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Injured & Sick Children Treated Abroad in 2010 T

he Palestine Children's Relief Fund was established in 1991 to identify and send injured children for free medical care that they could not get in their homeland. While we have expanded considerably since our initial founding, we still are the main organization providing millions of dollars worth of free care in North America, Europe and the Gulf for sick and injured children from Palestine, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria.

Iraqi girl has neurosurgery in Arkansas Children's Hospital



On January 24, 5-yearold Christine Makboob from Nineveh, Iraq had neurosurgery at Arkansas Children's Hospital by Dr. Samer Elbabaa. She was born with a spine deformity called tethered cord, which was causing her significant neurological disorders including incontinence. She could not be adequately treated in her war-torn country. Dr. Elbabaa not only volunteered to treat this child, who traveled with her mother Dina, but he has also been on PCRF missions to the West Bank.

Injured Gaza boy has two operations at the Cleveland Clinic



On March 2nd, 9-yearold Dawoud Abu Armana underwent plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio for injuries he sustained during the Israeli assault on Gaza in January, 2009. Dawoud suffered head wounds when his home in the Breii refugee camp was hit by an Israeli shell. Dawoud suffered two defects in his skull, which were repaired by the chief of plastic surgery, Dr. Frank Papay. He also inserted tissue expanders under Dawoud's scalp to fix the burned areas of his head. In June, Dawoud had his second operation to remove the tissue expanders and cover this scalp with new hair. The boy returned to his family in Gaza in July.

Gaza boy who survived massacre has surgery in Los Angeles



On March 15, 12-yearold Abdullah Alathmna underwent orthopedic surgery at the Shriners Hospital in Los Angeles. Abdullah lost 18 members of his family, including his mother and several siblings, when an Israeli tank shell hit their home in the Gaza town of Beit Hanoun on November 8, 2006. Abdullah lost his leg and has been treated twice through the PCRF, in 2007 in Oakland, and again in 2009 in Dubai, both times to be fitted for an artificial leg. However, he began to experience severe pain in his amputated stump last Fall in Gaza and the PCRF arranged for him surgery at the Shriners Hospital, which was not available to him in the besieged Gaza Strip. Dr. Hugh Watts, a member of the PCRF Medical Advisory Board and the former chief of staff at the Shriners, performed the operation.

Injured Gaza girl has neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore



On March 17, 7-year-old Noor Thabet from Gaza City underwent neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore after being shot in the head by an Israeli soldier on top of a tank outside her aunt's home on January 14. 2009. Nour suffered a defect in her skull that left her brain unprotected. The PCRF brought her with her mother Lubna and three other injured children in mid-February through the Rafah crossing. She was operated on by Dr. Richard Redett, with the support of Dr. Mazen Bedri, who has been on several past PCRF missions to Palestine as a volunteer surgeon. The girl and her mother staved with a host family in Fairfax, VA and were supported by PCRF volunteers in the DC area.

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Injured Gaza girl has orthopedic surgery in Detroit



On March 20. 15-year-old Falasteen Tambora from Beit Lahya had orthopedic surgery at Grace Sinai Hospital in Detroit after being shot in the leg by Israeli soldiers while seeking refuge in an UNRWA school with her family after her home was shelled on January 16, 2009. Dr. Jiab Suleiman, an orthopedic surgeon who led a past mission with the PCRF to Ramallah. treated her as a volunteer. Falasteen arrived in February with three other injured children from Gaza and was cared for by host families in the Michigan and Ohio area.

Palestinian Girl has orthopedi surgery in Dubai



On March 29, 17-year-old Safaa Fahmawi from the Nour Shams refugee camp in Tulkarem underwent orthopedic surgery to lengthen her right left leg by Dr. Marc Sinclair of the "Little Wings Foundation" at the Medcare Hospital in Dubai. The girl was born with a congenital deformity of her leg and could not get the specialized corrective surgery in Palestine. The PCRF has worked in the past with Little Wings not only in treating Palestinian children in Dubai, but also sponsoring medical missions to the West Bank, where dozens of children had surgery and care otherwise not available to them. Safaa staved more than 9 months in the UAE with a host family and was cared for by the PCRF-UAE chapter. Over three dozen children have been treated in the UAE in the past two years through the PCRF.

