

Annual Report

2014

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Letter from Chairman and CEO

Dear Friends and supporters,

2014 was a year of terrible tragedy for children throughout the Middle East. Throughout the year, Syrian children continued to suffer from living under a terrible civil war and in refugee camps throughout the region, while kids in Gaza continued to live under siege and in the summer months, suffered nearly two months of terrible violence and assault from the air, land and sea, which resulted in over 500 kids being killed and hundreds more physically injured. Hundreds of thousands of children in Gaza suffer from the psychological scars of seeing their homes destroyed, relatives killed and society assaulted. Children in the West Bank continue to live under military occupation, and kids in Lebanon's camps suffer from poverty and statelessness.

With all of these tragedies and more, the PCRF offers hope and a light of humanity in the region by continuing to provide thousands of children medical care and humanitarian aid that they otherwise would not have access to due to the political and economic forces. We are proud to help any child in the region get medical care or other humanitarian aid regardless of their religion, nationality, creed or ethnicity. We do this at a very high level of efficiency, as documented in our 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. This is the third year in a row that we have the highest rating and only %12 of all charities in the USA have such a record. We also scored a perfect mark for accountability and transparency. This is to hopefully demonstrate to you as our supporter that we are maximizing your help to respond to the needs of children throughout the Middle East.

2015 is a year of even greater challenges and the PCRF is growing to better respond on a larger scale to the basic human needs of children in Palestine and the region. This includes starting a new pediatric cancer dept. in Gaza, a pediatric cardiac program in Ramallah, a mental health project in Gaza, orphan sponsorship and a continuation of our core programs of bringing expert doctors to the region as volunteers to provide care for children and training for local personnel, as well as arranging free care abroad for sick and injured children who cannot be treated locally.

Thanks to our thousands of active volunteers from Chile to the USA to the Middle East, we are proud to be a truly grassroots organization, privately funded and giving volunteers a chance to use their desire to help children on a basic human level the opportunity to make a positive difference in a region torn by war, occupation, poverty and sectarianism. We hope you will continue to stand with the PCRF to help us grow and have an even greater impact on the lives of children here suffering from man's inhumanity.

In solidarity,



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Chairman of the Board



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President/CEO

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Nablus Social worker
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Hebron Social Worker
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Tulkarem / Qalqilia Social Worker
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Price Waterhouse Cooper
Ramallah, Palestine

PCRF Chapters

The foundation of the PCRF is the hundreds of volunteers from all over the world who give of their time and support to host children, organize events and represent the vision and mission of the organization in their local communities. From San Diego to Dubai, we thank and value the contributions of our volunteers, who make our work possible.



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Head Coordinator & Medical Affairs Coordinator
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Charity Navigator Letter



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www.charitynavigator.org

March 3, 2014

Steve Sosebee
Palestine Children's Relief Fund
P.O. Box 1926
Kent, OH 44240

Dear Steve Sosebee:

On behalf of Charity Navigator, I wish to congratulate Palestine Children's Relief Fund on achieving our coveted 4-star rating for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

As the nonprofit sector continues to grow at an unprecedented pace, savvy donors are demanding more accountability, transparency and quantifiable results from the charities they choose to support with their hard-earned dollars. In this competitive philanthropic marketplace, Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator, highlights the fine work of efficient, ethical and open charities. Our goal in all of this is to provide donors with essential information needed to give them greater confidence in the charitable choices they make.

Based on the most recent information available, we have issued a new rating for your organization. We are proud to announce Palestine Children's Relief Fund has earned our third consecutive 4-star rating. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 12% of the charities we rate have received at least 3 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that Palestine Children's Relief Fund outperforms most other charities in America. This "exceptional" designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Palestine Children's Relief Fund from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.

Forbes, *Business Week*, and *Kiplinger's Financial Magazine*, among others, have profiled and celebrated our unique method of applying data-driven analysis to the charitable sector. We evaluate ten times more charities than our nearest competitor and currently attract more visitors to our website than all other charity rating groups combined, thus making us the leading charity evaluator in America. Our data shows that users of our site gave more than they planned to before viewing our findings, and in fact, it is estimated that last year Charity Navigator influenced approximately \$10 billion in charitable gifts.

We believe our service will enhance your organization's fundraising and public relations efforts. Our favorable review of Palestine Children's Relief Fund's fiscal health and commitment to accountability & transparency will be visible on our website as of March 3th.

We wish you continued success in your charitable endeavors.

