American Friends of Neve Shalom /Wahat al Salam

Meet Samah Salaime and Vered Marom

Samah Salaime is a member of Wahat al-Salam Neve Shalom, a social worker, community activist and feminist. She is the founder of AWC - Arab Women in the Center, an NGO which seeks to promote the status of women in the cities of Ramla, Lod and Jaffa, and to combat gender-based violence against women, particularly in Arab society. This year Samah was chosen by the Israeli National Newspaper, "Yediot Achronot" as one of the 10 most influential social activists in Israel. Samah was awarded her B.A. and Master’s Degrees in Social Work from The Hebrew University. She is a graduate of the prestigious Mandel School for Educational Leadership. She is an accomplished journalist with articles published in Hebrew, Arabic and English. She is a regular contributor to +972 Magazine. Samah has a very active role within the Wahat al-Salam Neve Shalom Community and is a leading voice in Israel’s Arab community. She has served as WASNS Director of the Educational Institutions and recently became Director of the Wahat al Salam Neve Shalom Communication and Development Department.

Vered Marom was inspired to live in Wahat al-Salam Neve Shalom, when she visited the community as a youngster. She was drawn to the commitment of Jewish and Palestinian citizens building a shared community based on equality and peace. She dreamed of raising a family in the community that shared the values that she believes in. She realized that dream 20 years ago and now lives in the village with her husband & 4 children. Vered has taken on various responsibilities in the community including, serving on the steering committee for the Nadi, (an informal educational framework for young people from the village), giving nutritional instruction to the childhood educational programs and organizing social activities, ensuring that residents have fun together. In 2015 she participated in an intensive 3 year program of Tufts University with Jewish and Palestinian citizens of Israel to discuss and produce a master plan for a future shared society in Israel. Vered works as a dietician, she has a Masters (MSc) in Biochemistry and Human Nutrition from The Hebrew University. She has authored programs to improve dietary habits of children for the Jewish & Arab sectors. She teaches nutritional education in Jewish & Arab schools.