzed forms of human trafficking from different perspectives: social, psychological, and legal. Another group took part in the discussions, including relevant entities concerned with this issue.





### **Kuwait: Workshop about social violence against women**

On January 26th and 27th, 2011, Ewa'a participated in a workshop about gender-based violence, organized by the Kuwait Society for Ideal Family (KSIF) in cooperation with the UNHCR in Kuwait. Sara Shuhail, the CEO of Ewa'a, presented a workpaper about the shelters model in the UAE. She explained the services provided to victims and the efforts made by the UAE in this regard, especially through the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT). She further stressed the leading rank of the UAE in enacting applicable laws and regulations and entering into international agreements and protocols to fight back against these crimes.

### **Qatar: Regional Consultative Forum on the Fight Against Human Trafficking**

On May 17th and 18th, 2011, an Ewa'a team participated in the Regional Consultative Forum on the Fight Against Human Trafficking, organized by UNHRTDC for South West Asia and the Arab Region, in cooperation with the Qatar Foundation for Combating Human Trafficking (QFCHT).

The Forum workshops and sessions tackled possible means to combat human trafficking in the Middle East and North Africa. Different models were provided in this context. In addition, important knowledge gaps and required skills were identified for a better and more efficient strike against trafficking.

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## Promising Competencies

Given the crucial importance and the sensitive nature of our work, and the need for female employees to demonstrate accuracy in performance, have a sense of affiliation and know the noble mission they are doing, Ewa's management adopted a comprehensive professional approach. The approach is meant to enhance and constantly develop the skills and capabilities of the whole staff whether concerning professional expertise, administrative expertise, or personal skills. This shall guarantee a top-notch performance that serves Ewa's objectives and plans on the long run. Indeed, we noticed in practice that all female employees know that the value of contribution does not simply lie in achieving important results for this leading humanitarian work, rather it lies in the professional, administrative, and technical capability achieved, on a sustainable level, since Ewa's establishment three years ago. This will undoubtedly serve the Shelters' aspirations in providing the best permanently and contribute towards the development of a local successful model that can be the example to follow globally.

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### **Training session on efforts against cyber crime**

In January, 2011, Ewa's female employees participated in a training session organized by the Criminal Investigations Department, Abu Dhabi Police (ADP). The session tackled the efforts made nationally to combat cyber crime.

Trainees also got closer insight about how to enhance methods to seize of cyber crime offenders. Training also dealt with how to prevent these crimes, increase social awareness on how the public deal with the internet, and building technical labs and workgroups to monitor illegal use of the internet.

### **Training Course about Women's Role in Fighting Human Trafficking**

Ewa's female staff were among the 27 trainees who participated in a training session on "Women's Role In Fighting Human Trafficking", held in Dubai. The session was organized by the Human Trafficking Crimes Monitoring Center, General Department of Human Rights, Dubai Police, in cooperation with the General Department of Training. Training sessions discussed how to use national and international mechanisms to combat human trafficking, especially UN mechanisms. Trainees also learned about possible means of using legislative and executive mechanisms applicable in the UAE, as well as legal cases, applications, and practices, whether those adopted by governmental entities, or civil society institutions.

The training was an opportunity for Ewa's staff to develop their theoretical knowledge and practical skills on using the above mechanisms, including those for protecting trafficking victims and how to psychologically deal with them. To this end, the training session highlighted some real experiences where the trainees had the chance to review some legal cases concerning human trafficking that are brought before courts..



### **Strategic Planning Training**

In June, 2011, Ewa'a took part in an important training entitled "Strategic Planning", organized by the UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid (OCFA). Several governmental and non-governmental institutions took part in the course. The training focused primarily on providing support in laying down strategic and work plans for donors and UAE charitable organizations. Participants got briefed about mechanisms of identifying opportunities for improving performance. The course also highlighted some of the donors' and UAE charitable organizations' work plans and strategies. Indeed, the training was an excellent opportunity for participants to exchange expertise in managing activities and organizational projects and examining challenges that faced these projects and the best possible means to overcome them. The training also featured a review of strategies that would help donors and charities identify necessary resources, and select possible focal points for grants and donations to ensure the fulfillment of strategic goals.