Sincerely,

Ken Berger
President & Chief Executive Officer

www.charitynavigator.org

Special Events

The PCRF depends on the support of volunteers all over the world to support our relief efforts. Often our volunteers will organize special events that will raise funds and awareness for our work in the Middle East. Here are a few of the most notable events in 2014:

Climb of Hope

In January, a -12member team led by the first Arab woman to reach the top of Mt. Everest, Suzanne Al Houby, climbed to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain and the world's largest free standing mountain, with two teenage amputees - -17year-old Yasmeen Al Najjar from Nablus and -16year-old Mutussam Abu Karsh from Gaza. Both kids climbed with artificial limbs as a symbol for other injured and disabled youth in the Middle East and all over the world to not let their disabilities to stop them from reaching their goals, and to show the courage and determination of Palestinian children. the other climbers who volunteered and raised funds to help provide medical care for Syrian and Palestinian children were Maha Nablusi, Yara Al Saleh, Malek Zouki, Samaher Mously, Steve Sosebee, Rania Barakat, and



Cycling for Gaza

In September, over forty volunteers from all over the world joined in a cycling event from Philadelphia to Washington, DC to raise funds for the PCRF's work in Gaza and to bring awareness to the plight of Palestinian children under siege and occupation there.

Also on the trip was -16year-old Ahmed Abu Nammous from the Jebalya refugee camp, who lost his leg in 2013 by an IDF sniper and was treated in Ohio by the PCRF.

Cycling4Gaza has been supporting the PCRF's relief work in Gaza for two years and has enabled thousands of children to get the care and support that they need.



Team Palestine "Run for Peace"

Team Palestine for PCRF continues to be a leader in organizing runners to participate in events in the Chicagoland area, including the Chicago Marathon, which has raised funds to enable us to provide medical care and humanitarian aid all over the Middle East. Team Palestine for PCRF continues to grow and serve as a model for others efforts that bring people together for a common cause.





Humanitarian Projects

One area of the PCRF's growth over the past year has been most significant in addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of children in the Middle East. This is due to the particular suffering of children in war-torn Syria and Gaza, where hundreds of thousands of children were made homeless and living without even the most basic services. Because there is no end in sight to the wars and occupation in the region, we feel that part of our duty is to help support the urgent basic humanitarian needs of children, whenever possible. Here are some of our projects and programs:



Urgent Gaza Relief

In the summer of 2014, the Israeli military led an assault on the Gaza Strip for over fifty days, that left over 500 children dead, thousands injured and hundreds of thousands homeless. The PCRF staff in Gaza at the time put their lives at risk everyday to go into the field to help support the urgent needs of children in the following areas:

name of project	no.of beneficiaries
Food Parcels	3972 families
Iftar meals during the war	2450 families
Milk for babies	165 infants
Diapers for babies	200 infants
Blankets for winter	500 families
Mattresses for homeless during the war	6400 families
Hygiene kits for children	3000 families
Children's clothing	5021 children
School bags/School uniform/shoes	337 children
Winter Relief (jackets/boots/clothing/umbrella/gloves)	2000 children
Electric heaters for homeless families	300 family
Specialized wheelchairs for handicapped and injured youths	472 persons
Cancer Drugs	800,000\$ USD
Two Major Shipments of medicine and disposables	525,000\$ USD





Child Sponsorship Program

The PCRF has two types of child sponsorship programs, the monthly program in which we have over three-hundred children getting monthly support for medication, supplies and non-cash assistance by foreign sponsors due to their families inability to assist them, and our one-time sponsorship program, which identifies children who need support for one time material, meidince, an operation or aid, and provides that for them through crown funding.

