



# Umm Al-Fahem

ام الفحم    אום אל פחם



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# UMM AL-FAHEM Facts & Figures

- 56,000 residents – third largest Arab city in Israel – very low socio-economic level.
- Area: 297,000,000 sq. ft.
- VERY young population: 49% under the age of 19.
- 20% of all young adults are idle: do not attend school or work.
- 1080 academics, graduates of institutions in Israel and abroad.
- Highest unemployment rate in Israel (15% among men and 70% among women).
- NIS 10,000,000 in charity from local contributions.



## Municipal programs

- First ever **governmental umbrella agreement** in Arab society. Will build 15,000 new housing units and develop the 4,840,000 sq. ft. commercial zone. Total funds - NIS 800,000,000.
- Groundbreaking government decision to empower and develop Umm Al -Fahem, emphasizing its role as a central Arab city and technological hub.
- Fighting violence: municipal program to fight violence, including steering committee to serve as a local and national model.







# Umm Al-Fahem Projects

# Innovation and hi-tech center

## The problem:

Umm Al-Fahem has highest percentage of unemployment in Israel, particularly women (approx. 70%).

Almost 20% of 18-24 year olds are idle.

## The solution:

### Innovation and entrepreneurship center

## The goals:

- Acquire innovation and entrepreneurship skills to integrate residents in these areas.
- Develop and encourage activities that leverage and develop the local ecosystem.
- Educate and grow a generation of youth and young adults to be the city's future leaders, using the skills and tools of innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Provide vocational possibilities through courses and programs for women (focusing on those who cannot drive, work outside the city, or in a mixed environment).
- Offer professional and personal mentoring and guidance until and after job placement.

# Community HUB – shared workspace

## The goal:

Provide a state-of-the-art workspace to enable local entrepreneurs to create and develop.

## Setting and activities:

- Modern facility.
- Unlimited high speed internet.
- Individual and open space offices.
- Comfortable meeting rooms.
- Meetings with entrepreneurs, personal mentors, business plan and funding consulting, etc.
- Networking and monthly community and business events.

## Projected cost:

- NIS 400,000 annually for operational costs.
- Municipality will provide space.

## Potential funding partners:

- Ministry for Development of the Negev and the Galilee
- Ministry of Economy and Industry

# Youth-at-risk in Umm Al-Fahem:

## background

- 40% - totaling 8,400 children and youth, are considered at-risk.
- 100 new cases supervised by a probation officer are opened every year. This is an increase of 15% in youth-at-risk as a result of Covid.
- Emotional eating rose by 28% as a result of Covid.
- 62.4% are alone for prolonged periods on a daily basis.
- 60.4% reported that their parents are unaware of their emotional needs.
- 12% reported having suicidal thoughts, 51.9% feel lonely and alienated.



# Community based extended school program

## The problem:

A total of 49 children in Umm Al-Fahem are placed in foster care.

Seventy more children are candidates for boarding schools outside the city.

## The solution:

### A community based extended school program in Umm Al-Fahem

- Extended day-school programs provide intensive multi-disciplinary treatment for children ages 6-12 and their parents.
- The family treatment improves parent-child connections, empowers parents and advances the child.
- The result: prevents removing child from home, and builds a stronger and healthier family environment.
- The extended day-school programs operate from morning to evening.

## The goals:

- Narrow the gaps and prevent removal of children from their homes to external care.
- Ensure children/youth-at-risk a protective environment and provide their basic needs.
- Reduce or prevent danger and dangerous situations within the family (neglect, loitering).
- Provide conditions for proper physical, cognitive and emotional development.
- Improve parental abilities to ensure they can provide daily child care, protection and the environment for proper development.
- Improve parent-child relationship.
- Help parents improve their care when child returns from foster care.

## Projected cost:

- NIS 300,000 – covers costs for 30 children.

## Potential funding partners:

- Ministry of Welfare
- Ministry of Education

## Idle young adults

### The problem:

20% of young adults in Umm Al-Fahem are idle.

Do not integrate in school or employment.

### The solution:

#### Guidance center in the city's Young Adults Center

### The goals:

- Provide training and employment guidance and mentoring.
- Make employment opportunities accessible: Advertise jobs, strengthen Hebrew language skills.
- Create programs to identify potential drop outs and develop solutions in advance.
- Offer professional training.

### Projected cost:

- NIS 200,000 (activities and coordinator). Coordinator will accompany participants, consolidate resources and develop partnerships.

### Potential funding partners:

- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Economy and Industry

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