



The Palestine Children's Relief Fund A non-profit humanitarian relief organization

Annual Report 2007



The Palestine Children's Relief Fund A non-profit humanitarian relief organization

Board of Directors

Dr. Musa Nasir Chairman

H.E. Paul Lagendijk Vice-Chairman

Sue Nasir Treasurer

Hiam Khaireddin Secretary

Donya Abduljawad San Diego, CA

Sameer Alansari Dubai, U.A.E.

Tayseer Barakat Kuwait

Steve Sosebee President & CEO

Medical Advisory Board

Dr. Riyad ZannounFormer Minister of Health,
Palestine

Professor Guido Van Nooten

Cardiac Surgeon, Belgium

Dr. Hugh WattsPediatric Orthopedic Surgeon,
California

Dr. B. Sethia Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon, UK

Dr. Imad Tabry Cardiac Surgeon, Florida

Dr. Enrico Robertto Plastic Surgeon, Italy

Dr. Nader Hebela Orthopedics, Philadelphia

Dr. John van Aalst Pediatric Plastic Surgeon, USA

Dr. Joesph Binard Urology, Wisconsin

Palestine Board

George Risek Chairman

Dr. Ahmed Abu Maraq Vice-Chairman

Ayman Al-Masri Treasurer

Huda Sosebee Secretary

Omar Anabtawi

Mazen Sinokrat Hala Khoury

Suheil Flaifl

Project Manager: Palestine

Nuha Al-Masry Project Manager: Lebanon/Syria

Huda Al-Masri Director of Human Resources

Mike Lowe Administrative Assistant

Suhad Samara Managerial Assistant

West Bank Social Workers

Amal Haimouni Hebron

Amani Odah _{Qalqilia}

Mona Fayed Jenin

Maha Madani _{Tulkarem}

Niveen Abed Al Hadi Bethlehem

Randa Shararah

Ikram Abu Al Haija

The Gaza Strip field workers

Khaled Najjar Central Gaza

Mohammad Hussein Northern Gaza

Mohammad Afana Southern Gaza



Represented by:

Bernabei & Wachtel, PLLC

Washington, DC



Annual Report 2007







Cleveland Chapter

Naifa Mansour
Hanan Mahmoud
Nehaya Samamreh
Raja Shaheen
Ahlam Shaheen
Hala Nafe
Nawal Suleiman
Joanne Rabah
Inshierah Hamed
Nadra Farhat
Tammy Hamed
Eman Dughly
Annie Salem
Zohra Hamed

New Jersey Chapter

Nora Whisnant
Arlene Mikkelsen
Ikhlas Munnayyer
Ali and Wafe Jadalhack
Rasha Jadalhack
Rajie and Margit Cook
Rima Taha
Mary Jebara
Sara Sadik

Bay Area Chapter

Amin Abuamara
Dina Aburous
Marie Khoury
Mona Sousou
Nabila Mango
Nahla Shoman
Rana Hawit
Rima Qaru
Shireen Qaru

Baltimore Chapter

Mazen Bedri
Besma Al-Humadi
Elaine Asal
Aline Hitti
Leila Abuelhawa
Rania Abu-Hamdah
Sherief Hammad
Nadine Samara
Andrew DuFresne

Los Angeles Chapter

Haitham Aranki Ahmad Azie Adilah Dahdul Joe Dibsy LuLu Emery Adel Hagekhalil Dolly Hishmeh Randa Issa Samira Jaridly Karim Karam Lily Karam Diana Kassis Nahla Kayali Dr. Musa Nasir Suhaila Nasir Basel Othaman Manal Sansour Karim Talleh Edward Tawil Alia Yunis Anis Zubi

Dubai Chapter

Rana Said Dina Saleh Nesreen Srouji Nadia Wehbe Hanan Saadeh

Abu Dhabi Chapter

Nawal Hasan Tanya Zabaneh Hourani Doha Al Wazany Lana Kattan Samara Sahtout Iman Abdulwahab

Boston Chapter

Zaid Albanna

Laila Kassis Marwan El Masri Sherif Fam Naila Jirmanus Caline Jarudi Salma Tag

Washington, DC Chapter

Rania Awwad Nader Ayish Khaled Bouri Lana Ghandour Susan Kerin Jamilah Shami Muna Shami



The Palestine Children's Relief Fund A non-profit humanitarian relief organization

Annual Report 2007

www.pcrf.net



UO Letter from PCRF Chairman & President





Letter from Rev. Tutu & Gov. Schwarzenegger





10 Children Treated Abroad





20 Treatment in Lebanon





22 Volunteer Surgery Missions





40 PCRF Sponsored Societies





42 Humanitarian Relief Projects





52PCRF Budget for 2008







Dear PCRF friends and volunteers,

2007 was a year in which the political situation in the Middle East became more complex, the economic disparities deepened and the humanitarian crisis facing Arab children worsened. While concerned persons looked in frustration for positive ways to effectively respond to this crisis, we're proud to say that we gave many a chance by providing life-saving urgent specialized medical care for sick and injured Arab children.

In Palestine, the splitting of authority between Hamas in Gaza and a centrist government in the West Bank created a complicated political environment in which more innocent people were victims of poverty and neglect. Israel declared Gaza an "enemy entity" and imposed a devastating siege in which all aspects of social and civil life deteriorated. At the end of the

year, Gaza teetered precariously on the brink of an economic collapse. Children, of course, are the most vulnerable members of society, especially as they make up over 50% of Palestine's population. Hunger, disease and more war-related injuries were the challenges we faced as a humanitarian relief group.

We established the Palestine Children's Relief Fund during the first Intifada to provide free medical care for injured children who could not be adequately treated in their homeland. Since 1991, we have sent over 800 children abroad for free care in North America, Europe and parts of the Middle East. Since Oslo, we've organized, sponsored and managed hundreds of volunteer missions by doctors and nurses to the Middle East, providing expert surgical care for several thousand children in their local hospitals. This gives training and experience to local health care providers, furthering our long-

term goal of training Arab doctors in much-needed subspecialities.

2007 was our most effective year in providing life-saving care for sick and injured children. Our most shining contribution to the welfare of Palestinian children is the building of the first and only pediatric cardiac surgery program in Makassed Hospital on the Mount of Olives. Thanks to generous outside support, we built a pediatric intensive care unit in which 191 children recovered following life-saving openheart surgery in 2007. In the coming years, this unit will be independent and providing care for nearly every Palestinian child born with heart disease. In December, we created the Palestinian Cleft Society to build a comprehensive national group to provide surgical and rehabilitative care for children born with facial deformities.

One of our new projects in 2007 was sponsoring surgery for children through local hospitals and doctors. Over 100 burned children were treated by a local Palestinian surgeon at local West Bank hospitals. We also sponsored surgery for dozens more children with cleft lip and palate deformities in Gaza.

We continued our humanitarian duties through other aspects of social and medical care for Palestinian children in 2007. We sponsored over a dozen summer camps for disabled youths, distributed powder milk for hundreds of malnourished children, distributed for free hundreds of wheelchairs for disabled youths, distributed school bags and eyeglasses for poor children, free diapers and other humanitarian aid for poor kids in Gaza. We also continued our "handicapped child sponsorship program" for poor disabled youths whose families are too poor to provide them medication.

We continued to address the humanitarian needs

of the refugee population in the diaspora as well. Surgical missions were sent to provide expert care for refugee children in Lebanon and Syria, and we continued our "women empowerment project" for refugee women in Lebanon to create quality embroidery for sale abroad. We also sponsored milk and breakfast for refugee children in several camps.

The war in Iraq has presented a new responsibility to provide free care for injured children. Many Iraqi kids were sent abroad for free through the PCRF in 2007. We have a humanitarian responsibility to help innocent victims of war, regardless of their religion, race, creed or nationality in a nonpolitical or sectarian manner.

This annual report humbly outlines our 2007 achievements.

2008 will be a year of greater challenges for organizations like the PCRF, who are dedicated to providing positive support for Arab children in the Middle East. We will work hard to provide lifesaving surgery and medical aid for children in need in a strictly nonpolitical, but positive and effective manner. We depend on the support from donors and volunteers who make our relief work possible. Without the support of our chapters and volunteers, we cannot provide these poor children the medical care that they need. Our success is due to the hard work of many volunteer doctors and nurses throughout the world who worked with us to show the children of the Middle East hope for a better future. We ask that you work with us in 2008 to provide these poor children a chance for a better life.

> **Dr. Musa Nasir** Chairman of the Board

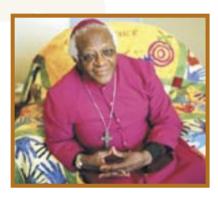
Steve Sosebee President & CEO





Letter from Rev. Desmond Tutu & Gov. Schwartzenegger

hildren are often the most innocent and invisible victims of war and occupation. In ▲ the Middle East, thousands of children a year are killed in Iraq, Palestine and Lebanon, victims of armed conflict, poverty and injustice of which the world often turns a blind eye. In the refugee camps, towns and villages of Palestine, children are being denied by checkpoints and an apartheid wall adequate access to medical care and education. In Lebanon, Palestinian children have been suffering discrimination and extreme poverty in camps that were built as temporary places of refuge in 1948. Meanwhile, Arab children in Iraq are dying by the dozens daily in car bombings and other forms of indiscriminate violence. We can watch in horror at the deepening crisis, or we can come together



to show these poor children we care.

The Palestine Children's Relief Fund is a nonprofit organization with committed persons all over the world dedicated to responding to the humanitarian crisis facing children in the Middle East. They have been saving the lives of children throughout the region by arranging for them free medical care that is otherwise not available to them in their countries. That involves sending volunteer medical missions to Palestine and Lebanon to treat children in local hospitals, or arranging free care for injured and sick children abroad, where volunteer host families and others care for the children while they are away from their families.