Palestinian Girl has orthopedic Three injured kids get prosthesis in Dubai



Throughout March and into August, injured children from the Gaza Strip had expert medical care through the PCRF in the UAE Emirate of Dubai. 17-year-old Taghreed Abu Helo from the Breij Refugee camp lost her leg in an accident, while 16-year-old Khalil Al Jadeily, also from the Breij Refugee Camp, lost both legs when the IDF bombed his home in January, 2009. 14-year-old Mohammed El Ejla lost a leg and an arm from an IDF bomb in January, 2009 while near his home in the Shujiya area of Gaza City and is in Dubai with his mother, Hala. Their treatment was sponsored through the support of the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment, who have supported dozens of injured Palestinian children to get medical care in the UAE over the past few years through the PCRF.



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Three injured kids get prosthesis in Dubai

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On April 26, 18-monthold Salma Basam from the West Bank town of Jenin had pediatric surgery by Dr. Saad Saad at the K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital, which is part of the Jersey Shore University Medical Center. The child was born with a birth defect that could not be treated in Palestine. Dr. Saad volunteered his time to treat this child. and the hospital provided their services as well on a humanitarian basis. Dr. Saad has also led several surgical missions to the West Bank through the Palestine Children's Relief Fund in the past few years including a mission in June to treat dozens more children who otherwise would not get the expert care that they need locally. Salma and her mother Nihal are being hosted and supported by the PCRF New Jersey chapter and stayed with host families.

Iraqi girl returns home after urological sugrery in New Jersey



At the end of May, 8-yearold Zahrah Al-Saadi from Iraq returned home after urological surgery by Dr. Vance and Dr. Vincent Moss of the Mid-Atlantic Multi Specialty Surgical Group in Howell, New Jersey. This is the girl's second operation through the PCRF by the Moss brothers in the USA. She was born with a congenital malformation of her bladder that cannot be treated in Iraq, and had surgery at the Kimbell Medical Center Lakewood, New Jersey. The Moss brother's have volunteered to operate on several PCRF children from Palestine and Iraq in the past few years.

Burned Jenin girl is the first PCRF child sent to Kuwait



On June 1, 9-year-old Hala Mahmoud from the West Bank town of Maythaloun near Jenin arrived in Kuwait for plastic and reconstructive surgery through the Ministry of Health. The airl suffered 3rd degree burns on her face, arms and legs in an accident and had reconstructive surgery not available to her in Palestine. She was cared for by volunteers in Kuwait, and her trip to the Gulf state is being sponsored through the support of the Amir and the Ministry of Health.

Burned boy from Jenin has surgery in Arizona



On June 28, 9-yearold Nidal Abuarra from the West Bank town of Toubas underwent plastic and reconstructive surgery on his face and left hand after he suffered third-degree burns in an accident when he was three months old. He was treated by Dr. William Leighton, a plastic surgeon at the Scottsdale HealthCare Greenbaum Surgical Specialty Hospital as a charity case. He was hosted and cared for by many volunteers in the Arizona community.

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Jenin girl has pediatric surgery in New Jersey

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Syrian baby has life-saving surgery in Italy



On June 25th, 3-year-old Takwa Faraj Al Salem from the Syrian village of Al-Ragah was sent with her mother Setah to Bergamo, Italy for life-saving openheart surgery by Dr. Giancarlo Crupi. She was born with a congenital heart defect that could not be treated in Syria. Dr. Crupi has led several surgery missions to Palestine over the past 10 years, providing hundreds of Palestinian children life-saving care, and treated over a dozen more children from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Iraq for free at his hospital in Bergamo.