### **Workshop on Implementation Mechanisms for the CEDAW Recommendations**

In June 2011, Ewa'a Shelters took part in a workshop organized by the General Women's Union concerning mechanisms of implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on the national level. The workshop was attended by the National Committee responsible for the preparation and monitoring of the report on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. It was also attended by non-governmental women societies and members of the General Women's Union. The workshop also discussed the international human rights framework, the international treaty and the role of national institutions in this regard. It also had a discussion over the "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women", the committee responsible for these recommendations, the steps to be taken, and the role of reporters and their work mechanisms

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## Ewa'a Guestbook

With its excellent performance in applying the best care practices for human trafficking victims, Ewa'a has successfully gained the attention of many regional and international organizations. The UAE Shelters for Women and Children earned the recognition of many international bodies for its efforts nationally. Further, it was the favorite hub for many VIPs on the regional and international levels who came to see at first hand the leading roles of the shelters. This increasing number of visits, whether official or friendly, reflects the active global presence and the good reputation Ewa'a earned among this large web of official, civil, and non-profit organizations. We feel highly proud of these visits and forms of recognition we receive, as they represent bridges for permanent cooperation with our partners in fighting against human trafficking and providing care for its victims.

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An Invitation from the Embassy of the United States to Ewa'a Shelters at the Embassy headquarters in Abu Dhabi  
13/02/2011



Visit to Ewa'a Shelters by Ms. Alison Friedman from the US Department of State and a Delegation from the Embassy of the US  
08/03/2011



Visit from Representatives of the Embassy of Canada to Ewa'a Abu Dhabi: Ms. Isabel Mainville, Second Political Secretary, and Ms. Fatima Hamimo, Assistant Planner  
09/03/2011

Visit to Ewa'a by Ms. Youla Haddadin, Advisor on Trafficking, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
09/03/2011



“Small World’s” visit to Ewa'a, headed by Ms. Salam Hamza  
November, 2011

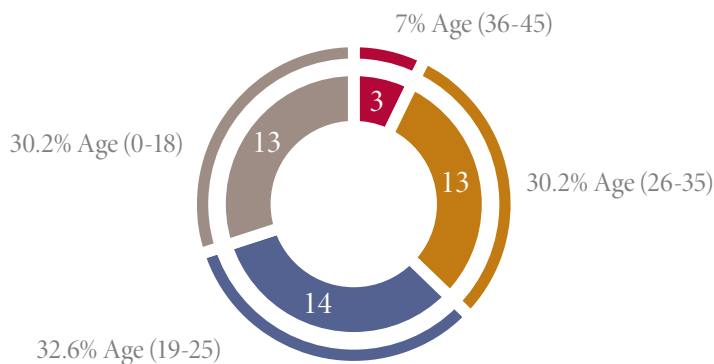
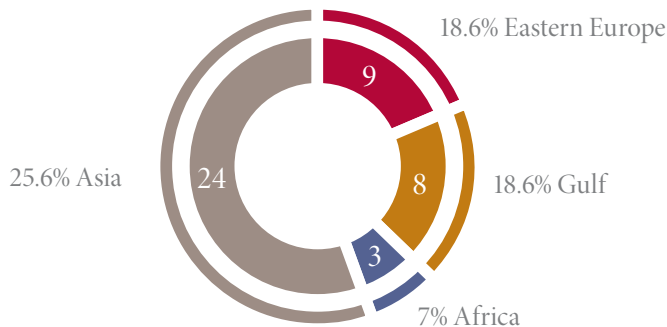
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## Figures & Achievements

For every achievement, there is a number, and each number stands for something that leads us to indicators. These indicators illustrate work paths on different levels and highlight available opportunities for development, getting through challenges, and how far goals are achieved. In 2011, Ewa'a has successfully managed to build on its achievements in the previous years, giving even more remarkable achievements going all the way through full completion and fulfillment of aspirations. These are clear indicators that reflect good professional performance for the shelters. Performance is carefully and regularly monitored by our wise leadership and is constantly supported on all social levels. Based on these achievements, in their statistical manifestation, they could be considered keys to evaluate our performance and means for maximizing it in the future in a manner that serves our overall trend.

