

2017 - 2007

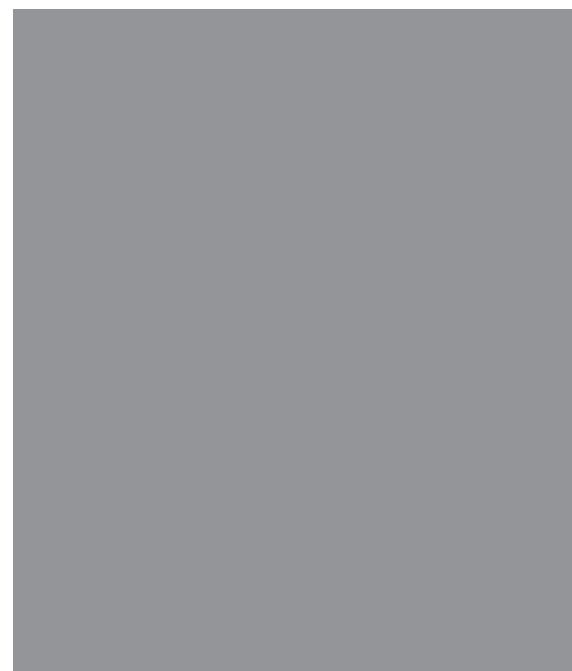
# TOWARDS A SOCIETY THAT CELEBRATES Differences



الجمعية الكويتية لاختلافات التعلم

Kuwaiti Association for Learning Differences

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Place Full Name



Place Full Name

KALD would like to extend its gratitude to Masharee Al Khair Charity Foundation for its continuous support and generous sponsorship inception the Association's inception in 2007



## Masharee Al Khair Charity Foundation

Masharee Al Khair Charity Organization is the charitable foundation of Kuwait Projects Holding Company (KIPCO) and is the main sponsor of the Kuwaiti Association or Learning Differences (KALD). The organization initiates and develops a wide range of projects in various fields.



The Foundation goals:

- 1 Granting scholarships to excelling Kuwaitis, Arab, and Muslim students in pursuit of higher education or research interests
- 2 Granting scholarships and awards to excelling scholars in religious, social, and artistic field in recognition of their invaluable contributions.
- 3 Giving aid to specialized research centers
- 4 Giving financial aid to institutions in various field; such as health, education, and sports.
- 5 Giving special attention to the restoration of historical heritage sites and crafts.

## KALD Mission

To become a difference-making institution in the development of the educational services offered to students with ADHD and LD in the private schools and special needs schools in Kuwait.

## About KALD

The Kuwaiti Association for Learning Differences (KALD) is a non-profit organization that collaboratively works towards helping all individuals, especially students in private schools and special education in Kuwait, who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Learning Difficulties through setting up awareness programs, training courses, and other educational activities.

Masharee AlKhair, the charity foundation of Kuwait Projects Holding Company (KIPCO), funds KALD since 2007 by Chairwoman Mrs. Amaal Al Sayer and a volunteer group of educators, parents and specialists in the field of Learning Difficulties.

The Association was founded in 2007 to support and assist students with specific Learning Difficulties, a term used for people with

an average or above average IQ, but with difficulties in learning and, sometimes, social skills.

KALD supports this group of students for several reasons: first, because their numbers are large. According to international statistics, 4% -10% of students have these difficulties.

Second, they are a national and global wealth, where the intelligence rate of a large number of them puts them in the category of distinguished and geniuses who can enrich the world with their ideas, inventions and achievements if they are cared for since childhood.

Therefore, the first logo of the association represents the colors of the Kuwaiti flag to confirm the identity of the association and confirm that the place of its launch is home.



Old Logo

After working in this field for several years it became clear that what is known as attention deficit disorder and ADHD has not been given enough attention and that no one in Kuwait is concerned with students with this disorder, despite the large number and its negative impact on their academic, psychological and social life.

The association then decided to reflect the new society's slogan of the society's work and philosophy so that it focuses on ADHD without giving up learning difficulties. Of every



New Logo

10 children with ADHD, 2 have learning difficulties, especially reading and writing. Hence, the letter A in the middle is orange, the global color of this disorder, as a symbol. Learning difficulties will remain an important focus of KALD's work and are symbolized by the LD (learning difficulties) of the association's name.