There is no end in sight to the crisis of war and occupation in the Middle East. As concerned individuals, our responsibility to those living under these inhumane conditions is to show the people there that we care. The best way to do that is to heal their sick and injured children. The Palestine Children's Relief Fund is one of the main organizations doing this work. If you want to be a part of something positive, that helps the most innocent victims of conflict, then join the PCRF in helping to heal the suffering of these poor children. They have a proven track record of professionalism and hard work, where individuals can make a difference.



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

November 3, 2007

The Palestine Children's Relief Fund

Greetings to all those attending your annual Healing Hands gala.

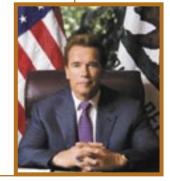
Children are often the innocent victims of conflict-torn areas, and I deeply appreciate your devotion to bringing them hope and helping them heal. Not only has your organization given hundreds of children free medical care that they could not previously obtain, you have shown them that there are loving people throughout the world who care very much about their well-being.

I commend the many medical professionals and volunteers who have compassionately helped these innocent victims. Thanks to your humanity, many children have been given the chance to lead healthier, and often much less painful, lives. Whether receiving tremendous medical care at home or abroad, these children have benefited from your generous contributions.

Please accept my gratitude for your devotion to improving lives, and my very best wishes for a wonderful evening.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger









he PCRF was established during the first Intifada with the purpose of identifying sick and injured kids who could not be treated locally, and arrange free care for them abroad. Since 1990, over 800 children have been sent to North America, Europe and the Middle East for free care. We rely on the generous support of host families and volunteers who house and care for our children while they are being treated outside of their homeland, often

without their parents around, as well as the charitable contributions of many doctors and hospitals, who donate their services, which amount to millions of dollars of free care annually. With the war in Iraq and the continued assaults in Gaza, we continue to identify and help send abroad innocent victims of war and occupation for expert, high-quality medical care that they otherwise would not get locally. These children were treated abroad in 2007:









Treatment in Europe



Iraqi boy has life-saving surgery in Italy

Mohammed Sa'eed

10, from Baghdad was sent with his mother in October for open-heart surgery at the Ospedale "G. Pasquinucci" in Massa, Italy. He was treated by Dr. Stefano Luisi, who also led a mission to Palestine in November, in which over one-dozen Palestinian babies had surgery.

Two Palestinian Refugee Children Sent to Italy for Life-saving Surgery



Hasan Hourani

In late October, the PCRF sent 11-month-old Hasan Hourani and his mother Kawther from the Nareb refugee camp in Aleppo, along with 13-month-old Muntaser Al-Fout and his mother Sahar from the Yarmok refugee camp in Damascus, to Naples, Italy for free open-heart surgery by Dr. Carlo Vosa. The children are being treated at Seconda Università degli studi di Napoli. Dr. Vosa has treated dozens of children with heart disease sent by the PCRF to him on a charitable basis. These children could not be treated locally in Syria.



Treatment in Middle East

Iraqi girl has Neurosurgery in Amman

Riyam Shihan

In April, 2007, the PCRF sent 9-year-old Riyam Shihan and her mother from Al Anbar in Iraq to Amman, Jordan for neurosurgery at the Specialist Hospital. Her treatment costs were covered by Jordanian donors. She was located in Iraq by American soldiers, who assisted in contacting donors in Oklahoma City and elsewhere, who contacted the PCRF about helping her.



Treatment in United Arab Emirates



Burned Boy Treated in Dubai

Yousef Abu El Rub

In January, 2007, the PCRF sent 3-year-old Yousef Abu El Rub from the West Bank village of Jalaboun in the Jenin district to Dubai in the UAE for free plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Emirates Hospital. He was treated on a charitable level by Dr. Max Sawaf, the director of the hospital, and Dr. Issam Mardini. Yacoub was injured in an accident at his home and stayed with relatives in Sharjeh.



Boy sent to Dubai for orthopedic surgery

Morad Abuaita

In early May, 9-year-old Morad Abuaita from the West Bank town of Jenin traveled to **Dubai**, United Arab Emirates for orthopedic surgery that was not available to him in Palestine. This was part of an ongoing program by the PCRF and it's Dubai chapter and local health-care providers in the UAE to provide free care for Palestinian children. Several other kids have already had expert care in Dubai over the past year. He was treated by Dr. Marc Sinclair of the Dubai Bone & Joint Center at the Welcare Hospital, on services provided on a charitable level.

Treatment in United Arab Emirates

Girl travels to Abu Dhabi for surgery

Watan Saleh

In June, 8-year-old Watan Saleh from the West Bank town of Jenin went to the UAE to have surgery on her hip. She was born with congenital hip dislocation and could not be treated locally. Watan was treated for free by Dr. Merv Letts, an orthopedic surgeon at Sheikh Khalifah Medical Center. The PCRF chapter in Abu Dhabi helped in her case and she stayed with relatives in Al Ain.





Injured Boy Treated in the UAE

Shehadeh Zyod

In June, 17-year-old Shehadeh Zyod from a village near the West Bank town of Jenin traveled to the U.A.E. to have his artificial leg repaired. He was injured in 2002 by an Israeli bullet and had his leg amputated. He was treated in 2004 by the PCRF and "Healing the Children" in Arizona. He was treated on a charitable basis by the Dynamic Rehab and Medical Equipment Centre in Sharjeh.



Gaza boy Treated in Dubai

Suhail El Shanti

In mid-July, 6-year-old Suhail El Shanti from Gaza City traveled to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates to have orthopedic and plastic surgery by Dr. Issam Mardini at the Emirates Hospital. This hospital has treated a few children on a charitable level from Palestine through the PCRF over the past year. This boy suffered from many orthopedic disorders, including club feet. The PCRF Dubai chapter arranged for his care locally.

Five injured Gaza kids sent together for treatment

At the end of March, the PCRF sent five injured children out of the besieged Gaza Strip to the United States for free medical care that they could not get in their homeland. This took months of preparation after their surgery was arranged, as the border between Gaza and Egypt had been closed by the Israeli occupation authorities and only opened occasionally, and with very little advance notice. The children sent outside for free care were:







Abdullah Al Athmana He is 7-yearsold from the Gaza town of Beit Hanoun. On November 9, 2006 he was sleeping with his family when an IDF tank shell hit their home. His mother and two sisters were killed, as were several other extended family members. Their home was also destroyed. Abdullah lost his right leg below the knee and was accepted for free care at CIRS Prosthetics and Orthotics in Oakland, CA. He stayed with a local host family and was cared for by the local PCRF chapter.

Thaer Al Jamal
He is 17-yearsold from the
Gaza refugee
camp of Maghazi
and lost both of
his legs above
the knees in
July, 2006 by an
Israeli helicopter
rocket as he was
walking down
the street. He
was sent with



his mother to the Shriners Hospital in Greenville, SC.

Mayce Abu Rezeq

She is a 15-year-old girl from the Khan Younis refugee camp. In 2005, she was shot in the back by Israeli soldiers. The bullet hit her arm, where she suffered painful nerve damage. She was treated at the Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia and stayed with a local host family.



Oday El Jamal

He is 6-years-old from Jebalia Refugee camp. He suffered several shrapnel injuries to his legs and body from an IDF tank shell in 2005 and was treated for free prosthetics and orthopedic surgery by the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). The PCRF sent him with his mother and they stayed with local host familes during his treatment.















surgery (corneal grafts) by Dr. Michael Wong. She was hosted by a local family and the New Jersey chapter took care of her daily needs during her treatment.

Iraqi baby has life-saving Surgery in Columbus, Ohio

Badr Taha

On March 8, 18 month old Badr Taha underwent life-saving open-heart surgery at Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. He was sent by the PCRF with his mother, Donya. The boy was born with a congenital heart defect known



as "tetrology of fallot" and was referred to the PCRF by Washington-based NGO Civic. This is the second case brought to the USA referred by CIVIC. Badr's father and uncle were killed in the war and during his treatment Badr was cared for by volunteers from the local Iraqi community in Columbus. The surgeon was Dr. Mark Galantowicz.



PCRF helps injured Iraqi boy travel to Philadelphia for treatment

Hisham A. Ibraheem

In April, 10-year-old Hisham A. Ibraheem from Anbar in Iraq traveled with his mother Anwaar and a medical escort, Dr. Hamed, from Jordan to Philadelphia for treatment following a spinal cord injury that he sustained in the war. He was paralyzed and could not be treated in Iraq. The PCRF covered his plane ticket and worked with several other NGOs, most notably the International Organization on Migration (IOM), to get him to the USA.

Injured boy Goes in DC for treatment

Mohammed Elathamna

In June, 13-year-old Mohammed Elathamna traveled from the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun to Washington, DC to begin treatment for injuries he sustained in an Israeli attack on his home last November that left 18 relatives dead. Mohammed lost his arm and was treated at the District Amputee Care Center. He was cared for by the local PCRF chapter and host family in the DC area. His cousin Abdullah, 7, who lost his leg, was also treated in Oakland, CA. in 2007



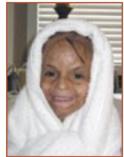


Injured Iraqi girl travels in Cleveland for plastic and reconstructive surgery

Teeba Farhat

In July, 5-year-old Teeba Farhat traveled with her grandmother from Baghdad, Iraq to Cleveland, Ohio to start treatment for burns she suffered in a car bombing, which killed her brother. She was treated for free by Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital of University Hospital in Cleveland, and by "Wigs for Kids". The PCRF was brought into this case by Cleveland resident Barbara Marlow, who read about her story in the local newspaper and moved to help her. Barbara and her husband Timothy housed the girl after the departure of her grandmother back to Iraq.











Iraqi child gets care in Ohio

Hussein Keilani

Hussein Keilani was sent to Cincinnati to undergo cost-free surgical care the Children's Hospital.

Hussein and his mother Nawal were sent from Baghdad to the US by the PCRF. Dr. Mark Levitt donated his services to treat Hussein for an imperforated anus, which could not be treated in Iraq.



