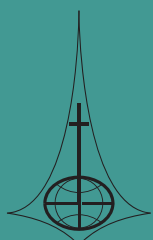


الإتحاد اللوٲري العالمي القدس

The Lutheran World Federation
Jerusalem



Annual Report 2009

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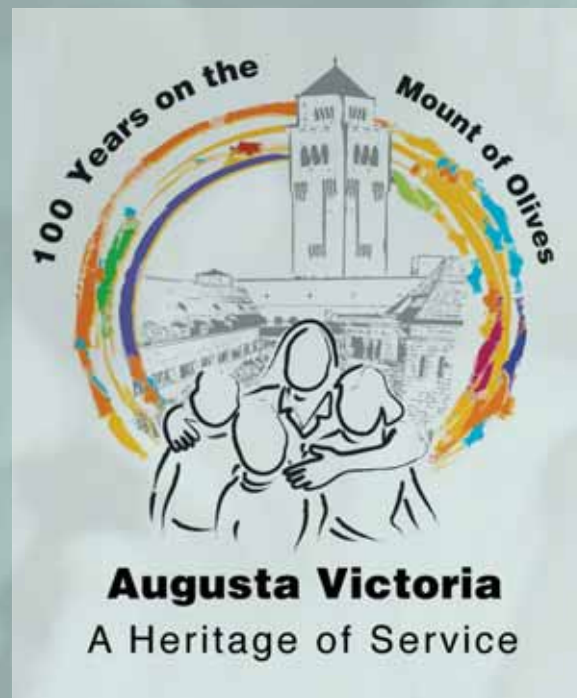
A HERITAGE OF SERVICE

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION'S service among Palestinian refugees began in 1948, within months of the foundation of the LWF in Lund, Sweden, in 1947. This Annual Report is dedicated to the LWF Jerusalem staff members – past and present – who have, for more than 60 years, brought hope and healing to thousands upon thousands of people in the area.

In 2010, the LWF and its partners celebrate 60 years of LWF management of Augusta Victoria Hospital and 100 years since the inauguration of the facility. The Augusta Victoria building was built in 1910 to be a guest house for German pilgrims and a rest and recreation center for people affected by malaria. After World War II, the building and the 46-acre property were transferred from the Kaiserin Augusta Victoria Foundation to the trusteeship of the LWF, and in 1950 the LWF was registered as the owner. By the end of 1951, the LWF Jerusalem program, with over 400 employees, was one of the largest employers in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, behind only the United Nations Relief and Works Agency and the government itself.

During the winters leading up to and following the 1948 war, 750,000 Palestinian refugees were struggling to survive and were in desperate need of medical treatment, food, blankets, clothing, and shelter. The Augusta Victoria campus quickly became the base for a massive humanitarian response. The LWF's distribution of clothing, milk, food and other necessities helped thousands of refugees survive the bitterly cold winters after the war.

The United Nations often relied on the LWF to help meet the overwhelming needs of the refugee population; for example, UNRWA asked the LWF to operate health clinics in over 25 remote and often politically sensitive locations in the West Bank and to establish a nursing school on the Mount of Olives campus. In order to help meet the pressing needs of a hungry refugee population, the LWF distributed foodstuffs to nearly 13,000



people every month and established a bakery on the property in order to ensure a fresh supply of bread.

"Augusta Victoria – 100 Years on the Mount of Olives – A Heritage of Service" is the theme for the jubilee events scheduled for 2010. The main jubilee celebration is the weekend of May 7-9, when there will be a special Service of Thanksgiving at the Ascension Church and a Conference on Diakonia, during which participants will examine the history, theology, and future of diakonia at Augusta Victoria. Two of the resources to be utilized at the conference are the LWF documents, "Diakonia in Context: Transformation, Reconciliation, Empowerment – An LWF Contribution to the Understanding and

Practice of Diakonia" and "Serving the Whole Person – The Practice and Understanding of Diakonia within the Lutheran Communion."

WE ARE THANKFUL for the partnerships with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and the Evangelical Church in Germany and for all the support from churches, governments,

organizations, and individuals from all over the world who have accompanied the LWF for six decades through prayers, visits, advocacy, and financial contributions. This global network of support indeed enabled the LWF to provide diaconal services without interruption for over 60 years, even in very difficult times and circumstances.

JERUSALEM

The thread running through this year's Annual Report is the importance of Jerusalem in the lives of so many of the people served by the LWF in the West Bank and Gaza and the role of the LWF in promoting Jerusalem as a city accessible to all.

The LWF advocates for access to Jerusalem for its patients, medical staff, students, and trainers. The LWF's Vocational Training Program, with centers in Jerusalem and Ramallah, prepares young men and women throughout the West Bank and Jerusalem to support themselves and their families and to contribute to their society. Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem provides specialty services, particularly in the area of oncology, unavailable in the West Bank and Gaza.

East Jerusalem's religious and cultural roots, history, and social fabric form the foundation for a vibrant civil society in its Palestinian sector. Regrettably, recent trends have seriously undermined the vitality of this society. 2009, which began with the continuation of Israel's invasion of

Gaza and "Operation Cast Lead," was marked by increased pressure on Palestinians in Jerusalem and the West Bank as the year went on. Despite agreeing to a freeze on settlement construction, Israel continued to build new housing in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. In 2009, East Jerusalem house demolitions were on the rise: the monthly average of demolished structures in July 2009 was 11 percent higher than in 2008. Human rights organizations also reported in 2009 that the Israeli Ministry of Interior revoked the residency permits of 4,577 East Jerusalemites in 2008, a major increase over previous years.

Through Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH), the LWF works to maintain staff and patient access to Jerusalem by securing entry permits, running a busing program from the West Bank into Jerusalem, coordinating with a local hotel to provide housing for Gaza patients and those accompanying them to Jerusalem, and reaching out to villages across the West Bank through a new mobile mammography unit that links patients with the Cancer Care Unit at AVH in Jerusalem [see story, page 14]. Through the Vocational Training Program (VTP), the LWF provides youth the opportunity to live and study in Jerusalem [see story, page 25]. While physical obstructions and staffed checkpoints increased in the West Bank in 2009, the LWF managed to obtain entry permits for most of



Jerusalem's Old City market bustles with activity. Photo by M. Brown



Cheered on by the unit's doctors, a patient completes her physical therapy exercises in the Sub-Acute Care and Skilled Nursing unit of Augusta Victoria Hospital. The renovated and expanded unit reopened in April 2009 and now cares for 25 long-term patients. Photo by M. Brown

its students, patients, teachers, and hospital staff coming from the West Bank. The overall numbers of patient referrals to AVH from the West Bank and Gaza actually increased in 2009.

The tensions in Jerusalem are most evident among its youth. More than half of East Jerusalem's 270,000 residents are aged 18 and younger, and their collective portrait is one of severe disaffection.

The youth have been cut off from the West Bank, undermining the integrity of their Palestinian identities. Only 5-10 percent of the Jerusalem Municipal budget for culture, recreation and sports is allocated to the 35 percent of the population who are Palestinian, and the lack of investment has left infrastructure in East Jerusalem in a deteriorated state. There is a shortfall of 1,500 classrooms in the Palestinian sector of the city. Life in a social and cultural limbo and the dearth of institutional endeavors geared to engage the youth have given rise to alienation, a high dropout rate, delinquency, and a rising crime rate [see story, page 23].