### Kuwaiti Association for Learning Differences Address

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Fax **0096524912974**

Website  
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Email  
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Twitter & Instagram  
**[@kaldkuwait](https://twitter.com/kaldkuwait)**

Facebook  
**[@kaldkt](https://facebook.com/kaldkt)**



# KALD Family



**Mr. Faisal Al Ayyar**  
Honorary Chair



**Shiekha Dana Nasser Subah  
Al Subah**  
Honorary Member



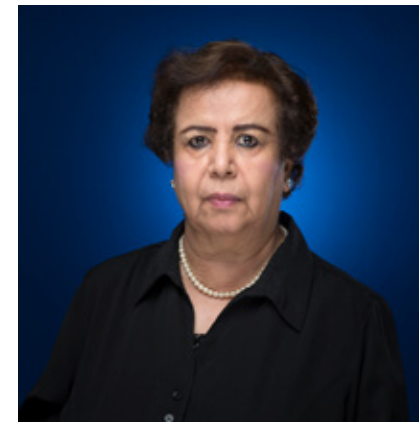
**Dr. Suad Al Mazrooei**  
Secretary/ Assistant Professor,  
Faculty of Science, University of  
Kuwait



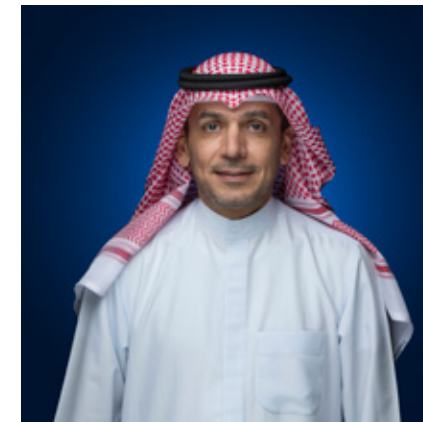
**Mrs. Hana Al Duaij**  
Treasurer/Educational  
Consultant- Member of Kuwaiti  
Curriculum Team- Ministry of  
Education



**Dr. Badrieh Al Hajji**  
Member/ Associate Professor-  
The College of Basic Education-  
The Public Authority for Applied  
Education and Training (PAAET)



**Dr. Lulwa Hamadeh**  
Member/Chairperson of Special  
Education Department-Public  
Authority for Applied Education  
and Training



**Mr. Khaled Al Sharrad**  
Member/ Group Chief Human  
Resources & Administration  
Officer



**Dr. Wafa' Nusseibeh**  
Member/ Supervisor- Inspection  
of Private School Department-  
Ministry of Education

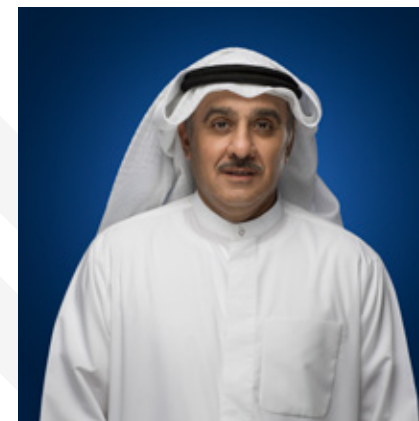
## Board of Directors



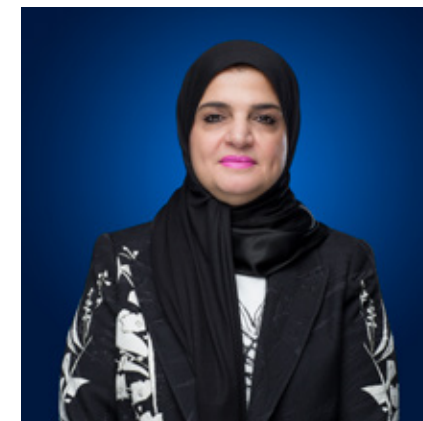
**Mr. Amaal Al Sayer**  
Founder and Chair



**Dr. Fatima Al Al Awathi**  
Vice Chair/ Consultant  
Developmental Pediatrician



**Mr. Omar Hamad Al Essa**  
Member/ Advocate/ Kuwait Bar  
Association



**Mrs. Weam Al Othman**  
Member/ Assistant Director-  
International Program Kuwait  
Foundation for Advancement of  
Sciences