Iraqi girl returns home after surgery

Noor Sabah

In the middle of August, Noor Sabah returned to Baghdad, Iraq after receiving maxillofacial surgery at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York City. Noor was brought to NY in February by the PCRF in association with the Virtue Foundation. She was treated by Dr. Peter Taub, a plastic surgeon who treated her as a charity case. Before arriving in the US, Noor waited three months in Amman for a visa, and stayed with a local host family during her treatment in NY.

Boy returns to US for second treatment

Omar Ghazal

At the end of July, the PCRF sent Omar Ghazal to the US for cost-free care at Providence Hospital in Dearborn, Michigan. Omar is a Palestinian living in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia who was treated for a craneofacial deformity by Dr. Ian Jackson of the Craneofacial Institute. Omar came with his father.



Iraqi boy goes to LA for orthopedic surgery

Mohammed Sarteeb

In September, Mohammed Sarteeb Hamed, 13, and his mother Sayran arrived in Los Angeles for treatment for the boy's hip disorder, a problem that could not be treated in their homeland of Iraqi Kurdistan. He had surgery at the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Los Angeles in October.

Injured Gaza boy arrives in LA for surgery

Mohanned Hammouda

In November, 10-year-old Mohanned Hammouda from Jebalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip arrived in Orange Country California to begin a period of orthopedic surgery at the Shriners Hospital in Los Angeles. Mohanned was shot in the leg by Israeli soldiers last year during an attack on his camp. He was





walking home from school when he was shot. He stayed with a local host family and cared for by the PCRF LA chapter.



Hebron girl gets spine surgery in Baltimore

Aseel Abu Dayyah In November, 8year-old Aseel Abu Dayyah and her mother Fatheyya arrived in Baltimore,

MD, where the girl underwent orthopedic surgery at the Johns Hopkins University Medical Center by Dr. Michael Ain. The girl was born with scoliosis and could not be treated in Palestine due to the complexity of her problem. Aseel and her mother stayed with a local host family and cared for by the PCRF Baltimore chapter.



Palestinian girl has Neurosurgery at Loma Linda

Sera Ali-Nawaja

In December, 11-yearold Sera Ali-Nawaja, a Palestinian refugee in Jordan, had neurosurgery

at the Loma Linda University Medical Center in California. Dr. Alexander Zorous treated her for a congenital malformation known as "tethered cord". She went with her mother Aida and was housed by local volunteers near the hospital. Dr. Zorous has led two missions to Palestine in 2007 with the PCRF, where several children with similar disorders had surgery in Ramallah and Makassed Hospitals.

Treatment in Lebanon







n 2007, the PCRF spo<mark>nsored</mark> the medical care and treatment for ■ Palestinian refugee children in local Lebanese hospitals, whenever possible. Over the past decade, the PCRF has continued to provide the same urgency and dedication to providing expert medical care and support for the Palestinian refugees living in the *Diaspora*, particularly those suffering from the extreme hardship of exile in Lebanon. The economic and political circumstances facing the 300,000 plus refugee population in Lebanon has steadily deteriorated over the years. This was particularly

clear in the summer of 2007, when tens of thousands of refugees were displaced, and several dozen killed, during the fighting and destruction of the Nahad Al Barad refugee camp in northern Lebanon. As a humanitarian relief organization, the PCRF remains dedicated to providing medical and humanitarian assistance to atrisk children in the impoverished refugee camps. In addition to treating kids through volunteer surgery missions, we continue to cover the costs for some kids to have medical care in local Lebanese hospitals.

Treatment in Lebanon



Rana Keblawi Rana Keblawi: 16 y, (Ein El-Helwi RC) She had hypo uterus and ovaries, which needed investigation and hormone treatment the American University Hospital in Beirut.



Doha Atta
Doha Atta: 8 m, (Ein
El-Helwi RC) This baby
with down syndrome
needed a variety of
complicated tests, which
the PCRF covered for
her in January.



Mariam Zeid Mariam Zeid, 4 m (Badawi RC) The PCRF helped to sponsor her life-saving open-heart surgery at Hammoud Hospital in Sidon in January.



Mohamad Ahmad Mohamad Ahmad: 8 yr. (Borj Al Shamali RC). We paid for his orthopedic surgery at the Haifa Hospital in the Borj Barajneh RC in April.



Hisham Mohamad Hisham Mohamad, 2 yr. (Jal El-Bahar/Tyre). The PCRF covered his casting following club foot surgery in April.



Farah Keblawi Farah Keblawi , 18 m, (Ein El-Helwi RC). The PCRF covered her tests and medication in August.



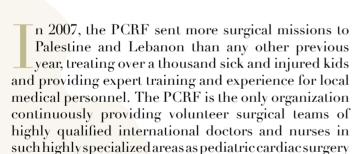
Amal Saleh Amal Saleh, 16- yr (Ein El-Helwi RC) We partially sponsored her urethra dilatation surgery at Hotel Dieu Beirut Hospital in September.



Nour Ghonaim Nour Ghonaim: 3 yr, (Ein El-Helwi RC) The PCRF paid for her leg x-rays and blood tests in September.







and cardiology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, maxillofacial and cleft palate surgery, orthopedics and spine surgery, ophthalmology, vascular, and pediatric neurosurgery. While we continue to provide expert care for sick and injured kids in their local hospitals, our long-term goal is to build the local capacity in the above-mentioned specialties so there will be no need for foreign missions to the region.











Pediatric cardiac surgery mission in East Jerusalem

In January, a three-member team of American doctors arrived in Palestine to begin 10-days of openheart surgery on sick babies with congenital heart disease from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Led by surgeon Dr. Adil Husain from the University of Florida and Dr. Shamel Abd-Allah, an intesivist from Loma Linda University in California, and including Loma Linda perfusionist Kholoud Nassar, the team did many complicated and difficult operations on babies from all over Palestine. This was their first mission to Palestine, though they plan to return to Makassed again in early 2008.



Italian heart surgeon returns to East Jerusalem

In February, Dr. Giancarlo Crupi, a pediatric cardiac surgeon from Bergamo in Italy arrived in East Jerusalem for a week of openheart surgery on Palestinian children with congenital heart disease at Makassed Hospital. Dr. Crupi had also two other members with him from Bergamo, and performed several heart operations on children from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Dr. Crupi has led several missions to Palestine through the PCRF over the past several years, and also has treated many of our kids at his hospital for free in Italy.



Belgian mission saves the lives of Palestinian babies

In March, a Belgian pediatric cardiac surgery mission traveled to Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem for a week of treating children from the West Bank and Gaza Strip with congenital heart disease. This was the third mission to Palestine in 2007 for pediatric cardiac surgery and the team was led by surgeon Dr. Katrien François from the University of Ghent in Belgium. Also on the mission was perfusionist Dirk de Smet. Both have been on several missions to Palestine through the PCRF over the past several years, as well as treating children at their hospital in Belgium. A dozen children from the West Bank and Gaza had surgery through their hard work.



New Zealand surgeon volunteers for 6 months in Palestine

In March, Dr. Alan Kerr, a pediatric cardiac surgeon formally from Greenlane Hospital in Auckland, New Zealand began a six-month mission to Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem. He provided both surgery and training for the local team. This was Dr. Kerr's 12th mission to Palestine in pediatric cardiac surgery since 2000 through the PCRF. He has saved the lives of hundreds of Palestinian children born with heart disease, and is playing a major role in building the pediatric cardiac surgery program in Palestine with the PCRF. He was joined by Kiwi ICU nurse Warren Narin, who trained nurses in the new PCRF ICU in Makassed.



French heart team save lives in East Jerusalem

In June, a 4-member team of doctors and nurses from France traveled to Palestine for a week of open-heart surgery at Makassed Hospital on the Mount of Olives. This was the fifth mission to Palestine this year in in pediatric cardiac surgery, including a 6month stay by Dr. Alan Kerr. The French team consisted of Professor Dominique Metras, surgeon, Dr Adrienne Mille, pediatric anesthetist, Dr Françoise Scheers, perfusionist and Mr Patrick Siclis, an OR nurse. The mission was sponsored by the French Consulate in East Jerusalem and run by the PCRF.



Second Belgian mission in 2007 saves the lives of babies in East Jerusalem

In November, a Belgian team from the University of Ghent arrived in Palestine for a week of pediatric cardiac surgery in Makassed Hospital. Led by surgeon Dr. Thierry Bove and perfusionist Dirk de Smet, they did 13 lifesaving operations on mainly sick babies brought out of Gaza by the PCRF for surgery. This is part of an ongoing program by the PCRF to build a pediatric cardiac surgery program in Palestine. Dr. Bove and Mr. de Smet have both been on several missions to Palestine through the PCRF over the past few years, as have other persons from their university hospital. The Belgian team first came to Palestine in 1999 through the PCRF.



Italian pediatric cardiac surgery mission saves lives in Jerusalem

In November, a 5-member team of doctors and nurses from Ospedale "G. Pasquinucci" in Massa, Italy arrived in Jerusalem to begin a 10day mission in treating Palestinian children with congenital heart disease. Led by surgeon Dr. Stefano Luisi, the team treated 16 children born with heart disease, which is part of the new heart surgery program for children in Makassed, sponsored by the PCRF. Dr. Luisi also recently treated a 10-year-old boy from Iraqi in Italy, sent by the PCRF for heart surgery.



British heart team returns

In early December, a six member team of doctors and nurses from the UK were sent to Makassed Hospital to treat children with congenitial heart disease. Led by Dr. B. Sethia, a surgeon from Brompton Hospital in London and the president of the PCRF International Palestinian Cardiac Relief Organization (IPCRO), the team included anesthestiologist Dr. Alistair Cranston from Birmingham, intensivist Dr. Marie Bosman, perfusionist Stanley Brown and ICU nurses Margo Pittman and Jodi Luckie. They save the lives of over a dozen babies in 5 days for surgery and helped to continue the training of local personnel.

