



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement:

March 2022 till March 2024

Part I. Statement of Continued Support

23rd of March 2024
Beirut, Lebanon

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that **CHANCE Association (Children Against Cancer)** reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Roula Farah, MD, FAAP, MPH
Professor of Clinical Medicine
Department of Pediatrics/ Pediatric Hematology-Oncology
LAU Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine
CHANCE Association Founder and President.



Part II. Description of Actions

CHANCE (CHildren AgaiNst CancEr) is a Lebanese non-profit, non-denominational, apolitical, association that relies on volunteer work and donations to provide assistance to children with cancer and blood disorders from birth to the age of 18 years. CHANCE promotes as well cancer awareness, cancer prevention, cancer control in Lebanon as well as advancement of research in the field.

Founded in 2002 by Dr. Roula Farah, along with a team of medical professionals, parents and volunteers who now constitute its Executive, Medical, and Para-Medical committees.

CHANCE is an active member of Childhood Cancer International (CCI) and of the International Brain Tumor Alliance (IBTA). Since 2014, Dr. Roula Farah, CHANCE Association president has been in the leadership team of Asia as a member of the Asia Regional Committee of the CCI (Childhood Cancer International), the largest global organization for childhood cancer worldwide (www.childhoodcancerinternational.org). Since 2019, she became a member of the World Health Organization's Global Childhood Cancer Initiative Working Group. In 2020, she was nominated as a CCI-WHO representative for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) region. In 2024, she was appointed as the CCI representative and co-focal point for the EMRO region towards the WHO for matters related to childhood cancer.

Join and/or support special initiatives and work streams

1. Participation in Global Compact Local Network events.
2. Protection of children's rights to equal access to proper care (SDG3 – SDG10)

For the past 22 years, CHANCE association teams have secured funding to cover the costs of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery to children with cancer and their families in various hospitals ensuring that no child is refused state of the art care for financial reasons. Additionally, following the Beirut Crisis and the serious shortage of medications, CHANCE Association has secured essential and life-saving chemotherapy drugs to several patients with cancer.

3. Advocacy for the right of children with cancer and their families (SDG16)

Various cancer awareness and advocacy events were organized by CHANCE teams reaching out to various stakeholders and communities.

- Webinar about "June is the month of victory over cancer" on Television
- Series of Webinars with the Psychiatrist Alain Percivalle CHU Nice, with the pediatric oncology nurses and parents of the children with cancer on the Narrative medicine exercise (writing workshop) with the instruction "write about a stressful event"



- experienced in the context of your professional activity". And with the Physicians and Nurses announcing bad news to parents and child.
- A TV campaign with the ministry of information during Gold September raising awareness on childhood cancer.
4. Advocacy for cancer survivors rights. Gender equality and proper integration in the community (SDG3 – SDG5 - SDG10)
- Zoom Meeting with Maryam Keyrouz @watan-eers the youngest recorded person in the Arab World to attempt Everest base camp, the cause is to raise funds for children with cancer. Dr Farah and CHANCE Children with cancer and survivors.
 - Webinar on the critical Link Between Cancer Diagnosis and Survivorship.
 - Webinar with CCI on the right to be forgotten of Childhood Cancer Survivors.
5. Cancer awareness and education campaigns on social media, televisions and in hospitals and key partnerships (SDG4)
- Educational Zoom Meeting with the nurses from Abou Jaoude Hospital and LAUMC-RH on bleeding.
 - Anakamen support for CHANCE on light FM, campaign starting August 24, twice a day. And on Anakamen platform
 - ESA Expectations and Contributions Workshop aiming to improve the communication between patient associations, payers, and other stakeholders, where expectations and contributions of each will be shared and aligned. Led by Dr. Pierre ANHOURY, M.D., M.P.H., Director of International Affairs at Institute Curie (Paris) and Coordinator of Executive Education programs at ESA.
 - Webinar with the Psychiatrist Alain Percivalle CHU Nice with the pediatric oncology nurses on the Narrative medicine exercise (writing workshop) with the instruction "write about a stressful event experienced in the context of your professional activity".
 - A two day workshop at LAUMCRH in collaboration with CHU Lausanne on pain and palliative care in children.
 - A one day educational symposium on familial and inherited cancers at LAUMCRH in collaboration with the Princess Maxima Centre in the Netherlands on familial and inherited cancers.
6. Organization of awareness webinars, lectures and activities to the general public. (SDG3 – SDG4)
- Webinars on the Cancer Prevention and Control Program at the Naef K. Basile Cancer Institute (NKBCI) at the American University of Beirut Medical Center, in joint collaboration and providership with King Hussein Cancer Foundation and Center
 - Dialogue with the experts to Cure ALL children with cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region-WHO panelist
 - NGO's in Lebanon: Situation & Challenges- online Session hosted by I Have Learned Academy.
 - Annual CCI Asia Conference,
 - Webinar on " How to lead a Cancer Free Life?" Warning Signs and Prevention.