Iraqi boy has follow-up care in Jordan



On July 5, 7-year-old Louay Naji from Iraq had follow-up ocular care through the financial support of the PCRF in Jordan. The PCRF covered his surgery in Jordan in 2009 when Dr. Khaled Abughazaleh and his team operated on this boy for his maxillofacial deformities. In December, he also had surgery buy Dr. Amal Alsayyad, at the Al Khalidi Medical Plaza. Dr. Alsayyad has volunteered on PCRF missions to Palestine and Lebanon in 2009 and 2010. The PCRF brought Louay back to Jordan to provide him a new ocular prosthesis, which was done by Hassan Awada at the Eye Specialty Hospital in Amman

Injured Gaza boy has neurosurgery in Georgia



On August 5, 13-year-old Abdulrahman Almotawag from Jebalia in the northern Gaza Strip had neurosurgery at the Medical Center in Georgia by Dr. Said Elshihabi of the Columbus Spinal and Neurological Center. Abdulrahman was injured on January 9, 2009 when an IDF shell hit his home where his family were seeking refuge. While several members of his family were injured. Abdulrahman endured serious head wounds. He arrived in late July in the USA with another injured boy who was being treated in Chicago and Los Angeles, and had surgery to close two large defects in his skull. The hospital and surgeon donated their time and services to help Abdelrahman get the care that was otherwise not available to him locally.

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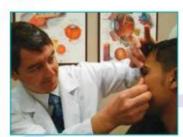
On August 18, 14-year-old Muath Abu Rabea from Beit Lahva in the northern Gaza Strip had neurosurgery by Dr. Yoon Hahn, Professor and Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn, IL. Muath suffered severe head injuries, the loss of most of his teeth and the amputation of his right leg from an Israeli bomb that hit his home on January 4, 2009. Other family members were killed in the attack and Muath was in a coma in Gaza for two months. Dr. Hahn repaired his skull defect and Dr. Khaled Abughazaleh the provided Muath dental implants. In September, Muath went to the Shriners Hospital in Los Angeles for free prosthetic care. The Chicago chapter of the Palestine Children's Relief Fund arranged his housing and care in Chicago, while the Southern California Chapter arranged for him care during his stay in L.A.

Girl from Toubas has surgery in Virginia



On August 21, 19-yearold Iman Ghanem from Toubas in the Northern West Bank had surgery for a congenital condition known as hemangioma by Dr. Saher Sabri, a radiologist working at the University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville. After her care in the USA, the PCRF helped to arrange her follow-up care by Dr. Saher in Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem in September.

Injured Gaza boy has ocular treatment in Dubai



On September 14, 17-year-old Abdel Hadi Al Jadadi arrived in the United Arab Emirate of Dubai to start treatment for an injury he sustained in an Israeli attack near his home in the Breij refugee camp in January, 2009. Abdel Hadi suffered head injuries as a result of the bombing, which killed one of his brothers and took the legs of his brother Khalil, who had prosthetic treatment earlier in 2010 in Dubai through the PCRF. Abdel Hadi was treated at Moorfields Eye Hospital in Dubai for the left eye that he lost and was hosted and cared for by the PCRF-UAE chapter.



Gaza girl sent to Dubai for orthopedic surgery

On October 19th, 2-year-old Elham Awad from Jebalia in the besieged Gaza Strip was sent with her grandmother (also named Elham) to Dubai to start orthopedic surgery by Dr. Marc Sinclair of the Little Wing Foundation at the Medcare Hospital. Elham was born with congenital dislocation of both hips and had two operations by Dr. Sinclair. The PCRF and Little Wings have cooperated on treating several kids in Dubai for surgery, as well as on

medical missions to Palestine, including one earlier in October to Gaza, where dozens of kids were seen and treated by the 7-member team. Elham and her grandmother were cared for by the volunteers from the PCRF UAE chapter in Dubai, who have taken care of dozens of kids sent to the UAE over the past several years.