It is in this conflicted environment that the LWF is attempting to move forward with the refurbishment of the sports field on the LWF property and to obtain approval for a much-needed housing

project for the Palestinian Christians of Jerusalem [see story, page 6].

Our staff is inspired by the many youth in the LWF programs who maintain hope, overcome their adversities, and build successful careers. This Annual Report highlights the stories of two youth in particular: VTC graduate Adnan Al-Qasim, who, instead of fleeing Palestine, successfully opened his own auto-repair business in Ramallah [see story, page 28], and Mayse'a Sea'fan, a former LWF scholarship recipient who is now an obstetrics/gynecology specialist in Hebron [see story, page 32].

In this jubilee year we ask your continued prayers for the hundreds of LWF staff members who work together to serve people in need and to build a society based on justice, peace, understanding, tolerance and reconciliation. Thank you, on behalf of the LWF Jerusalem Program, for your support throughout 2009.

Rev. Mark B. Brown
Regional Representative

“Uphold the Rights of the Poor and Oppressed”







Thousands of tourists and pilgrims climb the Church of the Redeemer tower every year for the view of the Dome of the Rock and the Mount of Olives. High above the clamor of Jerusalem's Old City, the tower's belfry offers solitude to reflect on Jerusalem's rich and turbulent history and to pray for its future as a shared city between Jews, Christians, and Muslims, and between Palestinians and Israelis. The LWF-run Augusta Victoria Hospital is adjacent to the Church of the Ascension tower in the upper-left corner of the photo.

The Mount of Olives Housing Project



Affordable Housing Project Would Support Jerusalem's Dwindling Christian Minority



The Palestinian Christian presence in Jerusalem has been getting smaller and smaller over the years, and the urgency for supportive measures is increasing. The Right Reverend Dr. Munib A. Younan, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, and other church leaders in Jerusalem have identified the lack of affordable housing as one of the main causes of the Christian exodus from the city.

In an effort to address one of the key elements behind the decrease of the Christian population in Jerusalem, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), and the Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Foundation (KAVF) have teamed up to build the Mount of Olives Housing Project (MOHP) for the endangered Palestinian Christian minority in the city. Through the construction of 84 apartments on the LWF property, organizers hope to help Palestinian Christian Jerusalemites who, without an affordable housing option, would be forced to leave the city.

The project is guided by the Mount of Olives Housing Project Advisory Committee, which meets twice a year. Church leaders from Palestine, Germany, Sweden, Finland, USA and Norway are participating in the MOHP Advisory Committee.

The total capital investment needed for the project is approximately US \$8.4 million. Over US \$800,000 has already been raised by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America toward its goal of US \$2 million, 30 million Swedish Kronor have been pledged by the Church of Sweden, and one million Euros have been pledged by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland Council for Foreign Relations. The MOHP Advisory Committee received positive signs for additional

support from Norway and Germany.

The LWF and its architectural and legal advisers are aggressively pursuing the necessary Israeli authorizations to build. A Master Site Plan (MSP) for the whole of the LWF Mount of Olives property has been developed and submitted to the Israeli government. Efforts are well underway to meet the government's demands regarding land ownership and other technical aspects of the plan and to find negotiated solutions to various political, technical and legal issues. Once the MSP is approved by the Israeli government, 17 permits are required in order to begin construction of the housing units. This permitting process should proceed smoothly because the details will be consistent with the plans already submitted and approved in relation to the MSP.

In 2009, the LWF was working to convince the Ministry of Interior's legal adviser to recommend to the Regional Planning Committee to allow the LWF's Master Site Plan to proceed based on the evidence of ownership presented by the LWF. In addition to the physical presence of Lutheran ministries within the boundaries of the Augusta Victoria property for 100 years, evidence of ownership includes a complex series of documents dating from the Ottoman, British, Jordanian, and Israeli periods and complicated



Vibrant Palestinian Christian communities exist in Jerusalem, but their numbers are declining. On Maundy Thursday, Palestinian members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) and their international accompaniers processed from the Old City to the Garden of Gethsemane. Photo by ELCJHL/A. Schmitt

agreements between the KAVF and the LWF. The documents are written in Turkish, English, Arabic, Hebrew, and German, the original deeds and related court rulings are located in the archives or land registries of various countries, and some of the documents have been dispersed, often unsystematically, and perhaps even destroyed, due to wars and political interests.

Under normal circumstances the process would be a demanding one given the size of the property and the many transactions that took place in order to assemble what we recognize as the LWF property today. The process becomes even more convoluted as one factors into it the intricate relationships with the neighborhood surrounding the Augusta Victoria property, the historic and

emotionally-charged Mount of Olives location, and the political atmosphere in Israel at the moment, dominated by a push to diminish the overall Palestinian presence in East Jerusalem.

Despite the delays related to the approval of the MSP and issuance of the building permits, the MOHP Advisory Committee still hopes to break ground in 2011. Already in 2010, the LWF is planning to begin construction on a retaining wall that is necessary for the project and will take many months to complete. In preparation for the construction of the apartments, an agreement between the Church of Sweden and the LWF regarding procurement procedures, quality control, monitoring and reporting has been drafted and is nearly ready for signing.



Bishops from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) visited the LWF Jerusalem projects in 2009, including the site of the MOHP, during the ELCA Conferences of Bishops' Academy I and II in January and December 2009. The ELCA is a substantial contributor to the MOHP. Photo by K. Brown

AUGUSTA VICTORIA HOSPITAL

A History of Healing

The Lutheran World Federation - Jerusalem

Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) is housed in a historical building that, at the time of its dedication as a hospice and rest home in 1910, was the most modern construction in Jerusalem and the first in the Holy Land to have electricity. Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany erected the building in honor of his wife, Empress Augusta Victoria. Today, in accordance with the founder's intentions, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) continues the work of Christian love through the ministry of healing.

The hospital, situated on the Mount of Olives, was established as a major medical facility after the 1948 war to care for Palestinian refugees. It was first managed by the International Committee of the Red Cross and then, since May 1, 1950, by the LWF. AVH is now a program of the LWF's Department for World Service. A professional Board of Governance, appointed by the LWF, manages the hospital and represents a wide variety of Lutheran churches, local and international, as well as related agencies that support the mission of the hospital. Board members represent the medical, pastoral, and administrative professions.

Most of the patients served by AVH continue to be refugees and others in social need. The hospital is committed to serve its patients and community by providing necessary health and humanitarian services. The hospital provides employment for nearly 250 local staff and continues to be a model for building good institutions that are foundations for establishing civil society.



*A nurse outside of AVH between 1967-1970.
Photo from LWF Jerusalem Archives*



*To alleviate the shortage of nurses in the region,
AVH opened a School of Nursing in 1961. Photo
from LWF Jerusalem Archives*

In 1997, Augusta Victoria Hospital embarked on a new strategic direction that focuses on continuing its mission of health and human services through the establishment of specialty services that are not available to the Palestinian community at large. AVH is the first and only hospital to provide radiation therapy for cancer patients in the Palestinian Territories and is the only medical facility in the West Bank offering pediatric kidney dialysis. On a daily basis, these and other specialty services touch countless lives, both young and old, from various communities in the Palestinian Territories.