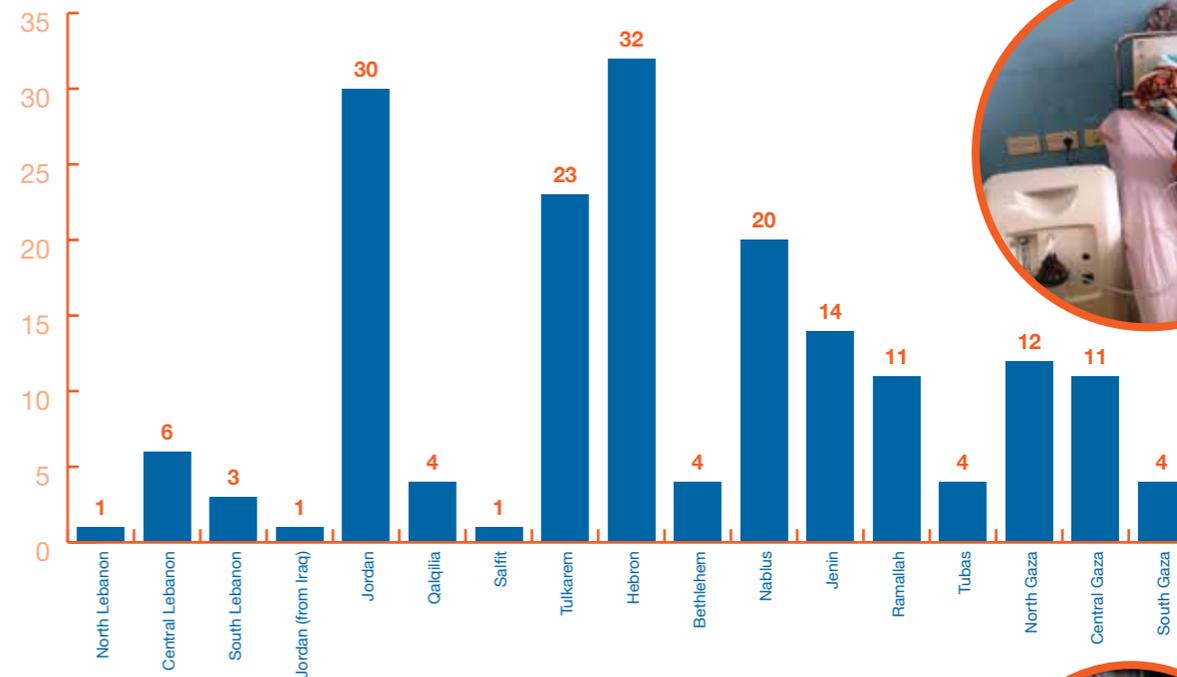
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Monthly Sponsorship Project: Since the year 2000, the PCRF has been providing hundreds of chronically ill and injured children monthly sponsorship which their families are too poor to provide them on their own. We find sponsors who adopt a child's medical needs and then our staff provide that child the medicine or other supplies (no cash) to help them get better. This year, 360 children are sponsored by the PCRF. Here is the breakdown by location.

Location	Number of Children
Jenin	36
Tubas	14
Qalqilia	9
Tulkarem	25
Nablus	26
Ramallah	23
Biet Lahm	22
Hebron	36
North Gaza	34
Central Gaza	32
South Gaza	41
North Lebanon	12
Central Lebanon	19
South Lebanon	30
Jordan	1



One-time Sponsorship Project: In addition to the monthly sponsorship, we also identify children in the field who are in need of only a one-time sponsorship to heal or get better, but whose families are too poor to provide them the treatment or medication that they need. We use our newsletter and crowd funding to sponsor these children to enable them to get the care and support that they need.



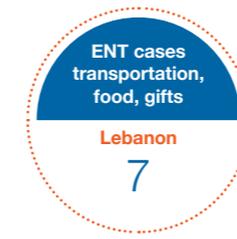
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2014



General Humanitarian Projects

The PCRf continued throughout 2014 to provide general humanitarian aid and support for children throughout the Middle East with direct material non-cash support for eyeglasses, wheelchairs, summer camps and other aid, regardless of politics or religion. Our goal is to help reduce the suffering of children.





Specialized Pediatric Wheelchairs for Disabled Youths

For nearly fifteen years, the PCRFF has been shipping containers of highly specialized pediatric wheelchairs from the USA to Palestine, Lebanon and Syria to enable disabled youths the mobility to live better lives, particularly to go to school. Our partners - Hope Haven International and Wheels for Humanity, along with ANERA - have been supportive in our goal to ensure that every disabled child in the Middle East gets a high-quality wheelchair, particularly those suffering from CP. Our two main volunteers - Greg Skolaski and Tom Glumac - have helped to fit and distribute thousands of chairs over the years and volunteered on two major distributions in 2014:

Nablus/Ramallah: May. Working with the local municipality in Nablus and the President's office in Ramallah, the PCRFF distributed nearly four-hundred high-quality pediatric chairs in the West Bank.

The Gaza Strip: December. Following the attack on Gaza in the Summer, which left hundreds of children injured and disabled, we were able to get 420 wheelchairs into Gaza for distribution to the mostly desperately needy people.



