



Casting Seeds of New Life Through Leadership Development

The evolving learning support program at Ramallah Friends School cultivates many leaders, of whom Mayor Azzam Ismail of El-Bireh, Class of 1975, is especially notable. Mayor Ismail contracted polio when he was very young. He recovered, but was unable to walk until fourth grade. Despite his physical impairment, he was able to receive a Friends education. Mayor Ismail has told us, "The Friends School sent a teacher to my house, and when I reached fourth grade, I was invited to study on campus. This is where I, my brothers, and my children received our education. And now, my grandchildren are students here as well."

Mayor Ismail maintains an intimate connection with the School both through his professional capacity and on a personal level. He believes he could not have succeeded if it had not been for the support of RFS. Today, RFS' learning support program is still the only inclusive education program in Palestine, and is a testimony to the School's mission.

Besan Jaawan
Ramallah Friends School
Communications and Development Manager