**Dr. Issa Jassem**  
Member/ Consultant- Center for  
Child Evaluation and Teaching  
(CCET)

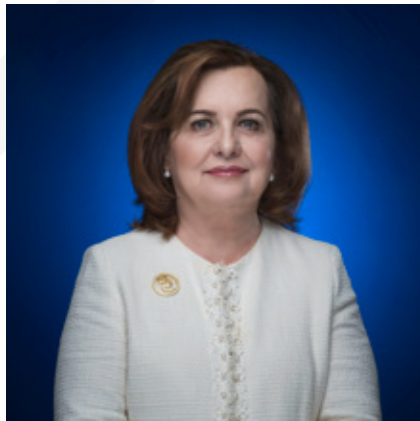
KALD Work Team



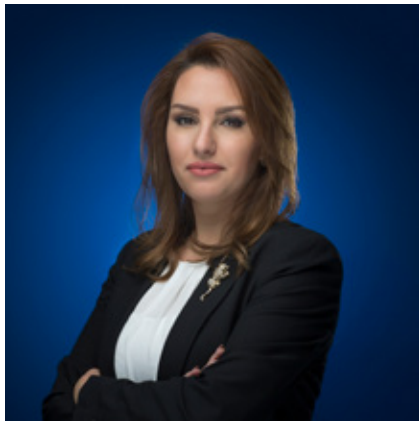
**Noria Al Amiri**  
Executive Manager



**Mariam Al Bisher**  
Deputy Executive Director



**Alia Qardan**  
Head of Cultural & Media Office



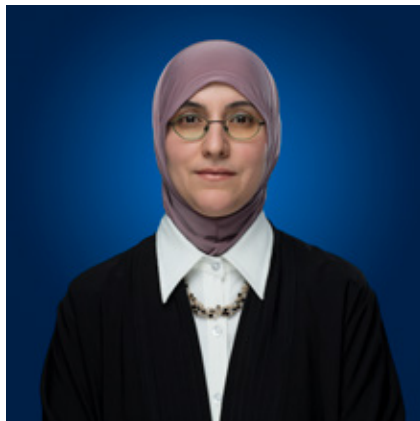
**Farah Shibli**  
Public Relations Officer



**Tarfa Al Khamis**  
Social Media Coordinator



**Ghosoon Al Najdi**  
Administrative Coordinator



**Ni'maf Quarquash**  
Secretary

Friends of KALD

- Dr. Jad Al Buhairi
- Huda Al Midlij
- Dr. Wafa' Al Yassin
- Dr. Abrar Al Jazaf
- Dr. Nahed Al Atiji
- I'tidal Al Ayyar
- Suad Swedan
- Dr. Kholood Al Jwayyan
- Dr. Abeer Al Sharhaan
- Aida Shaheen
- Linda Abed Al Baqui
- Muhanad Al Sayer
- Sarah Abu Zubor

Former Board Members

- Shiekha Nashmieh Al Subah
- Kamla Al Ayyad
- Jamal Al Sayer
- Kholood Al Sammar
- Dr. Nabila Al Midlij
- Dr. Suad Al Thuwaikh
- Dr. Talal Al Yaghoot
- Kamla Al Ayyad



LD is lifelong. The way in which they are expressed may vary over an individual's lifetime, depending on the interaction between the demands of the environment and the individual's strengths and needs.

## Learning Difficulties

Learning disabilities are neurological-based disorders that affect the acquiring, retaining, understanding, organizing or using verbal and/ or non-verbal information.

Learning disabilities range in severity and continually interfere with the acquisition and use of one or more of the following important skills:

- 1 Oral Language:**  
(e.g. listening, speaking, understanding)
- 2 Reading:**  
(e.g. decoding, comprehension)
- 3 Writing:**  
(e.g. spelling, written expression)
- 4 Mathematics:**  
(e.g. computation, problem solving)
- 5 Memory:**  
(e.g. working, long and short term memory)
- 6** LD can also interfere with higher level skills such as organization, time planning, abstract reasoning, long and short term memory and attention.

## Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

ADHD is a medical neurobiological disorder that affects children and teens and can continue into adulthood. Symptoms of ADHD can vary from day to day. There are three types of ADHD and each is defined according to which symptoms stand out the most:

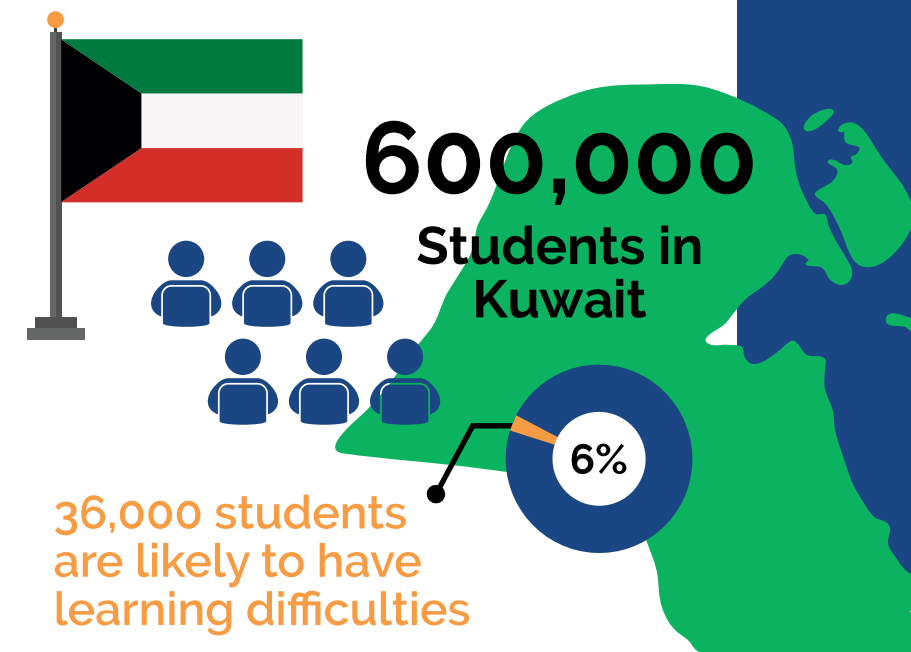
- 1** Predominantly Inattentive Type
- 2** Predominantly Hyperactive - Impulsive Type
- 3** Combined Type (inattentive + hyperactive + impulsive)

These behaviors can affect the students' academic achievement at school and strain their relationships with others.

**Did you know that there are positive aspects to ADHD?**



People with ADHD characteristics are more likely to reach higher levels of creative thought and achievement than people without these characteristics.



According to international statistics, the percentage of students with learning difficulties ranges from 10% to 4% of the number of students. If we take the middle percentage (6%) and apply it to the number of students in Kuwait (600 thousand students), the number of students who are likely to have learning difficulties is 36000 students.

Connection between LD and ADHD



**Many students with LD and ADHD have difficulties with executive function (EF)**

Executive functions are a set of processes needed to manage oneself and resources in order to achieve a goal. Students with EF deficit exhibit difficulties in mastering skills, such as planning and organization.

**LD and ADHD have a negative impact on the student's life:**

Psychological problems that could be severe, such as depression as a result of the discrepancy between the student's intelligence and his low academic achievement.

Behavioral problems that affect the students' relationship with their peers, teachers and family. Putting pressure on the parents' relationship with each other, leading often to divorce.

Dropping out of school, causing accidents that could be deadly, addiction and unlawful actions.

**With the right help, students with LD and ADHD can and do learn successfully.**

Through a combination of psychological, behavioral and medical treatments, special education services and the full cooperation between family and school, there are no limits to what can be achieved.

**Some historical figures and celebrities who have LD**

Leonardo Da Vinci - Emma Watson - Bill Gates - Albert Einstein - Simone Biles - Sir Richard Branson

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## Chair Note

When I reflect on how and why I founded the Kuwait Association for Learning Differences (KALD), I see the passage of 15 years as a journey that started in a narrow school yard and led to a wide expanse. It started with a limited term: «learning difficulties» and led to a comprehensive term: «learning differences».

The journey started when my son was diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity

disorder (ADHD) and learning difficulties. I joined the parents and teachers' association (PTA) of his school to raise the awareness of parents of students with learning difficulties about these learning difficulties, with the limited information I had at the time about the nature of these difficulties and how to address them. I also wanted to defend the rights of these students to an appropriate school environment where they may succeed and build a promising future, and to emphasize the importance of supporting school administrations to exert their best efforts in teaching our children.

By reading articles, scientific research, and global statistics on this subject, I discovered the enormous number of students who have these difficulties and the negative effects of these difficulties on their academic, psychological and social life. It became necessary to deepen and expand the scope of my work in order to

benefit the largest possible number of students in all Kuwait's private schools.