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Injured Gaza boy has ocular treatment in Dubai



Iraqi baby has life-saving surgery in Texas



2-year-old Ziad Assad Jameel from Baghdad had life-saving open-heart surgery at the end of October by Dr. Adil Husain at the Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. The boy came with his mother Intisar and his surgery was sponsored by HeartGift of San Antonio. The Palestine Children's Relief Fund covered all of his travel and other logistical arrangements to get him out of Irag, and has partnered with HeartGift in the past to treat other children from the Middle East. We have have sponsored missions to Palestine with Dr. Husain, who is also a member of the International Palestinian Cardiac Relief Organization (IPRCO) of the PCRF.

Palestinian girl has urological surgery in North Carolina



In late October, 2-yearold Fadwa Albeltaji had urological surgery by Dr. John Gazak at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina. She is from the West Bank town of Hebron and was brought by the PCRF to the USA for her second stage operation, after having surgery on her bladder in 2009. She came with her mother and was supported by many volunteers in the community, who arranged housing and appointments during their stay. Dr. Gazak has led several missions to Palestine, including a trip to Nablus in September. where he treated dozens of children with urological deformities. Unfortunately, Fadwa's condition was too complex to be treated in Palestine

Injured Gaza boy has treatment in Philadelphia



In October, 17-year-old Asad Mahmoud from the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahya returned to the Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia for continuation of the treatment that the Palestine Children's Relief Fund sent him for in 2008. The boy lost both legs and an arm from an Israeli bomb attack near his home in 2006, but needed to have his prosthesis adjusted and replaced due to his growth. He was cared for by the PCRF chapter in New Jersey and also by local volunteers in the Philadelphia area. He returned home to Gaza in December.

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Iraqi baby has life-saving surgery in Texas

2-year-old Ziad Assad Jameel from Baghdad had life-saving open-heart surgery at the end of October by Dr. Adil Husain at the Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. The boy came with his mother Intisar and his surgery was sponsored by HeartGift of San Antonio. The Palestine Children's Relief Fund covered all of his travel and other logistical arrangements to get him out of Iraq, and has partnered with HeartGift in the past to treat other children from the Middle East. We have have sponsored missions to Palestine with Dr. Husain, who is also a member of the International Palestinian Cardiac Relief Organization (IPRCO) of the PCRF.

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In early November, the PCRF sent 7-year-old Ola Abu Jamous from the Nur Shams refugee camp in Tulkarem went with her mother Buthainya to the The Meyer Children Hospital of Florence, Italy for surgery on a brain tumor that was discovered in a surgery mission by a team led by Prof. Lorenzo Genitori. Her surgery was too difficult to do in Palestine, but online donors enabled the PCRF to send her for surgery. Unfortunately, her tumor was found to be cancerous and she started a program of radiation therapy in early December to cure her cancer. Her father Yaser also joined them during her treatment.

Two Palestinian boys sent for surgery in Abu Dhabi

On December 15, two Palestinian boys from the West Bank town of Tulkarem had orthopedic surgery at the Shiekh Khalifah Medical Center in Abu Dhabi in the U.A.E. Hand surgeon Dr. Lucia Heras operated on the congenital deformity of the right elbow of 15-year-old Mohammed Hamshari. Dr. Heras has participated on several past surgery missions for the PCRF to the Gaza Strip. This was her first treatment of a child in the UAE for us. Dr. Maria Caron operated on the club feet of 2-year-old Zaid Abushayeb, who was with his mother Abeer. The three of them were flown to Abu Dhabi for free by Etihad Airlines, and are being cared for there by the volunteers of the PCRF-UAE chapter. Two other children from Palestine are currently recovering from surgery in Dubai.





Refugee girl has neurosurgery, cancer treatment in Italy

In early November, the PCRF sent 7-year-old Ola Abu Jamous from the Nur Shams refugee camp in Tulkarem went with her mother Buthainya to the The Meyer Children Hospital of Florence, Italy for surgery on a brain tumor that was discovered in a surgery mission by a team led by Prof. Lorenzo Genitori. Her surgery was too difficult to do in Palestine, but online donors enabled the PCRF to send her for surgery. Unfortunately, her tumor was found to be cancerous and she started a program of radiation therapy in early December to cure her cancer. Her father Yaser also joined them during her treatment.

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PCRF in the News



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