Overview of Operations at Augusta Victoria Hospital in 2009

In 2009, Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) experienced a dramatic revival and increase in the utilization of its services. Staff morale rose to unprecedented levels as the hospital corridors filled with patients who, accompanied by their families from East Jerusalem and the West Bank, waited to receive care from local healthcare practitioners. This revival represents the fulfillment of the LWF-AVH mission and is the natural outcome of the thoughtful and innovative AVH strategic planning process.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health's three-year National Strategic Health Plan (2008-2010) focuses on providing quality healthcare services within an overall sustainable healthcare system. It has focused on building the capacities of local healthcare workers and developing a new

In 2009, the AVH radiotherapy team conducted 23,922 radiation sessions and served a total of 960 patients. Photo by M. Brown

generation of sub-specialists to meet the needs of the Palestinian people. Referrals to facilities in Israel and abroad are decreasing and now only occur when a case requires services unavailable in Palestinian facilities. When cases are referred to Israeli hospitals, services are paid from taxes collected by and owed to the Palestinian Authority.

This strategy is in synergy with AVH's continuous effort to increase its capacity by upgrading the skills of its staff and improving instrumentation and usage of space. AVH is becoming a center of excellence in non-communicable (chronic) disease, and the Palestinian Ministry of Health now refers all of its pediatric oncology and pediatric dialysis patients to AVH. The hospital is the only referral site in the Palestinian Territories for hemato-oncology, for patients receiving radiation therapy, and for patients receiving chemotherapy in combination with radiation therapy.

On a daily basis, AVH works towards its mission in health and human services through the establishment of medical specialties unavailable elsewhere in the Palestinian community. Through its work and caring devotion to all people, AVH has touched and continues to touch countless lives of patients, both young and old, from all parts of the West Bank and Gaza.



The AVH Senior Management Team and Administrative Support Team

AVH Expands and Improves in 2009

The development of new services and facilities is a challenge at any hospital. This is especially true at Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH), where the region's political and economic situation affect every aspect of operation. Nevertheless, in 2009, the Hospital managed to complete **four** very important developments. These changes will allow AVH to continue providing medical care of the highest standard and to meet its goals and strategic plans for the future.



The renovated and relocated Diagnostic Laboratory, which processes about 14,000 tests each month, is an essential part of AVH's specialized treatment services. Photo by M. Brown

1. Diagnostic Laboratory

An important project that supports all aspects of the Hospital operations is the renovated and relocated Diagnostic Laboratory. Because of the serious and complex medical problems of the patients that come to AVH, complete and timely performance of tests on blood and other medical samples is crucial for accurate diagnosis.

The renovations added about 100 square-meters of new space for the laboratory, and it now processes about 14,000 individual tests every month. These improvements would not have been possible without financial support provided by the Agency for the Jerusalem Fund, a non-

governmental organization based in Morocco.

The new infrastructure for the Diagnostic Laboratory is only the first step toward enhancement and improvements in AVH's diagnostics services. Future plans include the addition of a pathology service, which together with the diagnostic laboratory would form the nucleus of a Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. This development is necessary to support AVH's cancer treatment services, which depend upon accurate diagnoses through analysis of lymph node and tumor biopsies and other medical samples.



While a pediatric patient completes her 4-hour dialysis session, her friend and a nurse accompany her. The Specialized Center for Child Care at AVH is the only place where kidney dialysis is available for children from the West Bank. Photo by M. Brown

2. Specialized Center for Child Care

Representing a remarkable achievement, the former pediatric department has been renovated and converted into the Specialized Center for Child Care, which now runs the Pediatric Dialysis Clinic and the Pediatric Oncology Unit. As soon as the renovations were completed in March 2009, referrals arrived to the Center at a rapid rate. In 2009, over 100 cases of children with kidney failure or cancer were treated in the Center, and each month the rate of admissions increases by 20-30 percent. The unit is wonderfully bright and cheerful, lifting the moods of children in the unit who bear serious illnesses.

The Pediatric Dialysis Clinic has seven machines that are busy full-time running treatments for approximately 40 children who suffer from renal failure and need dialysis three times a week. The Pediatric Oncology Unit receives children with cancer from all parts of the Palestinian territories, and at least 40 percent of the cases are from Gaza. Pediatric oncology will continue to be a major focus of the Hospital in the coming years, and the newly renovated Child Care Center will allow for further specialization in this field.

Support for this development was provided by the Campagnia di San Paolo in Turin, Italy, in cooperation with the Peres Center for Peace. Funds were also provided by the Islamic Bank and the Welfare Association to help with equipment and furnishings in the Center.



The pediatric oncology cases admitted to AVH are complex and require specialized care, much of which is only available at AVH's Center for Child Care. Photo by M. Brown

Doctors in the Skilled Nursing and Long-Term Care unit attend to one of the 25 patients in the ward. Patient information surveys have shown that family members of patients are very pleased with care given in the unit. Photo by M. Brown



3. Skilled Nursing and Long-Term (Sub-Acute) Care

Through a grant from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR), the space containing the Skilled Nursing and Long-Term (Sub-Acute) Care ward was renovated, expanding its capacity from 13 to 25 beds. The new unit officially opened on April 28, 2009 and quickly became fully occupied with a waiting list.

All of the elderly and infirm patients in this unit suffer from complex medical problems and need continuous medical care. This clean and cheerful unit provides such care and allows family members to visit 24 hours per day and communicate with staff in Arabic. Through patient information

surveys, family members of patients in the unit have given the unit extremely favorable ratings.

Besides providing quality medical care to its patients, this unit provides an important service to patients' care-giving family members. In Palestinian culture, women are responsible for providing care to their elders, in addition to caring for their immediate family and household, often while working a job to help with family income. The Sub-Acute Care unit assists Palestinian women with the stressful situation of caring for elderly family members who are in need of continuous medical supervision and advanced levels of care.

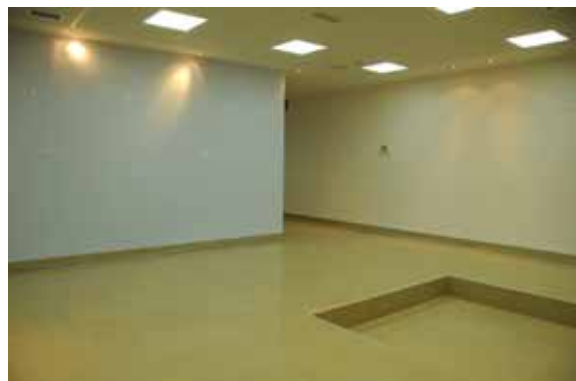
4. Chamber for second linear accelerator

In the fall of 2009, with a grant for a second linear accelerator underway, AVH completed the construction of a chamber to house the new linear accelerator, a multi-million dollar piece of equipment used for radiation therapy for cancer patients. With the assistance of Norwegian Church Aid, the room was constructed next to the current radiation unit, where the first linear accelerator is located.