God, in his infinite magnanimity, surrounded me with people who love philanthropy and with scholars and specialists who volunteered to help me draw a vision for an organization that would work at the national level in Kuwait, and they honored me by forming its first board of directors.

In 2007, thanks to the generosity of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, and through Masharee Al Khair Charity Foundation of the Kuwait Projects Company (KIPCO), the Kuwaiti Society for Learning Differences (KALD) was formed.

The flow of the river of goodness did not stop there. The Center for Child Assessment and Education hosted us at their headquarters to start our work and they were generous with their

experience in this field, which they earned during twenty years in the field of learning difficulties.

After years of work, God blessed us with a gift given to us by Mr. Faisal Hamad Al Ayyar. This was new headquarters built at his own expense, which enabled us to expand the scope of our work to defend the rights of our children throughout our nation.

After ten years of work it became clear that the choice of the term «learning differences» in the name of the association instead of the term «learning difficulties» was a wise choice. It reflected most of what we aspire is to provide: an environment at the community, school, and professional levels that accepts, cherishes, and celebrates differences between individuals because this is a source of diversity that enriches human civilization.

Amal Al Sayer

# 2007 - 2017 Overview of KALD Work



In order to achieve its mission, supporting students with ADHD and LD, KALD addresses the following groups:

## 1 The Public

## 2 Educators

## 3 Parents

## 4 Students



# The Public

The student's life is not affected, only by his family and his school, but with all that is happening around him in society. For this reason, KALD organizes community-wide activities that enable the society to become a source of support for all its members

## 1 Raising Awareness on ADHD and LD

Campaigns  
Publications  
Media

## 2 Working as an effective NGO

## 3 Honoring Supporter, Sponsors and Volunteers



# 1 Raising Awareness on ADHD and LD

Spreading Public awareness is one of the main goals for all institutions dealing with social causes. KALD continuously works towards this goal using a variety of creative methods to reach the largest number of people and to have the desired impact on them.

## Campaigns

2015 - 2016

### "Allimni Sah" Campaign

"Allimni Sah" (Teach me in a way that suits my needs) campaign aimed at highlighting the problems facing students with learning difficulties and its indicators and at finding solutions; such as, early intervention.

His Highness the Amir of Kuwait gave his blessings and commended KALD for its work. The organizing committee paid visits to a number of ministries and educational institutions.







**2015 - 2016**

### **“Give me a Chance” Campaign**

KALD participated in “THE CAUSE”: a project organized by Gulf University that aimed at gathering donations for a cause chosen by the participating NGOs. KALD teamed with

Sinyar Advertising Company and they donated the fund they gathered to help children get comprehensive and accurate diagnostic services.

**2012 - 2013**

### **“I Am Not a Problem; I Have a Problem” Campaign**

In collaboration with The Higher Council for Planning and Development and United Nations Development Program



UNDP, KALD organized this campaign to spread awareness on the negative effects of ADHD and LD on the lives of people who

have them. It included 18 workshops presented by a group of specialists and attended by around 400 parents and teachers.

**2009 - 2010**

### **The National Media Campaign for Learning Difficulties: “Grant me My Rights”**

In collaboration with The Center for Child Evaluation and Teaching (CCET), KALD organized this campaign to spread awareness on learning difficulties and to advocate the rights of students with LD for a special and better education

that caters for their needs and to call for the support of the government, society, families and schools.