Pediatric cardiology



Ppdiatric cardiologist twice travels to the West Bank to screen and treat sick children

In January and again in November, Dr. Aijaz Hashemi, a pediatric cardiologist from Loma Linda University in California, went to the West Bank for a week of screening children with congenital heart disease, as well as to provide invasive care in the Ramallah amd Makassed Catheterization labs. Many of the children were later operated on by the visiting missions. Dr. Hashemi also helped to arrange the donation of an echo machine for the PCRF. His two missions screened over 100 babies, and treated over a dozen with heart disease.



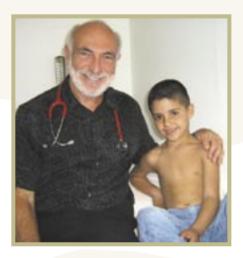
Pediatric cardiologist returns to Jenin

In March, Prof. Ra-id Abdulla, a pediatric cardiologist from the Rush University in Chicago, went through the PCRF to the West Bank town of Jenin to screen dozens of children with congenital heart disease. Prof. Abdulla has been going to Palestine on a semi-annual basis to screen children. He has detected dozens of children with heart disease, who have later had surgery in Makassed Hospital.



Pediatric cardiology team treats patients in Ramallah

In March, Dr. Ziad Saba, chief of pediatric cardiology at Oakland Children's Hospital in California, and Dr. Alistair Cranston, an anesthesiologist at Birmingham Children's Hospital in the UK treated Palestinian children with heart diseaes at the Ramallah Catheterization lab in the West Bank. Both Dr. Saba and Dr. Cranston have been on several cardiac missions with the PCRF in the past. Their work helped to treat several complex heart cases who otherwise could not get the care they needed in the local system.



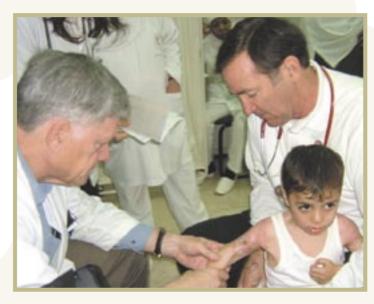
Pediatric cardiologist from San Francisco screens children in Ramallah

In April, Dr. Mike Cooper, a pediatric cardiologist from Kaiser Permanente in San Francisco screeened Palestinian children with congenital heart disease in Ramallah. This was Dr. Coopers first visit to Palestine with the PCRF. He saw dozens of children with suspected heart disease from all over the West Bank, screening them at the Beit Asia center run by the Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees. This was part of the ongoing effort by the PCRF to identify children with heart disease in Palestine and get them life-saving free care through our program at Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem.

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

American plastic surgeons treat burned children in Jericho

In January, Dr. Randy Smith, a plastic surgeon, and Dr. Chip Story, an anesthetist from Augusta, Georgia went to Palestine for a week of plastic and reconstructive surgery on burned and injured children from the West Bank. Working at the New Jericho Hospital, they screened 130 children for surgery and treated several dozen difficult cases. It is their first mission to Palestine with the PCRF.



Swiss Plastic Surgery Team works in Gaza

In May, a 4-member team of plastic surgeons traveled from Switzerland to peform a week of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the European Hospital in Khan Younis, Gaza. Led by Dr. Walter Kunzi, who led a mission to the same institution in 2006, the



team also included plastic surgeons Dr. Volker Wedler, Dr. Florian Jung and nurse Barbel Costabile. They screened children in southern Gaza, seeing over 90 burned and disfigured youths and choosing 30 patients for surgery. Plastic and reconstructive surgery is badly needed in the Gaza Strip and this project provided services for the most marginalized people in Palestinian society, which are those poor people living in the southern Gaza area of Khan Younis and Rafah.

Palestinian Surgeon Treats Refugees in Lebanon

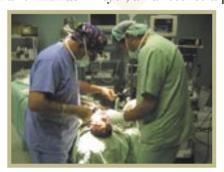
Februry, Dr. Hiham Ammous, a plastic surgeon from Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem. returned to Haifa Hospital in the Bouri Al Barajnah refugee camp in Beirut lo treat Palestinian refugees in need of plastic and reconstructive surgery. He has made several missions to Lebanon through the PCRF over the past few years and is the only plastic surgeon providing humanitarian services on a regular basis for the refugee population there. Dr. Ammous is also working with the PCRF in the West Bank to provide reconstruutive surgery for over 100 burned children in 2007.

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery



Two American Plastic Surgery Teams Treat Children in Tulkarem, Jenin

In September, the PCRF sent two American surgeons from the US, as well as a support team, to Palestine to provide free plastic and reconstructive surgery on burned children, as well as those suffering from birth defects. One team went to Thabet Thabet Hospital in Tulkarem and was led by Dr. Bill Riley of Operation Rainbow. The team included resident surgeon Dr. Mazen Bedri from John Hopkins University in Baltimore, anesthesia technician Dr. Xiao Shuprobst and scrub nurse Silvia Amy Korenek, both from Texas. In Jenin, Dr. Mike Parker, a plastic surgeon at Akron Children's Hospital in Ohio and Dr. Paul Meyer, an anesthesia physician from Iowa, operated on



children with burns as well as cleft lips and palates at the Jenin government hospital. Dr. Riley, Dr. Parker, and Dr. Meyer have all volunteered through the PCRF in the past. OVer three dozen children had surgery through these two missions.

Cleft Lip & Palate Surgery

In 2007, the PCRF established a national program to address the problem of cleft lip and palate surgery. Several missions were sent to Palestine to treat children and train doctors, and a national cleft society was created to provide a natinal effort to improve the quality of care in Palestine.



Amreican Cleft Surgery Mission to Tulkarem

In January, Professor. John van Aalst, chief of pediatric plastic surgery at the University of North Carolina went to the West Bank for a week of cleft lip and palate surgery on children with facial deformities. His mission was being co-sponsored by The Smile Train, an American charity dedicated to eradicating children suffering from cleft lip and palate deformities in the world. Later, in both May and December, Prof. van Aalst would work again in Tulkarem and also become the president of the fist Palestinian Cleft Society.

Cleft Lip & Palate Surgery



Swiss Cleft Palate and Lip Mission to Hebron

In May, Dr. Brigitte Winkler, a pediatric surgeon from Switzerland, and Dr. Maria Hermsen-Zach, an anesthesiologist from Germany, traveled to the West Bank town of Hebron for a week of treating children with cleft lip and palate deformities. This was their third mission to Palestine through the PCRF. They worked at the Alia Hospital in Hebron, treating over one dozen children.

American Cleft Lip Surgeon Returns to Tulkarem

In May, Dr. John van Aalst, the director of pediatric plastic surgery at the University of North Carolina, returned with anesthesiologist Dr. Ronald Herring, to Tulkarem for a week of surgery on children with cleft lip and palate deformities. This was his second mission to Palestine in 2007 through the PCRF. In January, he treated over two-dozen children in Tulkarem. He is training local surgeons, as well as providing expert care for dozens of needy children.



Cleft Lip & Palate Surgery



American Cleft lip and Palate team treats children in Ramallah

In December, a 4-member team of doctors and nurses went to the West Bank town of Ramallah to start a week-long mission of treating children with cleft lip and palate deformities. Led by Dr. Mark Ray from Nemours Children's Hospital in Jacksonville, FLA, the team included OR nurse Paulette Turner, speech and audio therapist Catherine Swanson and Anesthesiologist Dr. Bisi Ajala. Dr. Ray has led several surgery missions to Palestine through the PCRF over the past few years. Over two dozen children had surgery from this mission.



Swiss-German Team Provide Cleft Surgery and Training in Gaza

In December, a 4-member team from Switzerland and Germany arrived in the Gaza town of Khan Younis to start a week of plastic and reconstructive surgery on children with cleft lip and palate deformities, as well as some kids suffering from other malformations requiring plastic surgery. The team included Dr. Walter Kunzi, Dr. Abdul Jandali, Dr. Johannes Kuttenberger, and OR nurse Baerbel Costabile. This is Dr. Knuzi's third mission to Gaza through the PCRF and his second one in 2007.

Cleft Lip & Palate Surgery



Third Mission by Prof. van Aalst to Tulkarem treats dozen more deformed children

In December, a 4-member plastic surgery team from the University of North Carolina arrived in the West Bank town of Tulkarem to start a week of cleft lip and palate surgery on children with facial deformities. Led by surgeon Dr. John van Aalst, the team included anesthesiologist Dr. Ron Herring, ENT surgeon Dr. Josh Demke and dental surgeon Dr. Bilal Saib. After screening nearly 100 children from all over the West Bank, the team operated 3rd and will continue through the week, until the Cleft Conference in Ramallah on December 9.

Scoliosis Surgery

In 2007, the PCRF continued our effort to build a program in building a local surgery program for Palestinian children with spinal cord deformities, known as scoliosis. In 2003, Dr. Ala'a El Sheikh, a Palestinian surgeon was sent to the USA with the help of the PCRF to train in spine surgery at the LA Shriners Hospital, and since then, we have sent several expert spine surgeons to the West Bank to work with him in treating children in hospitals in Nablus and Beit Jala.



American Spine Surgeon Treats Children in West Bank

In February, Dr. Thomas Bailey, a professor in Orthopedic surgery from the Medical College of Georgia, went to the West Bank for a week of scoliosis surgery at the Bethlehem Arab Center for Rehabilitation in Beit Jala. This is Dr. Bailey's second mission to Palestine through the PCRF, as he went in March 2006 as well. Working with Dr. Ala'a Azmi El Sheikh, several children had complex surgery.



Palestinian-American Spine Surgeon returns for surgery in Bethlehem Area

In March, Dr. Walid Yassir, an assistant professor of pediatric Orthopedic Surgery at Tufts University in Boston went to Palestine with anesthesiologist Dr. Wendy Love from Maine to do scoliosis surgery at the Bethlehem **Arab** Society for Rehabilation in Beit Jala. Working with local surgeon Dr. Ala'a Al Sheikh, they continued to provide expert spine surgery on children born with spinal deformities. This is Dr. Yassir's 4th mission to Palestine through the PCRF over the past few years.