In March 2010, the United States Agency for International Development announced it will purchase a second linear accelerator for AVH. The second linear accelerator is now essential to handle the increased patient load and to circumvent interruptions in treatment that occur when the current instrument, now five years old, is down for repair or maintenance.

Presently, AVH has the only linear accelerator for the treatment of cancer patients from the West Bank and Gaza, and the unit conducts radiation

treatments five days per week. In 2008, 19,968 treatments were given to a total of 804 patients. In 2009, the total number of sessions increased to 23,922, serving a total of 960 patients.



With the assistance of Norwegian Church Aid, and the Mount of Olives - Norway Foundation, and a grant from the government of Norway, the room for a second linear accelerator was constructed at AVH. Photo by M. Brown

Staff and Patient Access to AVH

Israeli Access Policies Remain Unclear, Unjust, and Undignified

Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) and other East Jerusalem hospitals continue to face major obstacles in ensuring that hospital staff and patients have efficient, reliable, and dignified access into East Jerusalem. AVH is working through the East Jerusalem Hospitals Network (EJHN) to advocate for proper access policies.

In January 2010, AVH was surprised to discover that the Israeli Police revoked an agreement made between the Israeli Authorities and the EJHN in November 2009 to allow all hospital staff through all checkpoints to access East Jerusalem hospitals. As of February 2010, only doctors could pass through all checkpoints, while other essential hospital staff are only allowed access through crowded and busy pedestrian terminals.

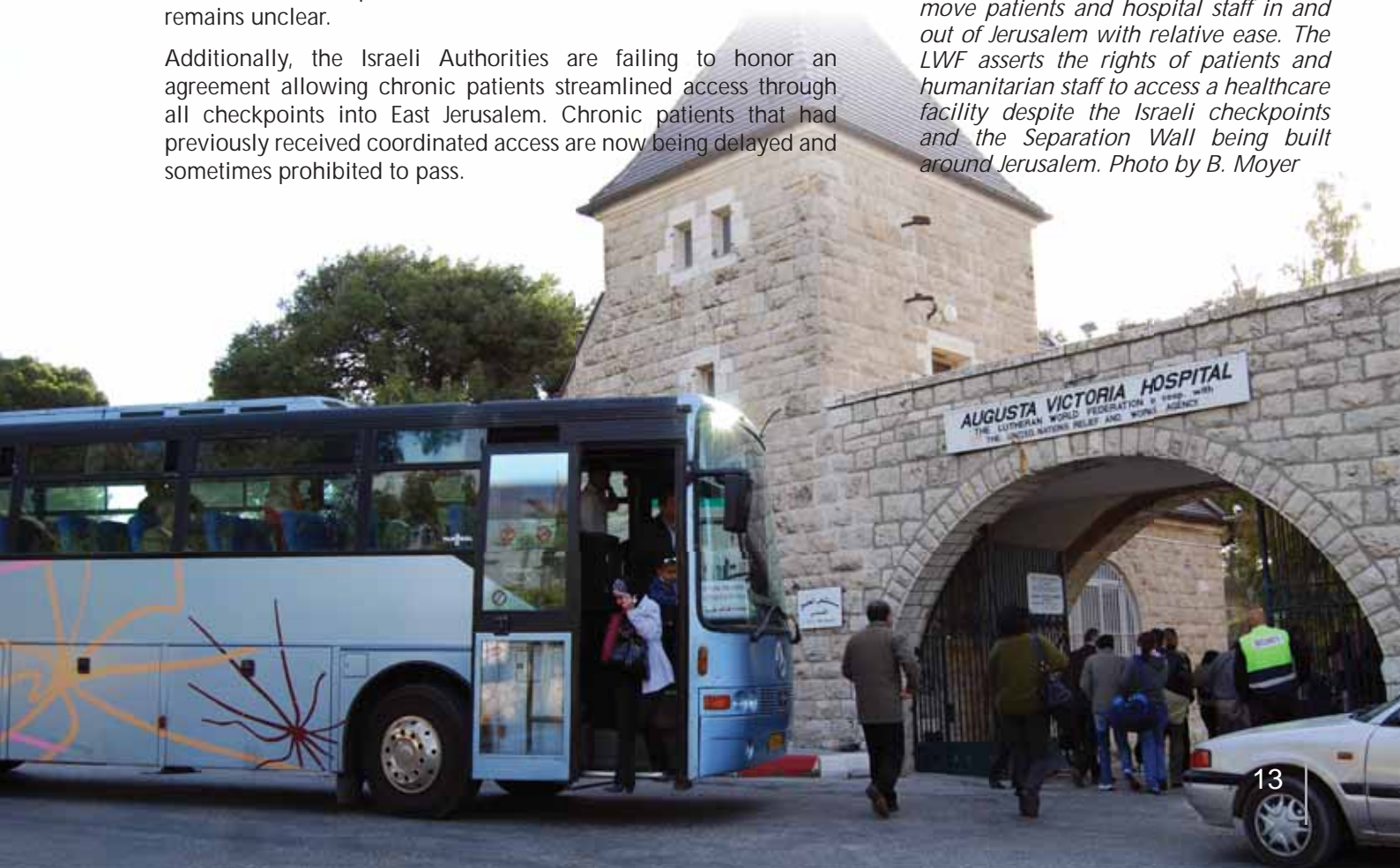
Confusion remains surrounding Israeli permit policies applicable to East Jerusalem hospital staff. The Israeli Civil Administration informed the EJHN that each East Jerusalem hospital is only to be granted a limited number of permits and that at present the hospitals are exceeding the allowable amount. However, the Civil Administration will not state the limit. In past joint meetings between the Israeli Authorities and the EJHN, the hospitals received assurances that a permit limit would not be enforced, but this remains unclear.

Additionally, the Israeli Authorities are failing to honor an agreement allowing chronic patients streamlined access through all checkpoints into East Jerusalem. Chronic patients that had previously received coordinated access are now being delayed and sometimes prohibited to pass.



Palestinians face a long, crowded wait in the Israeli checkpoint terminal between Bethlehem and Jerusalem. All foot-traffic from the West Bank must pass through such checkpoints to enter Jerusalem, causing challenges and delays for commuters, including LWF-employed doctors, nurses, trainees, maintenance staff, and others. Photo by P. Miller

AVH runs a private busing system to move patients and hospital staff in and out of Jerusalem with relative ease. The LWF asserts the rights of patients and humanitarian staff to access a healthcare facility despite the Israeli checkpoints and the Separation Wall being built around Jerusalem. Photo by B. Moyer



The Mobile Mammography Clinic

Breast Care in Palestine: Early Discovery – The Road to Recovery

Breast cancer is responsible for the highest rate of cancer mortality among Palestinians. Understandably, many Palestinian women are reluctant to seek out screening and treatment at the AVH facility. They face many obstacles: the difficulty in accessing the hospital because of barriers and checkpoints, the difficulty of leaving their families at home unattended, the financial costs of travel, and the stigma associated with breast cancer. Sometimes, it is too late.