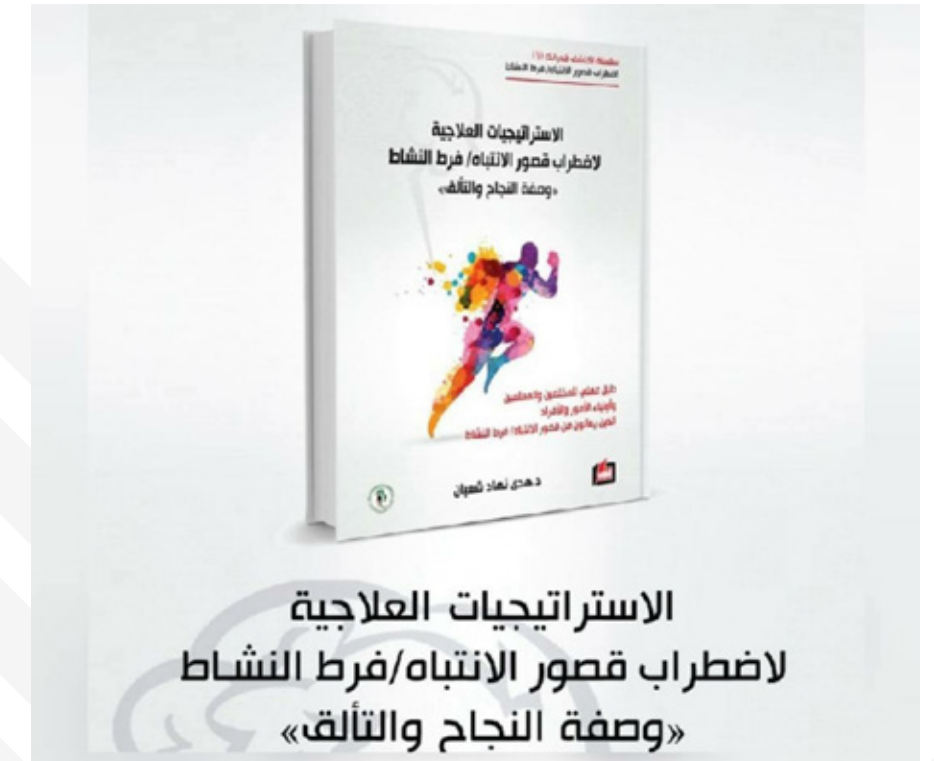


## Publications

KALD prepared and published a number of flyers, booklets and directories.



KALD published Treatment Strategies for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder By Dr. Huda Sha'ban. The book discusses the disorder in an interactive method that enables teachers and parents to help their students and children to succeed and excel.



Seating Booths in Exhibitions and Similar Events to spread KALD mission and distribute its free publications.



# Media

## Visual, Audio and Written Media

KALD is able to forge strong ties with newspapers, magazines, radios and TV stations in Kuwait that show great enthusiasm towards KALD volunteer work.



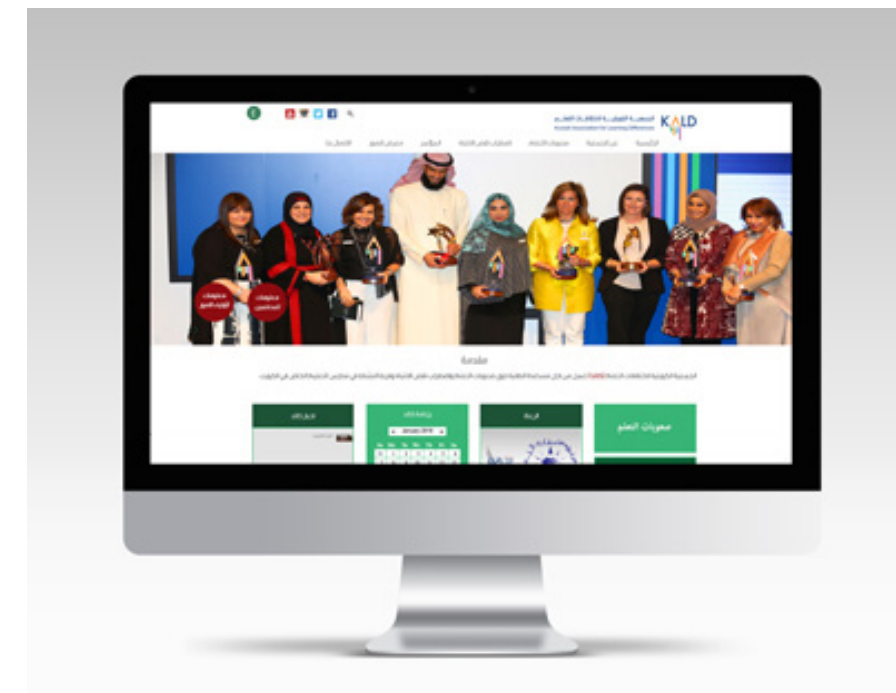
## Electronic Media

### Website

[www.kalduwait.com](http://www.kalduwait.com)

With the sponsorship of Shiehk Salem Ali IT Award, KALD continuously works on updating its website, to meet modern development and deliver benefits to the largest number of visitors.