Scoliosis Surgery



Orthopedic Surgeon Travels to West Bank

In June, Dr. Charles Johnston, an orthopedic surgeon at the Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, Texas went to the West Bank town of Beit Jala for a week of spine surgery on scoliosis patients at the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation. This was

his second mission to Palestine through the PCRF. Dr. Johnston has also arranged free care for injured Palestinian children at his hospital in Texas.

American spine surgeon works in Nablus

In July, Dr. Richard Gross, an orthopedic surgeon from the University of South Carolina, traveled with a young resident in the West Bank city of Nablus to start a week of spine surgery at the Nablus Specialist Hospital. Working with

Dr. Gross



was Dr. Ala'a Azmi Al Shiekh, a local surgeon who has worked with several visiting spine missions over the past few years. The objective of this program is to build an independent program serving Palestinian children.

American Professor Continues to led Spine Surgery Program for PCRF



In December, Prof. Hugh Watts, one of the "fathers of pediatric orthopedic surgery" went to the West Bank for 10 days for continued training for Dr. Ala'a Azmi El Sehikh in both Nablus and Beit Jala, as well as to continue to buiold locally the program in both spine surgery and pediatric orthopedics through the PCRF. Dr. Watts is the main consultant with the PCRF for this program and has recruited most of the surgeons who are working with the PCRF in spine surgery.

Orthopedic Surgery



Orthopedic Mission works in Nablus

In February, a 2-man team arrived in Nablus to start a week of arthroscopic surgery on poor and needy patients at Rafidiah Hospital in Nablus. The team was made up of Dr. Tim Keenan, a surgeon from Australia, and Dr. Paul Meyer, an anesthesiologist from the USA, have both volunteered before in Palestine.



Orthopedic Surgeons Treat Refugees in Lebanon

On April 22, Dr. Sharaf Ibrahim, a Pediatric orthopedic surgeon and Dr. Kamil Mohamad, a hand surgeon from Malaysia, traveled to Beirut for a week of orthopedic surgery at Haifa Hospital in the Bourj Al Barajnah refugee camp. Their colleagues worked the previous week in Damascus treating Palestinian refugees and this was their second mission to Lebanon for the PCRF.



Malaysian-Kuwaiti Orthopedic Mission to Syria

In April, a three-member orthopedic surgery mission from Malaysia and Kuwait were sent to Al-Mujtahed Hospital in Damascus for a week of spine, arthroscopic and hand surgery. Dr. Abdul Malik and Dr. Asri Ghapar from Malaysia have worked in the PCRF in the past in Syria, and Dr. Husam Basheer from Kuwait did a mission to Lebanon in 2006. They screened over 80 children and operated on 17 children, as well as teaching local physicians. Most of the children treated were Palestinian refugees from the camps in Syria.

Orthopedic Surgery



German-American team treat Patients in Ramallah Hospital

In November, a 4-man team of doctors and a nurse went to the West Bank town of Ramallah to start a week of pediatric orthopedic surgery at the main government hospital. Led by Dr. Marc Sinclair, a German surgeon working in Dubai, the team included Dr. Mohanned Hamudi from Stony Brook, NY, anesthesiologist Dr. Paul Meyers from Iowa and Richard Fowler, an OR nurse from Portland, OR. The team brought tens of thousands of dollars worth of donated medical supplies and treated nearly two dozen children with boney deformities, including several complicated operations.

Ophthalmology Missions



Two winter ophthalmology Missions to Nablus restore the sight for hundreds of people

In January, Dr. Francis Nathan from Australia and American OR nurse Baillie Brown went to Palestine for a week of cataract surgery on poor people in the northern West Bank. Working at Rafidiah Hospital in Nablus, the team provided much-needed sight-saving surgery on dozen of poor people. Both have worked with the PCRF many times in the past, including missions to Lebanon and Gaza, as well as to the West Bank.

In March, a 3-member team of opthalmic surgeons returned to Rafidiah Hospital in Nablus to perform cataract surgery on poor people in need. Led by Dr. Francis Nathan from Australia and Baillie Brown from California, who both were in Nablus through the PCRF in January, in addition to Dr. Roberto Jules from El Salvador, who was in Nablus in 2006, they did over 80 sight-saving operations, despite IDF incursions into the town, which killed two people.

Ophthalmology Missions



Ophthalmic team treats refugees in Lebanon

In May, Dr. Francis Nathan, an ophthalmic surgeon from Australia, and Baillie Brown, a nurse from the USA, went to Lebanon to perform a week of surgery for refugees in the camps suffering from cataracts. This was their third mission to the Middle East through the PCRF this year, as they did missions in the West Bank earlier in the year. They worked at the Haifa Hospital in the Bourj Al Barajnah refugee camp in Beirut. Despite the fighting around the Nahd El Barad refugee camp in the north of Lebanon, the team continued to provide humanitarian services for the refugee population in Lebanon, who are suffering in Lebanon due to poverty and discrimination as refugees.



PCRF supports INMAA mission in Lebanon

In early November, the PCRF cooperated with an NGO called INMAA to provide 118 poor Palestinian and Lebanese cataract, glaucoma and ptrygium operations in Lebanon. The team included the surgeons Dr. Kathy Lentz from the States, who worked with the PCRF in Gaza in 1999, DR. Janak Sha from India, Dr. Francis Nathan from Australia, and OR nurse Baillie Brown from the USA. The PCRF provided equipment and administrative support for this mission, which was held at the Mohamad Khaled Asso Hospital in Ouzaei, Beirut.

Neurosurgery



Two Pediatric neurosurgery missions treat children in Ramallah and East Jerusalem

In January, a 3-member team went to Ramallah to provide pediatric neurosurgery on children from the West Bank. Led by Dr. Alexander Zouros from Loma Linda University in California, the team also includeded Dr. Deanna Dalia, an anesthesiologist from Cincinnati, and Dr. Ahmed Khaldi from Layola University in Chicago. The team was focusing on providing mainly spine surgery on patients with tethered cords, and screened also nearly 100 children.

In November, Dr. Zorous returned to head a 5-member team for a week of complex neurosurgery on sick and

injured Palestinian children in the West Bank town of Ramallah, as well as two days of complex brain and spine surgery in Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem. Dr. Zorous was accompanied again by surgeon Dr. Ahmed Khaldi from Chicago as well as Dr. Kareem Zaghoul from Philadelphia. Anesthesiologist Dr. Richard Bosco from Jacksonville, Florida and Dr. Laura Badwan from Chicago also were crucial for the success of the mission. They screened nearly 70 children and provided surgery on nearly a dozen needy kids. These two missions in 2007 were the first and only pediatric neurosurgery missions ever to Palestine.



French Mission Continues to Train and Teach in Gaza

In December, an 8-member team of surgeons from France, Spain and the UK went to Khan Younis in the Gaza Strip to continue their teaching and certification of local surgeons in hand and nerve surgery. Led by Dr. Christophe Oberlin, the team did some operations and training for the local surgeons. Prof. Oberlin has been working in Palestine for many years.

Maxillofacial Surgery



Maxillofacial Mission to Nablus

In April, a six-member team of doctors and nurses from North America and Jordan went to the West Bank town of Nablus to start a week of maxillofacial surgery on children at Rafidiah Hospital. This is the third mission to Nablus by this team over the past two years, which is led by Dr. Khaled Abughazaleh from Chicago and Dr. Juan Noriega

from the University of Mexico. Also on the mission were Dr. Bryan Saario, a surgeon, Dr. Hussein Abu Khudair, chief of anesthesia at the King Hussein cancer hospital, Dr. Fernando Portilla from Mexico and OR nurse Karimah Tarazi from Jordan. Dozens of children were screened and operated on during this mission.



Vascular Surgery



American-Syrian surgeon runs Vascular clinic in Lebanon

In August, Dr. Munir Al-Zufar returned to Lebanon to run a varicose veins clinic for poor refugee patients in Beirut. Dr. Munir is an American-Syrian surgeon who has gone on several medical missions to both Palestine and Lebanon for the PCRF over the years. During the clinic, Dr. Munir provided over 100 consultations, while also treated 23 cases at Haifa Hospital in Borj Barajneh refugee camp. Dr. Munir provided many patients with echos for their veins, proscribed medication, and gave instructions on how to care for their varicose veins. Dr. Munir also brought some equipment with him on the mission to donate to the hospital, as well as some supportive stockings that he gave away to many patients. Due to the demand, PCRF and Dr. Munir are planning to start having two varicose veins clinics each calander year.

Treatment Through Local Hospitals Sponsoring Surgery through Local Surgeons and Hospitals





Plastic Surgery Program in the West Bank

In March, the PCRF began working with Dr. Hisham Ammous, a Palestinian plastic surgeon at Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem, to treat burned children in local hospitals, paying for surgery when the family is not able to do so. While the PCRF has been sending surgeons to do plastic surgeon from abroad, the number of children in need of treatment far exceeds the number we can help through visiting foreign missions. As a result, we now sponsor clinics with Dr. Ammous throughout the West Bank and pay for surgery in local hospitals near where the children live, or the more difficult cases, arranging for them to be transferred for surgery in Makassed. The objective of this program is to provide reconstructive surgery on all kids who otherwise would not get the care that they need locally. In 2007, over 100 burned and injured children had surgery at no cost to the families, and hundreds more are being identified and scheduled for care in 2008.







Cleft lip and palate surgery in the Gaza Strip

Through a grant from The Smile Train, the PCRF began sponsoring cleft lip and palate surgery through Dr. Nafez Abu Shaban, working at several NGO hospitals in Gaza City. This program started in the second half of 2007 and nearly three dozen children had facial plastic surgery. This is part of the ongoing PCRF program to address the issue of cleft lip and palate deformities in Palestine, through both visiting surgical teams, who treat children and train doctors, as well as by sponsoring surgery by local teams, whenever possible. The PCRF and The Smile Train will expand this program to the southern half of the West Bank in 2008, by working with a maxillofacial surgeon at Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem.