Patients admitted to AVH for breast cancer treatment are often in the advanced stages of cancer, rendering their treatment more difficult and sometimes less effective. While all patients were given the very best available care through chemotherapy regimens and radiation treatments, clearly something urgent had to be done to improve the situation.

Now, in early 2010, AVH, together with partners United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the Palestinian Ministry of Health, has taken a huge step forward toward a comprehensive preventative approach to ensuring breast health in Palestine. This approach will make an early detection system available to all Palestinian



As part of the comprehensive preventative approach to ensuring breast health in Palestine, a nurse trains women how to perform a breast self-examination at a health clinic in Askar Refugee Camp. Photo by J. Klemmedsson



women wherever they live and whatever their financial situation.

With the support of the Government of Norway, the Foundation of the Mount of Olives, and Norwegian Church Aid in Oslo, AVH has purchased, staffed and equipped a mobile mammography clinic that is now moving from village to village in the northern West Bank (the Nablus area) and the central West Bank (the Ramallah area), bringing with it a strategy known as “Early Discovery – The Road to Recovery.” This vehicle, with its mammography and ultrasound detection capabilities and its message of hope, is enabling women in the rural areas of Northern Palestine, with little previous access to prevention and early screening for breast cancer, to receive these important services in a timely and culturally-sensitive way.

The doctor administering the ultra-sound scans and the mammography technician are both highly-trained professional Palestinian women. The clinic also has a staff of female psycho-social specialists who will educate women about the importance of breast cancer prevention through a healthy diet, abstention from smoking, and training in breast self-awareness. The rights-based approach to patient care used at AVH empowers



For over 60 years, the LWF has offered health services to vulnerable sections of the Palestinian population. The new mobile mammography clinic will continue this tradition. Top: Photo from LWF Jerusalem Archives; Bottom: Photo by T. Nasser

women as they challenge cultural norms and assists them in upholding their right to access quality healthcare.

Presently, AVH is working toward the purchase, staffing and equipping of a second mobile clinic that will bring the “Healthy Breast Initiative” to Hebron and the southern parts of the West Bank. In the near future, it is hoped that access to breast cancer screening for all Palestinian women will be the norm. Breast cancer will no longer be the scourge of Palestinian women that it is presently, and Palestinian husbands and children will no longer suffer the premature loss of their wives and mothers.

Diabetes Care and Prevention in Palestine

AVH Leads in Diabetes Treatment, Prevention and Research

The prevalence of diabetes in the West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem is ten percent, compared to the global figure of six percent. Approximately 240,000 people in the Palestinian population are expected to develop Type II Diabetes in their lifetime. These inflated numbers have caused Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) to designate diabetes as a major area of specialization and provide an array of diabetes services that are not readily available anywhere else in Palestine.

AVH, with the support of the World Diabetes Foundation, DanChurchAid, Danish Research Foundation and local partners, established the Diabetes Care Center in 2003. Since then, the Center has acquired a team of highly trained professional staff and the necessary equipment to provide high-quality care to diabetics.

Recently, through its role on the National Committee for the Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, AVH worked intensively with the Palestinian Ministry of Health (PMoH), United National Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and other providers of primary health care in the Palestinian Territories to establish a

National Unified Protocol for Diabetes Care. This protocol replaces the old diabetes biomedical treatment model, which focused on prescription medications and the treatment of symptoms. The new approach views diabetes care in a comprehensive way, where doctors provide necessary care and the patient is empowered to make necessary health and lifestyle decisions. The approach involves the training of front-line professionals, the distribution of education and prevention materials, the development of diabetes screening protocol, eye care, blood tests, and foot care, and the referral of complicated cases to AVH.

Most diabetic patients require a close relationship with their referral center. The AVH program brings a "High Impact Intervention Team" of professionals, trained at the Center, out to the community and saves patients from the difficult and time-consuming process of going through checkpoints to get to Jerusalem. Additionally, the AVH busing program now serves diabetes patients coming to the AVH Center for further treatment. These important services have meant that diabetic patients identified through AVH's screening activities always can access treatment and that advanced diabetes complications, such as foot ulcers, are kept to a minimum. AVH has continued to emphasize the necessity of community participation and involvement in diabetes prevention, screening, awareness campaigns and lifestyle modification.



In 2009, Fadia Diabes, loved and admired by all, lost her life in a car accident. Fadia worked tirelessly in support of the LWF programs in Jerusalem, especially the diabetes program at AVH. Photo by T. Hauger

Diabetes Research at AVH

AVH has also taken a leadership role in World Diabetes Day celebrations in Palestine by, amongst other things, organizing and hosting the very successful Second National Diabetes Symposium held November 12-13, 2009. AVH is presently undertaking several research projects in the diabetes field and was an active participant at the symposium.

One study by the AVH diabetes team examined patient blood levels of glycohemoglobin and microalbumin over the course of their treatment. The study showed that diabetic patients involved in the comprehensive care approach at AVH and who visit their clinic regularly experience important improvements in the management of their diabetes through the lowering of their glycohemoglobin levels. The good news from this study is that with proper treatment, diabetes complications are preventable. The value of these measurements in the diagnosis and follow-up of diabetic patients has attracted the attention of UNRWA, which has offered the AVH Center a contract to test all 20,000 diabetics in the West Bank and Jerusalem. As a result, about 200 diabetes-related blood tests are now completed in the AVH laboratory each week.

One of the complications of diabetes is the development of foot problems, resulting from the deterioration in peripheral circulation and the death of nerve cells in the feet, resulting in hospitalization and often amputation. AVH established a Diabetic Foot Clinic in 2005 to be

the center of training, management, and screening related to foot problems. Now, AVH is creating a database for diabetic foot problems that can serve as a reference point for future clinical research. AVH has cataloged the cause of foot abnormalities in 1,115 diabetic patients from the West Bank and Jerusalem that have recently been screened by the foot care clinic team.

AVH is involved in many other research activities, including studies on obesity, obesity in children of school age, and follow-up studies on diabetes complications. In each case, the research is undertaken with cultural sensitivity, with educational goals in mind and with the hope of reducing the incidence and consequences of diabetes within the West Bank. The immediate goal is to provide new information that will lead to better care and treatment of diabetic patients and to guide national policies and strategies.

The Diabetes Care Center is truly a success story, and it is indeed rewarding to see AVH's Comprehensive Diabetes Care Approach being applied throughout Palestine's health care system.