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### Country



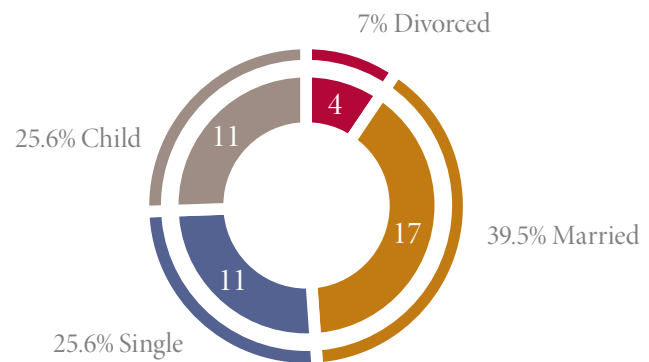
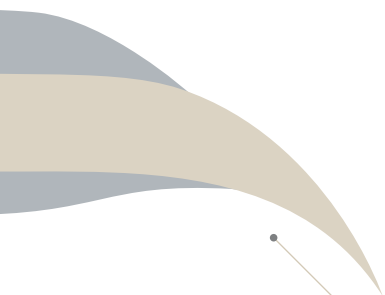
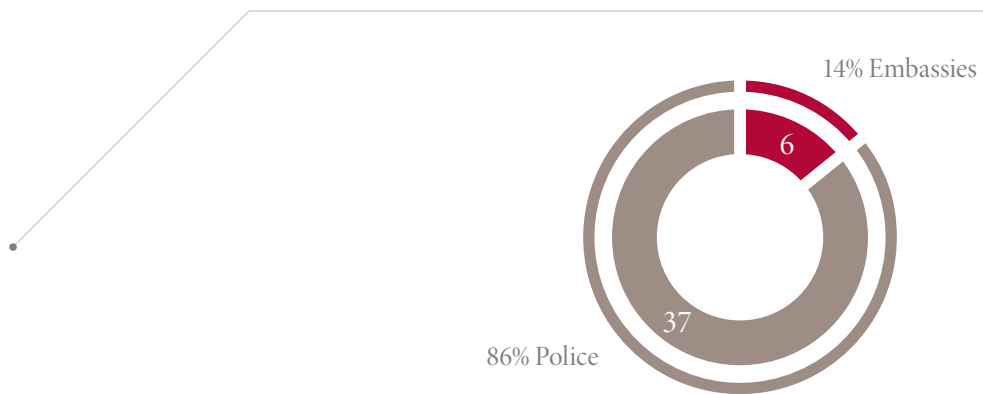
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### Age





### Source of victims



### Marital status



## Shelters

Number of Shelters is 3 and their capacity is 130 victims

### Abu Dhabi

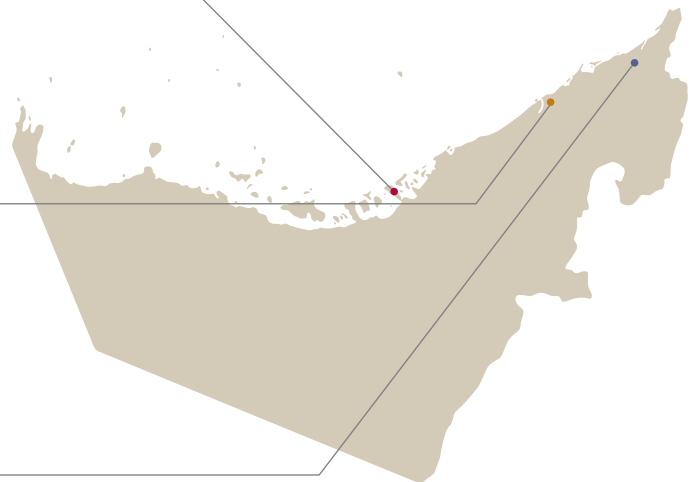
Shelters' Capacity: **60 victims**

### Sharjah

Shelters' Capacity: **35 victims**

### Ras Al-Khaimah

Shelters' Capacity: **35 victims**





36

Number of Ewa'a employees in 2011



30

Number of volunteers in 2011



9

Number of donors in 2011



161

Number of victims who returned to their homelands since the opening of Ewa'a



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## Our Donors ... Thank You!