KALD website is the only specialized website in ADHD in Arabic. It contains, in addition to services provided by KALD, a wide range of information on ADHD and LD.



### Social Media

KALD is able to make use of the power of social media in spreading awareness on ADHD and LD and to announce the association's activities.





## 2 Working as an Operational NGO

KALD works as an operational NGO designing and implementing related development projects and participating in public policy and lawmaking. In its effort to achieve this goal, KALD strives to build communication channels with official and national entities, as well as, public and private institutions in Kuwait.

KALD work as an operational NGO during the past ten years include but are not limited to the following:

### United Nations Development Program (UNDP)



### Public Authority for People with Disabilities events





KALD participates also in the activities organized by schools, universities, volunteer organizations and others:

### Creative Children International School science fair



### Dhiwa Al Yada "Childhood Festival"



### Aziza Ya Kuwait Exhibition Riyad - KSA



3

## Honoring Supports, Sponsors and Volunteers

KALD has a great appreciation to all individuals and institutions that supported it over the ten years. The list is long and it includes but is not limited to the following:



# Educators

The school, especially the teacher, plays a central role in the student's academic psychological and social life as well as in building his future. KALD therefore paid particular attention to educators, especially teachers, and gave them the largest share of their activities in order to contribute to raising their competencies and honing their skills through

- 1 Lectures, workshops and Training Courses
- 2 Conferences
- 3 KALD Distinguished Teacher's Award in The Field of ADHD and LD



# 1 Lectures, Workshops and Training Courses



The process of training and qualifying teachers is part of the system of work to support and help students, so KALD organized a large number of lectures and workshops in Arabic and English provided by the

experts in their field. In order to facilitate the presence of teachers distributed lectures to schools throughout Kuwait.





## 2 Conferences

Research and studies on attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity in the development of permanent conferences and especially international ones is one of the means that give the opportunity to educators to see the latest theories and the best methods of diagnosis and the latest teaching methods.

During the last few years, KALD organized five conferences:

2016 - 2017

### The 5th International Conference on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder:: "The Gift of ADHD"

KUWAIT ASSOCIATION FOR LEARNING DIFFERENCES 5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON:

## "ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD) AS A GIFT"

**"SEARCH FOR WHAT IS GOOD AND HEALTHY IN A PERSON, AND USE THOSE STRENGTHS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS"**

**RENOWNED MEDICAL ADHD EXPERT**  
**DR. EDWARD HALLOWELL**  
Strength-based model of ADHD: Ferrari Enging/ Bicycle Break.

**PSYCHOLOGIST, ADHD COACH**  
**KRISTEN MILLIKEN, PHD, PCC**  
Using play to manage the challenges of ADHD.

DATE: 28 & 29 APRIL 2017  
LOCATION: AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF KUWAIT - SALMIYAH  
FEES 75 KD  
DISCOUNT FOR PARENTS AND SCHOOL STAFF: 50 KD  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
KALDKT@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.KALDKUWAIT.COM  
94427262 / 24912963

SPONSORS:

@kaldkuwait @kaldkuwait @kaldit





2015 - 2016

## The 4th Educators Training Forum: "Response to Intervention"




**The 4<sup>th</sup> Educators Training Forum**  
**The "Response To Intervention" Model**

8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – The American University of Kuwait

*Raise the bar in education...  
 ALL children should receive high quality instruction.*

"علمني ✓"






2014 - 2015

## The 3th Educators' Forum: "A Different Perspective on LD and ADHD"



**تدعوكم الجمعية الكويتية للاختلافات التعلم**  
 إلى  
**ملتقى التربويين للتدريب** المخصص لأدوية صعوبات التعلم ونشئت الفتيه فرط النشاط

تحت عنوان  
**"نظرة مختلفة إلى اضطراب صعوبات التعلم ونشئت الانتباه/فرط النشاط"**

وذلك يومى الجمعة والسبت الموافق ٦-٧ فبراير ٢٠١٥  
 في مبنى الجامعة الأميركية في الكويت - السابعة



أثبتت الدراسات الحديثة عمل الدماغ بأن الطريقة الأمثل للتعامل مع صعوبات التعلم، واضطراب تشتت الانتباه وفرط النشاط (ADHD) هي من خلال مفهوم "الوظائف التنفيذية" الدماغية، وهي مجموعة من المهارات من مثل (إدارة الوقت، والانتباه، والتخطيط، والذاكرة) حيث أن هذه المهارات تمكن الشخص من تحقيق أهدافه. وقد دلت هذه الأبحاث على أن الخلط في هذه الوظائف يؤدي إلى ضعف التحكم في السلوك، وفي مقابلة الطلاب على الدراسة، والاعتماد على النفس، وإقامة علاقات اجتماعية ناجحة وغيرها.