As part of the Comprehensive Diabetes Care Approach, AVH runs a Diabetic Foot Clinic that is the center of training, management, and screening of diabetes-related foot problems, a common complication of diabetes. Photo by M. Brown



The Lutheran World Federation

Augusta Victoria Hospital

Board of Governance

Rev. Dr. Robert Bacher
ELCA / Executive for Administration
(Retired)

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Director, LWF Department for World
Service

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German Institute for Medical Mission

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Foundation

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Church of Sweden

Dr. Kirsten Lee
DanChurchAid

Rev. Are Blomhoff
Managing Director, Stiftelsen /
Hospitalet Betanien

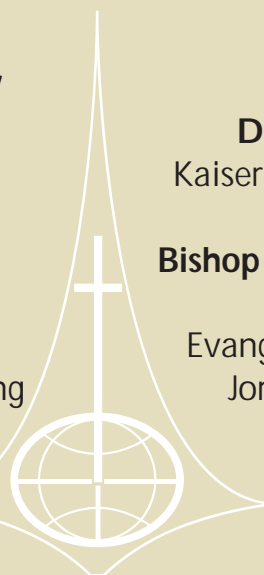
Dr. Eberhard von Perfall
Kaiserin Augusta Victoria Stiftung

Rev. Mark Brown (Ex-officio)
LWF Regional Representative

**Bishop Munib Younan (AVH Board
Chairperson)**
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
Jordan and the Holy Land

Propst Uwe Gräbe
Kaiserin Augusta Victoria Stiftung

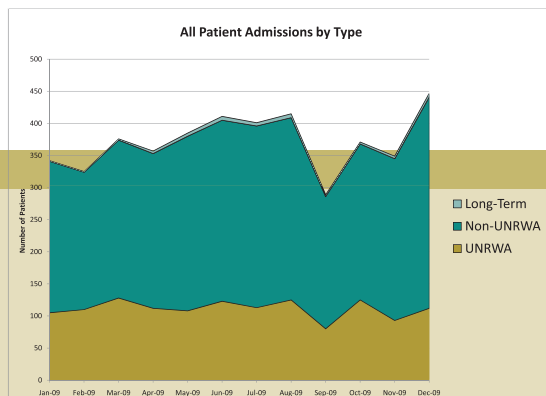
Mr. Robert Granke
Executive Director, Canadian
Lutheran World Relief



(in alphabetical order)

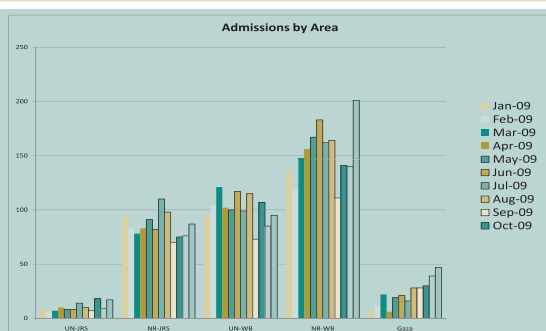
Augusta Victoria Hospital Statistics

2009



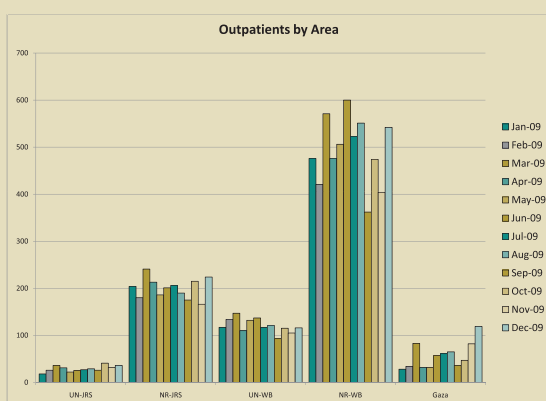
Patient Admissions by Source of Referral

During 2009, AVH experienced a steady increase in overall admissions, but most notably in Palestinian Authority (Non-UNRWA) referrals.



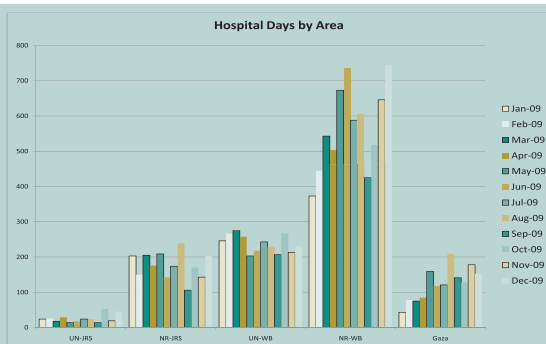
Admissions by Area

The Gaza Advocacy Program resulted in an increased intake of Gaza patients throughout 2009



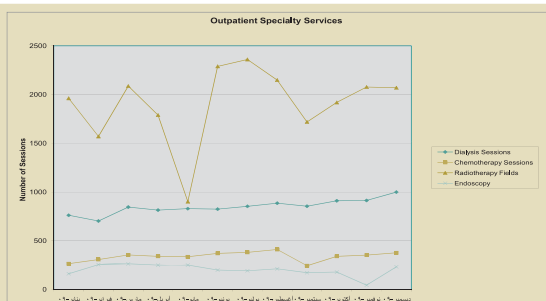
Outpatients by Area

The Hospital's strategy to focus on Jerusalem residents yielded an increase in non-refugee outpatients from the Jerusalem area.



Hospital Days by Area

Palestinian Authority referrals constitute the largest portion of hospital use, both in outpatient specialty services and in inpatient utilization. UNRWA bed utilization continues to be a significant portion of the overall load of the hospital. Gaza bed utilization increased over the year.



