

PWWSD concludes a training course titled “Evaluation and Diagnosis of Speech-Language Disorders”.

PWWSD concluded a training course titled “Evaluation and Diagnosis of Speech-Language Disorders” conducted at PWWSD headquarters in Gaza with the generous support of Frauen Wege Nahost through the programme “Hoffmungsvoegel: Hope Birds”. The PWWSD- Frauen Wege Nahost partnership is almost 10 years old through the Hoffmungsvoegel programme for speech therapy offered to children and mothers traumatized by military aggression and other grave violations against human rights in Gaza.

Participants of the 20-hour intensive training course included a total of 20 female graduates who have majored in related health professions such as psychological counselling, speech therapy and communication disorders, and special education and rehabilitation.

Mr. Mahmoud Ismael, Communication Disorders Specialist at PWWSD, clarified the concept of language and speech as well as certain speech-related disorders such as Apraxia of Speech, difficulty initiating speech and inconsistency with articulation, all of which result from a minor stroke to the brain and which also affects motor-speech functions in the brain; in addition, certain environmental factors play a role in affecting speech impairment normally caused by social and psychological elements, but which can be diagnosed and treated effectively. Mr. Ismael continued to discuss the components of language, modern therapeutic techniques, and mechanisms of diagnosis and treatment. A hands-on application method was implemented among the participants where they used role play to exemplify certain communication disorders and planned treatment methods for each disorder based on group discussions between specialist and participants. The trainer then demonstrated PWWSD’s role in enhancing the training skills of participants by connecting them with relevant rehabilitation centers in which they may find opportunities to work with speech disorders related cases all over Gaza under the supervision of the Speech Therapy Unit at PWWSD in Gaza.

At the end of the training course a certificate of participation was distributed to the participants whom each expressed how much they have benefited from the theoretical and practical training and visual demonstration techniques carried out by the trainer. They also requested that similar and more extensive training courses be conducted in the near future.