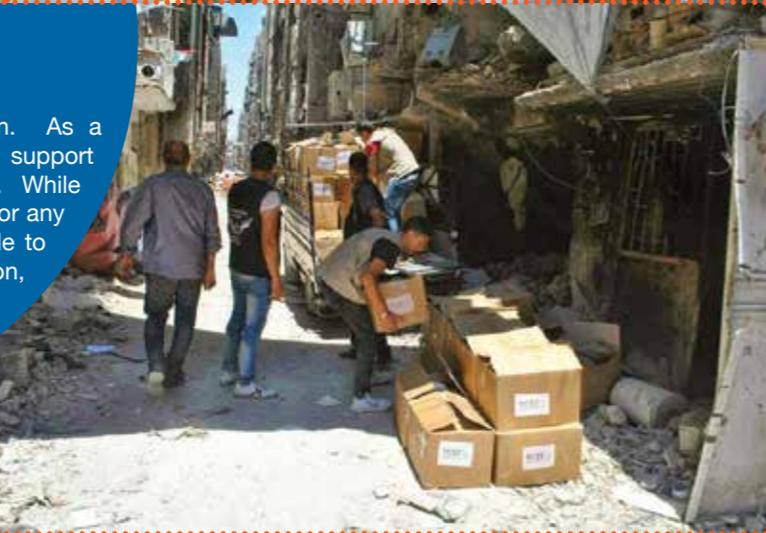
Plastic Surgery for Children in the West Bank

There is a significant shortage of plastic surgeons in the West Bank, and a large number of children with burns and other traumatic or congenital conditions that require surgery. In response, the PCRFF restarted the project of sponsoring operations for children in cooperation with Dr. Hisham Ammous, the chief of plastic surgery at Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem. Once a week Dr. Ammous traveled to a local charitable hospital and provided 103 total specialized surgical operations for children through the PCRFF.

These were:

- Tulkarem:** Alzakat Hospital - 22 operations
- Jenin:** Al-Amal Hospital - 53 operations
- Hebron:** Al-Mizan Hospital - 28 operations





Syrian Relief

The PCRF does not only help Palestinian children. As a humanitarian relief organization, we are obliged to support any child in need, including those in or from Syria. While the security situation there poses real challenges for any organization to work on the ground, we are able to assist those in the camps in Jordan and Lebanon, and also did a major food distribution for the besieged people of the Yarmouk refugee camp in Damascus in May.



Summer Camps

The PCRF continues to sponsor summer camps for disabled youths in the West Bank, Gaza and in Jordan to enable them to have social and educational experiences in the summer months. The objective of these camps is to help integrate disabled and main-stream children so to break down negative stereotypes and to create an atmosphere of companionship. Here are the three summer camps we sponsored in 2014:

The Hope (Amal) camp

Period: 9/6/2014 to 22/6/2014
 Location: Nur Shamis refugee camp/Tulkarem
 Local Partner: Local Committee for Rehabilitation of Disabled
 No of children: 60
 No of local volunteers: 11
 No of foreign volunteers: 8

The activities of this camp were many, as sponsored by our kind volunteers from abroad and included a trip to Al Waha swimming pool, sport and games, handicrafts and other field trips. The children also had extensive training in photography and documenting their work with cameras, which turning into a photo exhibition in the UAE in the Fall of 2014.

The volunteers who came from abroad to give their time and expertise for our children were Celia Peterson, Ivana Maglione, Chiara Maioni, Pietro Antonio Spinelli, Nadia Askar, Soha Al-Jurf, Nawal Youssifova and Sophie Russell.





Asmood summer camp

Period: 7/6/2014 to 18/6/2014
 Location: Khan Younis/Gaza
 No of children: 65
 No of local volunteers: 9

The activities for this summer camp, which were mainly on the beach in Khan Younis, included swimming, sports, drawing, folklore dance, kite flying, and training kids on how to take pictures.

Medtronic-PCRF summer camp

Period: 21/6/2014 to 26/6/2014
 Location: Jarash refugee camp - Jordan
 Local Partner Community Development Office ,Community Based Rehabilitation Centre
 No of children: 30
 No of local volunteers: ??
 No of foreign volunteers: 15

The activities of the camps included teaching kids about their rights, playing sports, culture, health and hygiene, painting, crafts, and building things. They also fixed the classroom and playground with the group of volunteers from Medtronic company in the UAE.