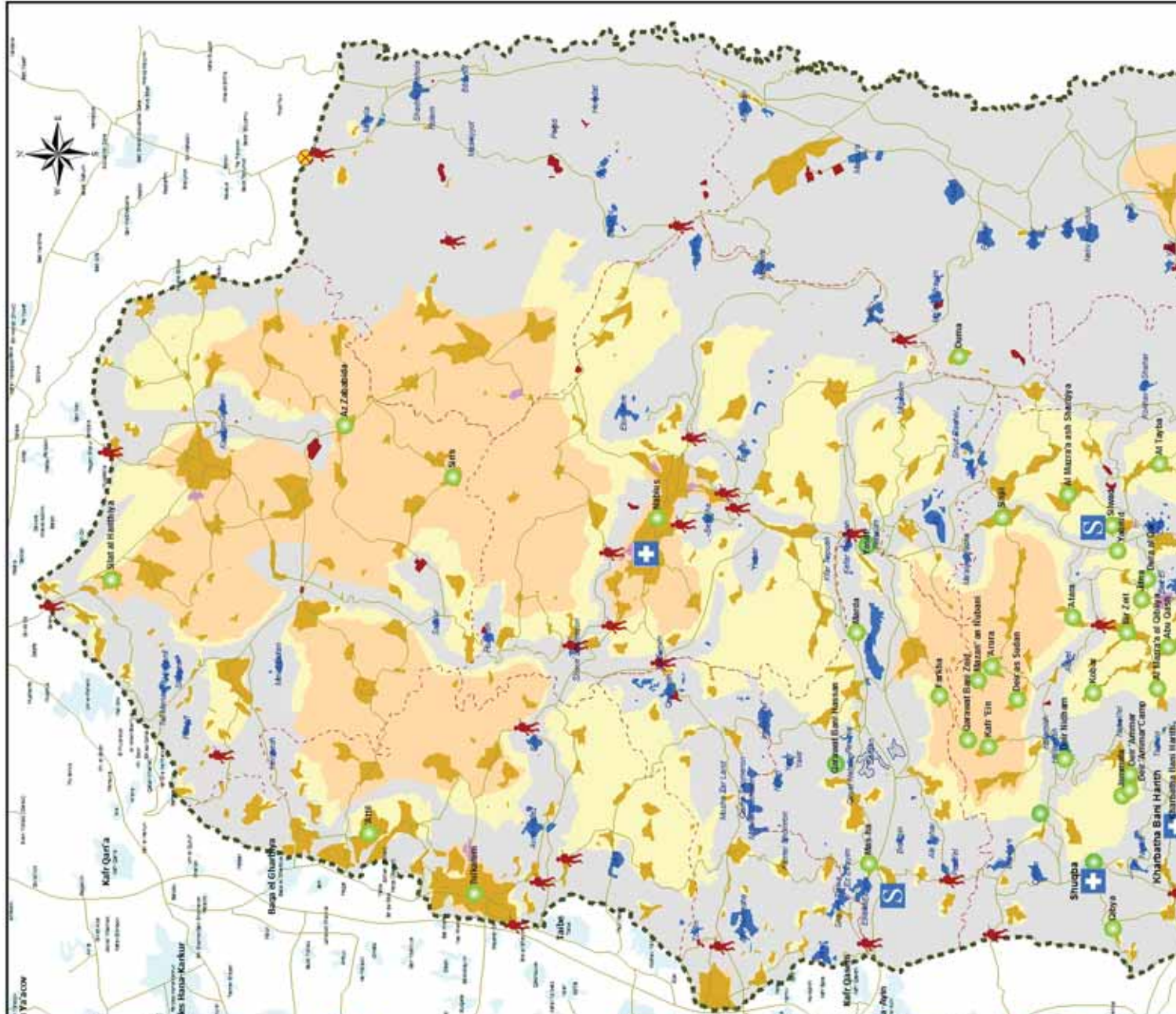
Outpatient Specialty Services

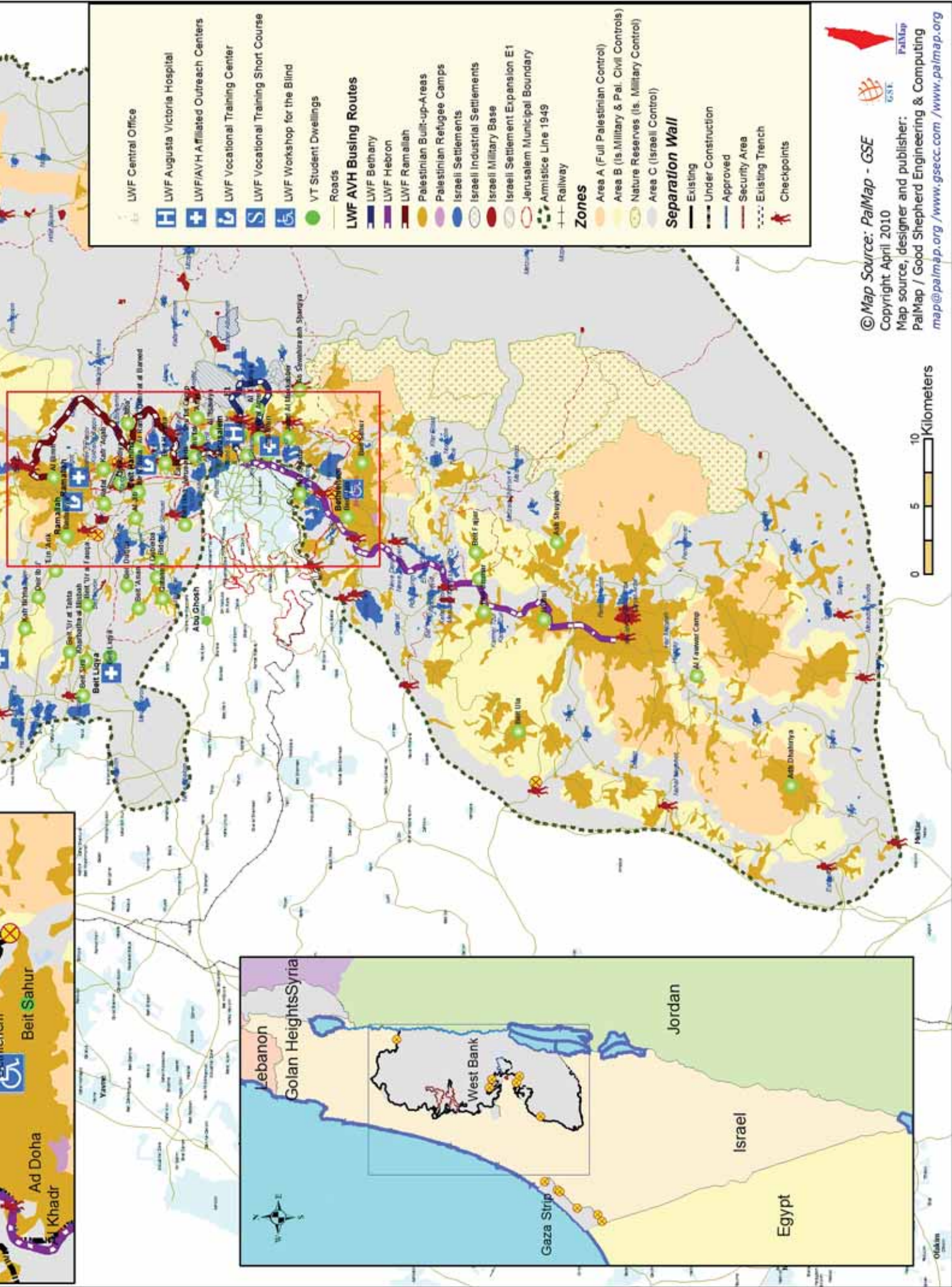
Outpatient specialty services continued to be heavily utilized. Radiotherapy fields dropped in May due to the breakdown of the linear accelerator, which focused AVH management to work aggressively to acquire a second linear accelerator.

LWF JERUSALEM AREA ACTIVITIES 2009

Legend:

- Blue square with a white cross: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Blue square with a white arrow: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Red square: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Yellow square: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Green square: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Blue square with a white cross: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Blue square with a white arrow: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Red square: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Yellow square: LWF Jerusalem Area Office
- Green square: LWF Jerusalem Area Office





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PalMap / Good Shepherd Engineering & Computing

map@palmap.org / www.gsecc.com / www.palmap.org

The LWF Vocational Training Program began offering training in 1949 on the grounds of Augusta Victoria Hospital. In 1964, the VTP opened a larger facility just to the north of Jerusalem in Beit Hanina, pictured here soon after it opened. Photo from LWF Jerusalem Archives



LWF Vocational Training Program

A History of Empowering Youth

The LWF Vocational Training Program (VTP) consists of two training centers and a village outreach project that runs satellite courses in remote West Bank locations. The Vocational Training Center (VTC) is in the Jerusalem suburb of Beit Hanina, and the Vocational Training Center in Ramallah (VTCR) is in the suburbs of Palestine's commercial center, Ramallah. [See map, pages 20-21.]

The VTP, one of the LWF-Jerusalem's oldest projects, has been providing vocational training to Palestinian youth since 1949. The VTP began as the Lutheran Trade School on the grounds of the Augusta Victoria Hospital. Originally, three-year training programs were offered in carpentry, auto-mechanics, and metalwork. The Lutheran Trade School was renamed the Vocational Training Center (VTC), and in 1964 the Center moved from the Augusta Victoria Campus to a new and larger facility just to the north of Jerusalem in Beit Hanina.