The International Palestinian Cardiac Relief Organization (IPCRO)



In 2003, the PCRF created IPCRO to develop the first and only pediatric cardiac surgery program for Palestine. Consisting of international and local consultants and medical professionals, IPCRO has overseen the building of

a new pediatric cardiac intensive care unit in Makassed, which is being expanded in 2008 into a 6-bed unit, the donation of new echo and heart-lung machines, and the expansion of medical personnel on the ground in Palestine who are increasingly able to provide expert care for their children. In 2007, despite the difficulty in getting children out of Gaza due to the Israeli siege, we were still able to operate on 191 children in Makassed through this program, with only 6 mortalities. We consider this a great accomplishment, and most of the thanks goes to the members of IPCRO and the volunteers who join our missions in an effort to improve the quality of congenital care for heart disease in Palestine. In March 2007, the PCRF held it's 4th annual conference of IPCRO at the 7 Arches Hotel on the Mount of Olives. With an impressive group of European, American, Palestinian and New Zealand members participating, the conference, we are paving the way for a brighter future in making an independent center for expert heart surgery for children from all over Palestine. During the conference, Dr. B. Sethia from Brompton Hospital in London was elected president of IPCRO. Dr. Sethia has led several missions to Palestine over the past decade, and is one of the founding members of IPCRO.

Palestinian Cleft Society (PCS)



On December 9, the PCRF, in partnership with The Smile Train, hosted a conference at the Grand Park Hotel in Ramallah to create a Palestinian Cleft Society designed to build a national and international group of

professionals dedicated to addressing the needs of children with cleft lip and palate deformities. Attended by more than 100 plastic, maxillofacial and pediatric surgeons, pediatricians, nurses, speech therapists, orthodontists, dentists and hospital administrators, the conference focused on both the scientific and medical aspects of cleft disorders and treatment, as well as a lengthy discussion on how to best address this problem on a national level. Guest speakers included new chairman of the cleft society, Dr. John van Aalst, chief of pediatric plastic surgery at the University of North Carolina, pediatric dentist Dr. Daniel Ravel, Al-Quds lecturer and orthodontist Dr. Mohaned Aker, ENT surgeon from Nemours Children's Hospital in Florida Dr. Mark Ray, Chicago maxillofacial surgeon Dr. Khaled Abughazaleh, speech and audio therapist from Nemours Hospital, Christine Swanson, the head of the European Hospital in Khan Younis Dr. Mohammed Shahlah, ENT doctor Josh Demke from UNC, anesthesiologist Dr. Ron Herring, and Makassed Hospital maxillofacial surgeon Dr. Raed Jallad. The Palestinian Minister of Health, Dr. Fathi Abu Moghli addressed the conference and thanked the participants for their hard work and support in building a national program for treating children with cleft lips and palates.







Thile the PCRF is committed to providing expert surgery for sick and injured children, we also are dedicated to assisting needy children in other ways as well. The crisis facing Palestinian and Arab children in the region far exceeds just those kids need specialized surgery, which is why we continue to provide powder milk for malnourished children, run summer camps for disabled and impoverished youths, support nurseries and eyeglasses

for poor children in Lebanon's camps, donate school bags and diapers, help train occupational therapists, distribute hundreds of wheelchairs for poor children in Palestine and support a women empowerment project in Lebanon. We also sponsor an Infant Oral Health Program for children in the West Bank. These projects are designed to help alleviate the suffering of children living under military occupation and suffering for the effects of siege and war.









Child Sponsorship Program

Over the past seven years, the PCRF has responded to the economic crisis facing poor disabled or sick children in Palestine and Lebanon by connecting sponsors outside of the region with disabled children in need. The PCRF fieldworkers identify children whose families are too poor to provide them the medication or supplies that they need to address their physical needs. We do not give the money directly to the families, but rather use 100% of the sponsor's support to buy the child's medication or supplies for the child directly. That ensures that the funds are used exactly for their intended humanitarian purpose. Sponsorship lasts for one year and nearly 100 children are currently being sponsored. Quarterly letters of thanks and photos are sent to sponsor's from the child's family.

Occupational Therapy



Australian Occupational Therapist Volunteers in Abu Raya

In Late March, Merlin Nathan, an occupational therapist from Adelaide, Australia, went to the Abu Raya rehabiliation Center in Ramallah to provide training for local therapists. Merlin has went on several missions to the West Bank and Gaza over the few years through the PCRF and has been helping to train local personnel in specialized occupational therapy.

Powder Milk Distribution



The PCRF helps malnourished children in Central Gaza

In the beginning of May, the PCRF held a powder milk distribution for children who suffer from malnutrition in Central Gaza. Poverty, unemployment, and closures continue to effect the health and well-being of young children in both the West Bank and Gaza. In an effort to help these families in need, the PCRF distributed milk to over 150 children in the refugee camps of Maghazi, Nuseirat, Bureij, and Deir Balah.



PCRF's powder milk distribution reaches Southen Gaza children

In the second week of May, the PCRF distributed powder milk to needy children in the Southen Gaza towns of Rafah and Khan Younis. During the southern distribution, over 150 bags of milk were given out to needy children throughout the two impoverished towns and refugee camps. This was part of the PCRF's ongoing effort to try to tackle the malnourishment problem with children in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.



Milk Distribution in Northern Gaza

In June, the PCRF held a free distribution of powder milk for at-risk and malnourished children from the besieged town of Beit Hanoun, Beit Lahya, Jebalya and Gaza City camps and slums. The PCRF has been providing free milk for poor families in the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the uprising in 2000. This is a result of the increased signs for malnutrition among many of Gaza's children, brought on by the closure of the Strip to economic activity.



PCRF Provides Day Care Services for Kids in Lebanon

In 2007, The PCRF continued it day care services for poor children in Southern Lebanon by sponsoring two separate programs. The first day care center is located in Ein El-Helwi refugee camp in the town of Saida. The camp is titled the "Beit Atfal Asmoud Day Care" and is host to roughly 75 children, who participate in daily scholastic programs and are also offered daily meals. The second camp is located in Borj Al-Shamali refugee camp in the southern town of Tyre and is host to around 83 children, who participate in similar scholastic programs as the other camp. The PCRF provides much of the materials needed such as books, crayons, art supplies, as well as the meals.

Powder Milk Distribution



PCRF's distribution goes to Nablus

In August, The PCRF distributed powdered milk to poor, malnourished children in the norther West Bank. The distribution took place in the villages of Nasarya Agrabanyah, Ain Shibli, Nasaryah, and Jeftlic, where the people are extremely poor and many of them live without electricity amd other basic necessities. 100 cases of powder milk were distributed to poor and at risk famlies in these areas...

Donated Echo Machine Sent to Ramallah

On July 23, the PCRF a donated HP 5500 echocardiography machine, which was purchased by the Islamic community of Riverside, CA. through the kind help of volunteer pediatric cardiologist Dr. Aijaz Hashemi. In the Fall, the machine was used to screen poor children with congenital heart disease in the West Bank for possible surgery at Makassed Hospital, where the PCRF sponsors heart missions for several years. ANERA helped greatly in clearing this machine through Israeli customs,. The PCRF is seeking to provide an echo machine for Durra Hospital in Gaza in 2008.



Wheelchair Distributions



In 2007, the PCRF cooperated with international agencies to provide disabled youths throughout the occupied territories free wheelchairs. Over the past few years, the PCRF has donated thousands of quality chairs to Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon and Syria. The following distributions were held in 2007:

In May, 550 wheelchairs were donated in cooperation with the Latter Day Saints Charities to poor disabled people throughout the Gaza Strip.

Wheelchair Distributions

In June, 220 wheelchairs were donated to disabled children in the Jenin region of the West Bank. The chairs were sent through Hope Haven Ministries in Iowa. Two volunteers, Greg Skolaski and Tom Glumac, helped to distribute the chairs.

In October, 200 wheelchairs were donated to poor disabled youths in the Bethlehem and Hebron districts of the West Bank. This was in cooperation with Latter Day Saints Charities.





School Bag/Diaper Distributions



Gaza Children Receive Diapers Through Distribution

At the end of July, The PCRF held a distribution that provided poor children with diapers that their families could not afford. The distribution, which was held in the Southern Gaza towns of Rafah and Khan Younis, served nearly two dozen children between the ages of 1 and 11 years-old, many of these children suffer from a difficult disabilities that requires constant support.



PCRF distributes School bags for poor kids

In the first week of September, the PCRF distributed hundreds of free book bags for poor children in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to help them start the school year. The children were screened by PCRF social workers and the most needy of the children were chosen to receive free bags.

School Bag/Diaper Distributions | Eyeglasses for Refugees in Lebanon





Eveglasses Distributed to Refugee Children in Lebanon

In 2007, the PCRF continued to identify poor refugee kindergarten and grade school children in the Palestinian refugee camps of Ein El-Helwi, Mieh Mieh, Borj Al-Shamali, Rashdiyeh and Saida city. These children are either too poor to purchase eyeglasses, or have never had their eyes checked. This project has helped hundreds of refugee children improve their education and their quality of life. In 2006, thousands of kids in Palestine recieved free eyeglasses through a PCRF-sponsored program.