إن معرفة كيفية عمل هذه الوظائف وتطبيقها، بالعكس إيجابياً على الطريقة التي يدرس بها التعلم، وتعلمها أكثر فعالية، لأنها تمكنه من تحديد مواطن الضعف ومواطن القوة لدى الطالب ومن ثم استعمال طرق محددة للتدخل العلاجي.





2012 - 2013

## The Second International Conference on LD and ADHD: "Evaluation and Treatment"



2011 - 2012

## The 1st International Special Needs Conference: Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder: "The Future Unites Us"



The 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Learning Disabilities and Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder: "The Future Unites Us"  
المؤتمر الدولي الأول لذوي الإحتياجات الخاصة: "المستقبل يجمعنا"  
Boat of Learning and Education / فرط النشاط / تشتت الإنتباه / فرط النشاط  
الكويت ٤-٥ ديسمبر ٢٠١١ — Kuwait 4<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011





3

## KALD Distinguished Teacher Award

(In the field of teaching students with learning disabilities and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD))

The process of training and qualifying teachers is part of the system of work to support and assist people with learning disabilities. KALD has established this award to promote this process by teaching teachers in special education schools in Kuwait who

have distinguished themselves in their educational careers and have made tangible achievements in the field of teaching students with attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah AL-Ahmad

Al-Sabah honored Kuwait Society for Learning Disparities by accepting the sponsorship ceremony three times, the last of which was held by the Society on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of its establishment.



2016 - 2017

Award Ceremony

2015 - 2016

Award Ceremony



2013 - 2014

Award Ceremony



# Parents

The family has the greatest impact on the child, in the formation of his personality, and in building his future. The Association works to educate parents and help them through:

- 1 Support Group for Mothers
- 2 Forums



# 1 Support Group for Mothers

## 2 Forums

2017 - 2018

Fourth Parents  
Forum "ADHD:  
Early Intervention"



2016 - 2017

Third Parents  
Forum "Accept Me  
as I Am"





2015 - 2016

## Second Parents Forum "The Future of Our Children after High School"



2014 - 2015

## First Parent Forum "The Future is Ahead of Me"



# Students

The Association believes in the importance of extracurricular activities such as sports, cultural, artistic and recreational activities in the lives of students and in enhancing their self-confidence. Therefore, every year since its inception, it has been keen to organize:

- 1 Camps
- 2 Carnivals and Talent Shows



# 1 Camps

Over the past years, the Association organized a number of camps for boys and girls inside and outside Kuwait

The National Bank of Kuwait is the exclusive and permanent sponsor for those activities.

**Failaka Island -  
Kuwait**  
**The Sultanate of  
Oman**  
**Indonesia**  
**Sri Lanka**





## 2 Carnivals and Talent Shows

Talent Shows have been a great success over the years and the number of participating students are continuously increasing. Famous Kuwaiti performers and directors show their support through serving as members on the judging panel.

2015 - 2016

**KALD 7th  
Talent Show**





2014 - 2015

## KALD 6th Talent Show



2013 - 2014

## KALD 5th Carnival and Talent Show



2012 - 2013

## KALD 4th Carnival and Talent Show





2011 - 2012

## KALD 3rd Carnival and Talent Show



2010 - 2011

## KALD 2nd Carnival



2009 - 2010

## KALD 1st Carnival and Talent Show





# KALD Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration

Under the patronage of his Highness Sheikh Subah Al Ahamd Jaber Al Subah, Amir of Kuwait, KALD celebrated its ten-year anniversary. The event

included two other events: KALD Distinguished Teacher Award Ceremony, which was sponsored by Bobyan Bank and the launching of the association's new logo.



His Highness, the Amir, was represented by the Minister of Public Works, Mr. Abed Al Ruhman Al Mutawa'd. Mr. Abdallah Al Najran Al Twajir, Deputy Chief Executive, represented Bobyan Bank in the event





Strategic Partners



Sponsors