- Let's talk about Colon Cancer questions and answers sessions yearly on the colon cancer awareness month March in collaboration with LAU, LAUMC-RH and Said NGO.
 - Mobilizing over 800 participants from companies, schools, universities to participate in the Beirut Marathon and be the voice of the children with cancer.
7. Creation a crisis management unit and partnerships after the Beirut blast to support the community (SDG 11 and SDG 17)
- Workshops to nurses and patients' parents on how to cope with the psychological trauma caused by the Beirut Blast with CHU Nioce.
 - Interview at Virgin Radio, Dr. Roula Farah with Ms. Linda Tamim (effects of the blast on CHANCE Children and CHANCE Needs)
 - Webinar with the Psychiatrist Alain Percivalle from CHU Nice on the announcement of the diagnosis to parents and child. support for families during chemotherapy treatment in times of pandemic, explosion in the port of Beirut and economic crisis, Coping with family stress.
 - Interview at Tele Lumiere, Dr. Roula Farah with Ms. Jacqueline Harb at the morning show (effects of the blast on CHANCE Children and CHANCE Needs)
 - Interview at Radio Liban, Dr. Roula Farah and John Saad. Topic Donation Post Beirut Blast
 - Donate Campaign / Post Blast Campaign on Facebook and Instagram with a short movie.
 - Interview with Mrs. Zizi Estephan from Alrai koweity Newspaper about the lack of medicine in Lebanon. Link: <https://www.alraimedia.com/article/1550307>
 - Andrea López-Tomás a journalist from the Spanish newspaper El Periódico interviewed Dr. Roula Farah to write an article about how the economic crisis has affected cancer patients in Lebanon and their treatments.
 - Interview with l'Orient le jour and Al Nahar on the needs and rights of the children with cancer in Lebanon.
8. Establishment of the Donate Medicine Initiative since May 2020 to help patients get medicine during the economic and medical crisis that hit Lebanon. Donate Medicine also aims at protecting children's rights to equal access to proper care especially with the high cost and scarcity of cancer medication in Lebanon. (SDG3 and SDG 10)
9. Fight hunger, poverty and poor hygiene. (SDG 1 and SDG2)
- We contributed to fighting social inequity, hunger and poverty by distributing food boxes, confectionary bags, wool hats, mittens, socks, blankets to CHANCE children in hospitals.
 - We offered workshops on measures to be taken to ensure hygiene and avoid infection during Covid and especially in children with low immunity.
 - Webinars on the latest updates on Corona Virus, organized by I Have Learned Academy
 - Webinars on the latest updates on Corona Virus, organized by Saradar Group
 - NGOi-COVID-19 Regional Group Virtual Meeting.

- Distribution of 50 food boxes donated by the Lebanese Food Bank
- Distribution of towels to CHANCE Children in hospitals along with Hygiene Tips.
- Distribution of dolls and confectionary bags to CHANCE Association children with cancer by Kelna Zaayle.
- One to one free zoom consultations to parents of children with cancer by experts in nutrition on the importance of a balanced diet during cancer treatment.
- Distribution of nutritional supplements and kits with Project Better Lebanon.
- Distribution each winter of handmade wool hats, mittens, socks, blankets... to children with cancer at LAUMC-RH and Abou-Jaoudeh hospitals.

10. Providing equitable access to effective health services (SDG 3 – SDG 17)

- Coverage of hospital bills, outpatient labs, radiotherapy, imaging and cost of medications.
- Partnerships with the experts from CCI and WHO to Cure ALL children with cancer in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

11. Secure funding for health care and medications for underprivileged children with cancer. (SDG1 - SDG3)

12. Celebration of key dates and awareness for a healthy environment (SDG11 and SDG 14)

World Cancer Day 2022 “Through your hands” Shedding light on the significance of a healthy environment and highlighting the interlinkages between environmental issues and people's health. Encouraging people to act responsibly towards the environment to reduce the number of cancer cases related to air, water, and food pollution.

Event organized by SWIM Lebanon initiative in collaboration with CHANCE Association at Amchit, Beach clean-up activities by children, parents, volunteers, and Giant painting on a wall with artists Tom Young and Brady Black. The Event culminated with a great Mural painting, conceived by great artists Brady Black and Tom Young with the help of the children, representing the cycle of life and all elements of Nature that should be respected and be preserved to ensure a healthy life by meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.





World Cancer Day 2023- Visit by the children with cancer and their families to the minister of information raising their voice towards the shortage of medications in the country and the right of access to care for each child and requesting support to highlight those needs on all possible media channels.



World Cancer Day 2024 - Over 300 volunteers gathered on Zeitouna Bay in Beirut Waterfront for a big beach clean-up with SWIM Lebanon raising awareness on the importance of a healthy environment for a cancer-free life.



Part III: Measurement of outcomes

CHANCE Association continuously monitors its impact and ensures it is accountable and transparent. All our events are publicized and available to the public. We prepare detailed yearly reports and are yearly audited by an international audit firm.

We measure our performance by the number of patients helped each year, the number of medication vials and nutritional supplements donated each year, the amount of donations collected for each action/campaign, the cure rates of cancer patients, the number of attendees to our awareness events and our impact on social media platforms.