Summer Camps

Since the start of the Intifada, the PCRF has sponsored summer camps for poor and disabled children throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The purpose of these camps are to help integrate disabled youths into mainstream society with other children, as well as to give kids cultural and social activities during the summer months when there are very little other activities for children to participate in. The hope is that these children will integrate and hopefully break down negative stereotypes facing children with disabilities in Palestine and to help create a generation that does not see children with disabilities as being unequal. These camps in 2007 were:





Bethlehem

From July 20 to August 7th, the PCRF sponsored two summer camps in the Bethlehem region for disabled youths. The first camp was in Dar Salah village, in cooperation with Salam Society. 80 children were in this camp, 40 of them disabled. The second camp was at Idbaa Center in the Dhesheh refugee camp and included 85 children, 20 of them disabled. The purpose of these camps are to integrate disabled and mainstream children together to help break down the negative stereotypes that exist in Palestinian society towards disabled people. By doing that with children, we hope to have a long-term societal change in the way people see those who are suffering from physical disabilities. Kids participated in social and cultural activities in these camps, taking field trips and enjoying summer time learning about their country and society.



Hebron

From July 1-15, the PCRF sponsored two summer camps in the Hebron region. The first camp was called "Alaqsa camp" and had 170 children attend, 20 of those kids being disabled. The second camp was called "The Hebron Grape Camp" and inluded 300 children, 30 of which were disabled children. Both camps offered the children a chance to participate in educational, social and cultural activities in the summer months when they are not in school, and to interact in a manner in which they can develop relations and tolerance of other children.



Summer Camps

Rafah

On August 5th, The PCRF sponsored a summer camp in the Southern Gaza city of Rafah. The one-week camp, which was done in associatioon with CBR rehabilitation center in Rafah, hosted nearly 80 children (30 handicapped). The camp was titled "Our Children" and it provided the children with many fun and learning activities during the duration of the camp. The goal of all of the PCRF summer camps is to provide handicapped and healthy children an opportunity to interact, breaking down some of the current stigmas facing disabled youths.

Jenin

The PCRF returned to the West Bank district of Jenin to host a summer camp for handicapped children. The two camps ran from July 7th-July 23rd and took place in the Arrabh village and Jenin refugee camp. The Arrabh village camp was partially sponsored by the Community Based Rehabilitation Program (CBR) and served 85 children, 12 of which were disabled. The Jenin summer camp was partially sponsored by the Local Community For Rehabilitation of the Disabled and served 130 children, 17 of which were disabled.

Ramallah

From July 1-18th, the PCRF sponsored a summer camp in Qarawa Bani Ziad Village in the Ramallah district for 70 children, 30 of which were disabled. The name of this camp was the "Tomorrow Better Camp." The PCRF also sponsored the "Farah camp" in the village of Al Mazra'a Al Kebaleh village from July 4-23. This camp was for 60 children and had 25 disabled youths. Both camps were for children to participate in social and cultural activities. as well as a chance for

mainstream and disabled children to interact in a positive environment.

Northern Gaza

At the end of July, the PCRF began its newest season of summer camps for handicapped children in Southern Gaza. The camps were sponsored by the PCRF, in association with the Palestinian medical relief and was held in the villages of Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia. This marked the 7th year that PCRF has run summer camps in Palestine, the first ones sponsored in the summer of 2001. The most recent camps titled "Hope" and "Smile", hosted nearly 50 children, 25 of which suffer from some sort of physical or mental disability.

Tulkarem

On July 10, the PCRF sponsored two two-week summer camps in the Tulkarem area. The first was the "Hope Camp" that was run in

cooperation with the UN and the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) and included 50 children, with several disabled youths. The other camp was run in cooperation with the Medical Relief Society and CBR in Beit Lid, Tulkarem and included 100 children, (20 disabled).

Qalqilya

In July, two camps were sponsored for the encircled town of Qalqilya. One camp included 200 children (40 disabled) and was in cooperation with the Healthy World Community, while the other was in Hajila village with the Happy Child Organization. That camp had 100 children, with 20 of them disabled.



The PCRF Women Empowerment Project





In 2007, the PCRF continued to support the economic independence of Palestinian refugee women in the Bourj Al Barajnah and Ein El Hilweh refugee camps in Lebanon through a program of job creation in designing embroidery for

marketing abroad. Most of these women are sole breadwinners without any means of employment or income outside of the camp. By helping to market their traditional Palestinian embroidery, the PCRF hopes to improve the lives, education and healthcare

of hundreds of refugee children in the camps who are dependent on the income from these programs. For more information on purchasing such embroidery or helping us to market these impressive items abroad, please contact us.

Infant Oral Health Project for the West Bank

The PCRF Continued to sponsor the development of an infant oral health program for the West Bank, through the support and training offered Dr. Daniel Ravel, a pediatric dental surgeon from North Carolina and Dr. Sahar Abughazaleh from Chicago. In November, they held two weeks of training for local dentists and oral surgeons in various aspects of pediatric dental care. Dr. Ravel has worked with the PCRF several times over the past few years, including a mission to Lebanon's camps. Their lectures were in cooperation and support of the Palestinian Dental Association and the Ministry of Health. Lectures and training programs were held in Ramallah, Jerusalem, Nablus, Jenin, Hebron and Bethlehem. The infant oral health program will continue to develop in 2008 in an effort to improve the quality of dental care for Palestinain children.









Medical Missions

1. American Mission

Led by Dr. Adil Husain, a pediatric cardiac surgeon in Florida, will lead a 3-member team that includes Dr. Abd-Allah Shamel and Kholoud Nassar from Loma Linda University. An ICU nurse and cardiologist will also attend. His team will work for one week in February.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane tickets	\$8,500
TOTAL	\$10,200

2. Italian Mission

March. Led by Dr. Stefano Luisi. His 5-member team will work for one week.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane tickets	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$5.250

3. New Zealand Mission

April-May. Dr. Alan Kerr from Greenlane Hospital in Auckland will work for two months.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,050
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane ticket	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$3,250

4. Italian Mission

July: Dr. Stefano Luisi, a pediatric cardiac surgeon from Massa, Italy, will take a 5-member team.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,000
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane tickets	\$5,000

TOTAL \$5,250

5. Belgian Mission

August: Dr. Katrien Francois will take a 2-member team.

a. Hotel/Food	\$950
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane tickets	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$2,550

6. British Mission

October: Dr. B. Sethia will take a 5-member team.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,550
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane tickets	\$5,500
TOTAL	\$7,250

7. New Zealand Mission

November-December. Dr. Alan Kerr will work for two months.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,050
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane ticket	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$3.250

8. Italian Mission

Dr. Stefano Luisi will take a team of 5-members to work for one week.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,000
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane tickets	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$5,250

Pediatric Cardiology

1. Dr. Mike Cooper

A pediatric cardiologist at Kaiser Permanente in San Francisco, he led a mission to Ramallah in 2007. He will be screening children at the PCRF Clinic in Ramallah in February.

a. Hotel/Food \$300 b. Transportation \$100 c. (Plane ticket covered by doctor)

TOTAL \$400

2. Dr. Ziad Saba

Chief of pediatric cardiology at Children's Hospital in Oakland, he has led several PCRF missions to Palestine and Lebanon over the past several years. He will be working in the Ramallah catheterization lab and screening children in April.

a. Hotel/Food \$700 b. Transportation \$200 c. Plane Ticket \$1,500 TOTAL \$2,400

3. Dr. Ra-id Abdulla

May. A pediatric cardiologist at Rush University in Chicago, he will be screening children and giving lectures throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

a. Hotel/Food \$700 b. Transportation \$200 c. Plane Ticket \$1,400 TOTAL \$2,300

4. Dr. Aijaz Hashemi

October. From Loma Linda University, Dr. Hashemi led cardiology missions for the PCRF to the West Bank in 2007. He will be doing echo screening and invasive catheterizations in the Ramallah cath lab.

a. Hotel/Food \$700 b. Transportation \$200 c. Plane Ticket \$1.500 TOTAL \$2,400

Orthopedic Surgery

1. Dr. Tim Keenan

January. He is an Australian surgeon who will be working with a nurse and anesthesiologist in Rafidiah Hospital in Nablus.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$5,400
TOTAL	\$7,100

2. Dr. Jiab Suleiman

May. He is an American-Palestinian orthopedic surgeon from Dearborn, MI who will be working at the European Hospital in Khan Younis, Gaza.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$1,200
TOTAL	\$1,800

3. Dr. Marc Sinclair

May. He is a German surgeon who will be working with a nurse and anesthesiologist at Ramallah Hospital.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$3,600
TOTAL	\$6,300

Maxillofacial Surgery Mission

1. Dr. Khaled Abughazaleh from Chicago, Prof. Rafeal Ruiz and Dr. Juan Carlos Lopez: January. This team is working at Rafidiah Hospital in Nablus and will include two anesthetists and two nurses.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$7,200
TOTAL	\$9,900

2. Dr. Khaled Abughazaleh from Chicago, Prof. Rafeal Ruiz and Dr. Juan Carlos Lopez: October. This team is working at Rafidiah Hospital in Nablus and will include two anesthetists and two nurses.

d. Hotel/Food	\$2,500
e. Transportation	\$200
f. Plane Tickets	\$7,200
TOTAL	\$9,900

Scoliosis/Spine Surgery

1. Malaysian Surgery Mission

In June, the PCRF will sponsor a team from Malaysia to Damascus, Syria to provide spine surgery, as well as orthopedic surgery, for Palestinian refugee children. The team includes three surgeons.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$3,600
TOTAL	\$5,300

2. Dr. Walid Yassir

July. From Tufts University in Boston, Dr. Yassir goes every year to the West Bank to treat patients and continue the training of local surgeons.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$1,600
TOTAL	\$2,200

3. Dr. Charles Johnston

August. From the Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, Dr. Johnston also goes annually to Palestine to work with the local team in training and treating patients.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$1,600
TOTAL	\$2,200

4. Dr. Tom Bailey

September. From the University of Georgia, Dr. Bailey works annually with the PCRF and will return again to continue the training of local personnel.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$1,600
TOTAL	\$2,200

5. Dr. Hugh Watts

November. Dr. Watts is from UCLA and the Shriners Hospital in LA and is the main PCRF consultant in building the scoliosis program in Palestine.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$1,600
TOTAL	\$2,200

