

# **PRCS Role in Strengthening the Resilience of Palestinians in the Vulnerable Area**

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## **Abstract**

This study aimed at identifying the role of the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in promoting the steadfastness of Palestinian citizens in the marginalized areas. To achieve this objective, the study used the descriptive approach, which is the appropriate method for this analytical study. The study population consisted of all members of the local community (over the age of 18) who benefit from the services of the Palestine Red Crescent Society in the marginal areas. The regions are Salfit Governorate in the North, H2 area (the Old City of Hebron) in the South, as well as Jericho and the Jordan Valley Region in the Center.

The study sample included 342 members from the marginalized areas benefiting from the programs of the Palestine Red Crescent Society. The sample was selected according to the purposive sample method. After the researcher reviewed a number of previous studies and its tools, she developed a questionnaire which consisted of three sections: the personal data, the role of the Society's programs in enhancing steadfastness, and the steadfastness indicators. The questionnaire was applied to an exploratory sample and according to the results and the opinions of the arbitrators; the sample was adopted and applied to the sample of the study. The data were classified and analyzed and the coefficient of (internal consistency) of the total scale was (0.96). The analysis showed that the measurement of the role of the Society's programs of steadfastness was high, with an arithmetic mean of (4.02). It was found that the third area (the disaster management) had the lowest coefficient of variation and the mean was (4.09), while the first area (the community health) had the highest coefficient of variation, where the mean was (3.92). It was also found that the scale of steadfastness indicators was high, with an arithmetic mean of (3.99). Thus, the area of (possessing skills and knowledge) obtained the lowest coefficient of variation and the arithmetic mean was (4.10). The area of (continuous with the internal and external sources of support) had the highest coefficient of variation with a mean of (3.87). There was a

significant statistical effect, in which level of significance was less than (0.05). Thus the null hypothesis was rejected and the alternative hypothesis was accepted. That's because there is an impact of the role of the Society's programs on the steadfastness indicators, and that a very strong relationship is identified through the results of Pearson correlation coefficient.

The value of Beta Coefficient shows that the relationship is positive; that means the more the role of the Society's steadfastness programs, the more the indicators of steadfastness are improved. The null hypothesis "there are no statistical differences at the level of statistical significance ( $0.05 \geq \alpha$ )" was found in the average responses of the sample members concerning the role of the Society's programs related to its impact on the steadfastness indicator. This was from the point of view of residents of marginalized areas who are beneficiaries of PRCs programs in Palestine according Place of residence, level of education and income.

The study concluded a set of recommendations, the most important of which is that the society should increase the awareness, education, and rehabilitation social programs in the field of disaster management. Also, increasing the focus on preparing human cadres specialized in various disciplines, activating the role of the society in the marginalized areas and identifying the needs of these communities and their different situations and list them in the society's policies and its regulations. The society should work to activate the relationship with local and international institutions and assist them in reaching and alleviating marginalized groups. In addition to that, it should work on activating the role of supervision in the provision of assistance and programs to the members of the community. The government and institutions should support the needy individuals who managed to withstand the conditions of the Israeli occupation by identifying the sectors that enable them to operate. Also, provide economic facilities that help them to withstand, and provide cash support to the unemployed in those areas to be able to provide other basic needs.