How noble it is to be good to those who deserve it. Nothing is better than a sense of hope regained gradually to the minds of the victims. There we know that the support, care and donation initiatives, of all kinds, are the means that turn hopes into reality, making victims capable to go on with hope. For its establishment, and more particularly for the achievements it made in 2011, Ewa'a would like to extend its deep and sincere appreciation to all donors and supporters, and ahead of them all comes H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, President of the General Women's Union, and Supreme Chairperson of the Family Development Foundation, for their generous, unlimited assistance that greatly helped us achieve our goals and maintain our progress of philanthropy and saving victims from the jaws of abuse, pain, and harm. Our staff has been very well trained, and subsequently started offering their noble humanitarian services, and efficiently successful work in providing care, and rehabilitation for the victims along with building social awareness of this global malaise. This remarkable support stresses the crucial role for individuals and organizations in fighting back against this crime, which shall be truly everyone's mission.

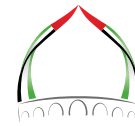
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H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak



مجموعة أبوظبي للثقافة والفنون  
Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation



الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف  
GENERAL AUTHORITY OF ISLAMIC AFFAIRS & ENDOWMENTS





Ras Al-Khaimah Company

Thank you so very much  
for your help  
from Sabina

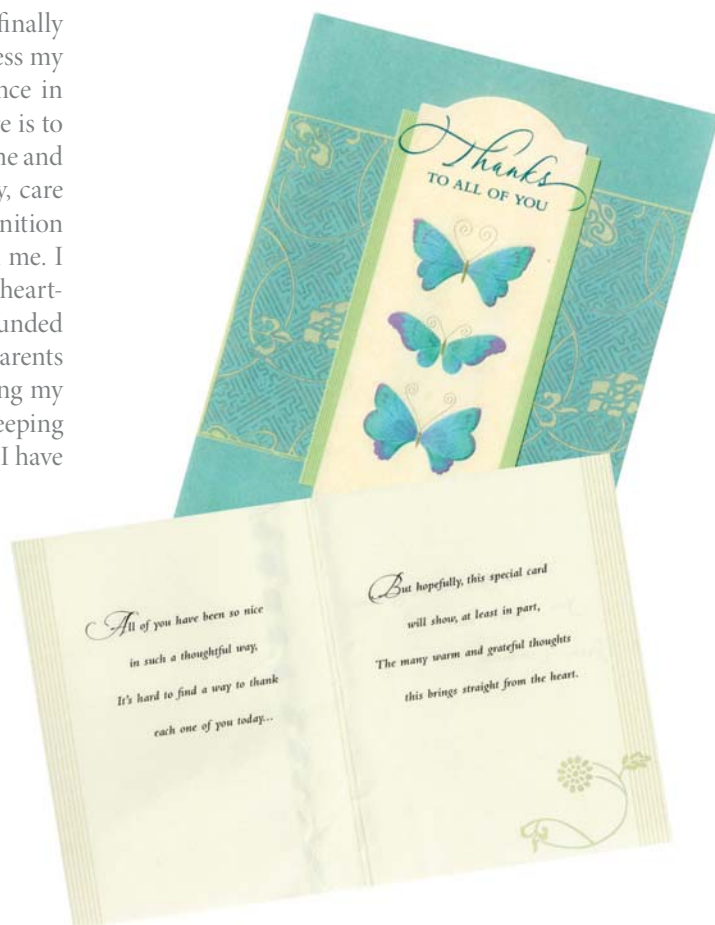


## Message of Appreciation and Hope

My Dear Friends at Ewa'a,

First of all, I would like to express my deep sense of joy having finally returned to my family and my normal life. I would like to express my happiness that I have successfully passed this terrible experience in which you were my support and my true friends. All I have here is to say thank you, and express my gratitude for what you offered to me and my fellow guests at Ewa'a. We found respect in your hospitality, care and rehabilitation at your hands, and thoughtfulness and recognition at leave-taking. You gave me hope in life and in people around me. I am very delighted to tell you that now, after three months of my heart-breaking departure, I had a securely peaceful life at home, surrounded with my family and neighbors and those who love me. I help my parents in their business of selling cow's milk. I also help them in raising my little brothers and sisters, along with other ordinary housekeeping work. My life now goes on peacefully without fear from anyone. I have no doubt that you are happy for me.

Love you so much, and thanks again for your help.





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## 2011..The journey of achievements goes on

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Thanks to the support of everyone, and to the efforts of Ewa'a staff, we are still capable of drawing smiles, and promoting confidence that light is there at the end of the tunnel. There they are our safe shelters providing a freshly safe start towards a new horizon, full of hope and belief that life should go on.