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

1. Italian Mission

February: Led by Dr. Enrico Robotti from Bergamo, Italy, his 5-member team will work at the European Hospital in Khan Younis, Gaza.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,000
b. Transportation	\$300
c. Plane Tickets	\$4,000
TOTAL	\$6,300

2. Dr. Zaheer Shah

May. From Mercy Hospital in Canton, OH. Dr. Shah has been on several missions to Gaza through the PCRF and will provide plastic surgery with a nurse and anesthesiologist.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$3,900
TOTAL	\$5,600

3. Dr. Shahid Aziz

May. From the Dept. of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at the New Jersey Dental School, Dr. Aziz will lead a nurse and anesthesiologist to the European Hospital in Khan Younis, Gaza to do cleft lip and palate surgery.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$4,600
TOTAL	\$6,300

4. Dr. Walter Kunzi

June. From Switzerland, Dr. Kunzi has been leading several burn surgery missions to the European Hospital in Khan Younis through the PCRF over the past year. His 4-member team will treat children with burns in southern Gaza.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,000
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$3,600
TOTAL	\$5,800

5. Dr. Hisham Ammous

February. From Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem, Dr. Ammous goes to Haifa Hospital in the Bourj Al Barajnah Refugee camp in Beirut to provide plastic and reconstructive surgery for Palestinian refugee children.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$600
TOTAL	\$1,200

6. Operation Rainbow

October. Led by Dr. Bill Riley from Dallas, Texas and Dr. Mike Parker from Children's Hospital in Akron, OH. They will have a 5-member team working at two hospitals.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,500
b. Transportation	\$300
c. Plane Tickets	\$6,600
TOTAL	\$9,400

7. Dr. Mark Ray: November

From Florida, Dr. Mark Ray goes annually to Ramallah Hospital to provide cleft lip and palate surgery through the PCRF. He takes a nurse and anesthesiologist with him.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$4,600
TOTAL	\$6,300

Pediatric Neurosurgery

1. French team to Gaza

March. Led by Dr. Chistophe Oberlin and Dr. Christophe Denates, the team will continue the training of surgeons in Gaza, as well as treat children with orthopedic and neurosurgical needs. They are a 5-member team.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$300
c. Plane Tickets	\$5,600
TOTAL	\$7,400

2. Loma Linda Mission

November. Led by Dr. Alexander Zorous, this mission will continue to build a program in pediatric neurosurgery and treat children at Ramallah Hospital in the West Bank. This is a 4-member team that includes another surgeon, nurse and anesthesia.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,240
b. Transportation	\$300
c. Plane Tickets	\$6,000
TOTAL	\$8,540

3. French team to Gaza

July. Led by Dr. Chistophe Oberlin and Dr. Christophe Denates, the team will continue the training of surgeons in Gaza, as well as treat children with orthopedic and neurosurgical needs. They are a 5-member team.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$300
c. Plane Tickets	\$5,600
TOTAL	\$7,400

Pediatric Urology

1. Dr. David and Cathy Brenner

February. From the USA, the Brenners are both urological surgeons who will work for one month in both Gaza and the West Bank providing surgery and training for local personnel.

a. Hotel/Food	\$1,500
b. Transportation	\$400
c. Plane Tickets	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$4,900

2. Dr. Anthony Balcom

May. An assistant Professor of Urology at the University of Wisconsin, he will work for one week in the West Bank. He will have an anesthesiologist with him.

a. Hotel/Food	\$700
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$2,600
TOTAL	\$3,400

3. International Volunteers in Urology

In 2008, IUV will send a mission to the West Bank through the PCRF to provide urological care for children in need. It will be a 3-member mission.

a. Hotel/Food	\$700
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$3,900
TOTAL	\$4,700



Ophthalmic Surgery

1. Orbis Surgery Mission

In 2007, the PCRF sponsored a fact-finding mission to the West Bank by Orbis director, Mr. Oliver Foot. Orbis agreed to send a team of specialists to Palestine in 2008 to provide training for local physicians, as well as much-needed training for local physicians. This will be a 5-member mission.

a. Hotel/Food	\$2,500
b. Transportation	\$200
c. Plane Tickets	\$6,600
TOTAL	\$9,300

2. Dr. Youssef Omaya

March. The Chief of Ophthalmology Services at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Dr. Youssef will be working at the European Hospital in Khan Younis for one week.

a. Hotel/Food	\$700
b. Transportation	\$100
c. Plane Tickets	\$2,600
TOTAL	\$3,400

Vascular Surgery

Over the past few years, Dr. Munir Zufari, an Arab-American vascular surgeon living in Damascus, has volunteered his services working in Lebanon with the PCRF. We plan on sending him on two missions to Beirut in 2008.

a. Hotel/Food	\$500
b. Transportation	\$600
TOTAL	\$1,100

TOTAL SURGICAL MISSIONS

TOTAL \$189,320

Humanitarian Relief Projects:

1. Wheelchair Shipment to Gaza:

Budget for Wheelchair Shipment to Gaza: \$8,000

2. Wheelchair Shipment to Palestinians in Syria: Budget for Wheelchair Shipment to Syria: \$19,000

3. Sponsorship of Nursery Programs for Refugee Children in Lebanon:

Budget for three nurseries in Lebanon: \$7,200

4. Summer Camps for Disabled Children:

10 Summer Camps in 2008 for disabled children: \$20,000

5. Free Treatment of Injured and Sick Children Abroad:

Budget for 40 injured children to be treated abroad for free: \$90,000

6. Surgery for Burned Children Through Local Surgeons in Palestine:

Budget for 100 children for plastic surgery: \$50,000

7. School Bags for Poor Children:

Budget for 1,000 school bags for 2008 school year: \$15,000

8. Powder Milk Distribution for at-risk babies: Budget for 10 milk distributions in 2008: \$40.000

9. Eye Glasses for Poor Children

Budget for 1,000 children to be fitted for eyeglasses: \$30,000

10. Women Empowerment Project: Lebanon.

Budget for 2008 Women Empowerment Project: \$30,000

11. Orthopedic braces/medical shoes for poor handicapped children

\$60,000

12. Physical Therapy for poor disabled youths \$30,000

13. Orthodontist surgery for poor children for maxillofacial surgery

\$30,000

Special Project: Expansion of Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, Makassed Hospital

In 2007, the PCRF opened the first and only pediatric ICU in Palestine at Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem. Due to the large number of children treated and the need for a greater number of recovery beds, it is necessary to expand the ICU from a 3-bed unit to a 6-bed unit. The expansion will be built onto the existing PCICU and be equipped with the same equipment and materials that we purchased for the existing unit.

Equipment needed;

Construction of ICU		\$16,000
Ventilators (3)	\$55,000 each	\$165,000
Monitors (3)	\$40,000 each	\$120,000
Infusion Pumps (15)	\$1,000 each	\$15,000
Pediatric Beds (3)	\$3,000 each	\$9,000
TOTAL		\$325,000

TOTAL HUMANITARAIN PROJECTS: \$429,200

TOTAL SURGICAL MISSIONS: \$189,320

SPECIAL PROJECT;

EXPASION OF PCICU \$325,000

TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2008 \$943,520

Estimated Value of 2007's Donated Services

Over the past several years, we have tried to convey the economic value of our humanitarian work. Unlike other organizations, the PCRF does not give money to people or organizations on the ground, but rather provides donated services for injured and sick children, whose value is best understood in the following graphs below. While there is no moral way to measure the monetary value of a child's life, we can determine what the estimated value is of the free care that we provide for children who we send outside for treatment and the value of the care that we provide through our volunteer surgery missions to Palestine and Lebanon. Over the past three years, we have seen both the amount of the total estimated value of our services increase, as well as the actual resources that we put into providing these humanitarian services.

In 2007, over 3,000 children had expert medical tests, evaluations and screenings through our visiting missions, and nearly 1,000 had surgery or treatment for free. We also paid for over 130 children to have surgery in the West Bank, Gaza and Lebanon, and sent 30 children abroad for free care, most of it requiring extended stays in hospitals and ICUs, resulting in millions of dollars worth of donated services.

Keys:

Surgeon's Medical Fees:

This is the estimated value of the donated services from our volunteer surgeons, doctor's and nurses who travel to the Middle East to provide free care, and who treat our children in hospitals abroad.

Surgical Proceedures:

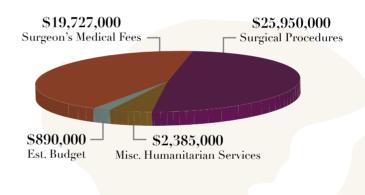
This is the estimated value of the donated hospital expenses for treating children through our visiting surgical missoins, as well as the donated OR, ICU, tests and hospital stays for children treated abroad.

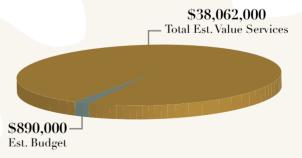
Misc. Humanitarian Serices:

This is the value of the donated medical supplies provided to children on the ground in the Middle East.

Total Est. Budget:

This is the estimated amount of money that was actually spent in providing these services for children, such as the costs of sending medical teams to the region, sending children abroad, medication, visas, lodging and so on.





I would like to encourage friends who are interested in helping heal the wounds of war and occupation in the Middle East to support the humanitarian work of the Palestine Children's Relief Fund. They have a proven track record of providing life-saving, nonpolitical aid in an area where children are suffering and in great need.

Former US President Jimmy Carter



The Palestine Children's Relief Fund P.O.Box 1926, Kent-OH 44240 Phone (330) 678 2645, Fax (330) 678 2661 E-mail: pcrf1@pcrf.net

Ramallah Office Beituni Building, 3rd Floor Ramallah, West Bank Phone/Fax (970) 2 298 9293

Gaza Office

Rimal Quarter, Gaza City Phone/Fax (970) 8 283 8266 E-mail: pcrf@palnet.com

Lebanon Office P.O.Box 916, Saida, Lebanon Phone (961) 3 945 461 E-mail: thepcrf@hotmail.com

www.pcrf.net