In 2000, the LWF began training women in the profession of telecommunications, and has graduated over 75 females during the past nine years. In 2002, the VTC graduated its 50th class, including its first class of women to complete training at the center.

The program expanded in 2004, adding a new project, the Vocational Training Center in Ramallah (VTCR). Recognizing a need for additional training programs in the West Bank as a result of the Israeli-built Separation Wall, the VTCR was established with a focus on the concepts of apprentice training and satellite outreach to small and isolated villages.

The VTP's 2007-2012 strategic plan illustrates the program's overall goal: "To provide quality vocational training and education, to empower young people to become employed skilled and semi-skilled workers, and to contribute to economic development that is critical to building a strong civil society."



In East Jerusalem, education mitigates the impacts of the region's conflict by giving youth a sense of normalcy, stability, structure and hope for the future, while providing essential building blocks for future economic stability. Photo by B. Moyer



Spending per student in West Jerusalem schools was more than four times the amount spent per student in East Jerusalem in 2008. The VTC provides educational opportunities to Jerusalem's youth, who from a young age were neglected by their school system.

Vocational Training Center, Beit Hanina

The LWF Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina, Jerusalem, trains more than 220 young men and women each year in a two-year educational program. Trainees can choose from the fields of carpentry, metalwork, auto-mechanics, auto-electrics, telecommunications, and plumbing and central heating.

Bridging Jerusalem's Education Gap

VTC provides employable skills to youth left behind by city's school system

The public school system in Palestinian East Jerusalem is marked by a severe lack of space, facilities, and resources. With no means to enroll in private school, many disadvantaged youth from poor families simply drop out of school. Over 5,000 school-aged students in East Jerusalem are not registered for school, according to the Association of Civil Rights in Israel.

While Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem are required to pay taxes like all Jerusalem residents, they do not receive the same services as residents in the mostly-Jewish West Jerusalem. This is exemplified in the deep discrepancy between the education systems' budgets. In 2008, spending per primary school student in the mainly-Jewish western part of the city was more than four times that of spending for a student in the predominantly-Arab eastern section of the city, according to a Sept. 2009 article in the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*.

In this educational setting, the role of the Vocational Training Center (VTC) in Beit Hanina is particularly vital. The VTC provides practical training opportunities to Jerusalem's youth who from a young age were neglected by their

school system.

Using strategic planning and collaboration, the VTC has challenged the unique regional circumstances and strengthened its curriculum to empower Jerusalem's youth. The VTC has improved cooperation with important donors such as U.S. Agency for International Development and the European Union in order to develop and support the role of vocational training in East Jerusalem. This support will help the VTC best prepare students for employment through upgraded courses and equipment and competent trainers.

The VTC continues to build effective career guidance to help students identify their goals and opportunities and make informed career decisions. The VTC is also rallying parental and community support in favor of the rights and opportunities of students.

Education is not only a right for every person. In East Jerusalem, it also mitigates the impacts of the conflict by giving youth a sense of normalcy, stability, structure and hope for the future, while providing essential building blocks for future economic stability.

VTC Pilots Apprenticeship Program

Program Adds Value to Training and Opens Doors for Students

During the 2009-2010 scholastic year, the Vocational Training Center (VTC) is piloting an apprenticeship program for second-year students in the auto-mechanics and plumbing/central heating departments. The program provides students with more opportunities to work in the market, adapt to the market conditions, gain employable skills, and increase their employment chances.

For three to four days a week, students work as apprentices in a workshop or business in their vocation. The VTC tries to place students at sites near their homes, thereby also decreasing commute times and transportation costs. The one to two remaining days in the school week are spent at the Center, where students learn the remaining portions of the curriculum and report to their classmates and trainers what they are learning through their apprenticeships.

Oday Hassunh, an 18-year-old Jerusalemite studying auto-mechanics, spends four days a week working at an auto garage in Shoufat, a short distance from the VTC. Through his apprenticeship, he has gained volumes of practical skills he said he could not learn in the

Center's workshop. "I knew so little before. Now I can complete tasks on my own," said Oday. When he does not have the skills to complete a task, the garage's owner, Jamal Faraj Ida'is, teaches him.

Over the years, Jamal, whose son graduated from the VTC in 2008, has hosted numerous VTC graduates as apprentices at his workshop. The positive outcomes of their experiences are undeniable: one graduate has opened his own workshop; another is studying mechanical engineering at a Palestinian university; another was offered a mechanical engineering job in Dubai. Oday plans to attend university for a mechanical engineering degree.

Besides offering students invaluable career experiences, the apprenticeship model also offers the VTC insight into the trends and activities of the private sector. The VTC adapts and revises its curriculum to be more relevant to what is demanded in the market.

With the success of this pilot program, the VTC aims to incorporate more apprenticeship opportunities into the overall VTC curriculum.



Through the apprenticeship program, student Oday Hassunh (center) spends part of the school week at an auto garage near the VTC, working with the owner, Jamal Faraj Ida'is (right), and his son (left), a 2008 VTC auto-mechanics graduate. Photo by B. Moyer

A Learning Family

VTC: A Home in Jerusalem for West Bank Students

The Vocational Training Center (VTC) offers on-site boarding to trainees from areas of Palestine who are unable to reliably access either of the two LWF vocational training centers on a daily basis.

At present, 75 students are boarding at the VTC campus in Beit Hanina. Priority is given to students who cannot feasibly reach the either LWF vocational training center everyday because of travel distance or because of the Separation Wall and military checkpoints. Most of the boarding students are from the southern West Bank, including Hebron and surrounding villages. Several boarders are from the northern West Bank cities, such as Nablus and Jenin.

Instead of requiring room and board payments, the students help with work and maintenance around campus, such as painting, gardening, and fence repair. Many of the boarders come from poor families, so the VTC runs a work-study program to help students earn money to cover their regular training fees and personal expenses.

Mohammed Abdullah Halaika, 17, is a bright-smiled metalwork trainee from Hebron. He works on the kitchen team that washes dishes after meals. The money he earns is necessary to continue his training. Mohammed is one of a seven-person family that relies entirely on the income of the father, a day-laborer who works construction jobs paying a mere \$13 a day. He dreams of attending university, but he understands that if he cannot follow that path, his training will provide him with skills to find steady employment. "This will determine my career," he said. "It's very important for me."

For the students living on campus, the daily schedule is like that of a large family. At around 6 a.m., the students wake up, get ready, have breakfast, and clean their dishes before classes begin at 7:30 a.m. After classes finish, the boarders eat lunch together and complete their clean-up duties. The afternoon is free for students, and on a normal afternoon they can be found resting, doing homework, watching television, or playing soccer or cards. Some students are able to find work in the neighborhood to earn a modest income. Supper is

served in the evening, and then the students clean up before retiring for the evening. Lights-out is at 9:30 p.m.

There are no classes on Friday and Sunday, and once a month boarding students have Sunday off as well so they may have a long weekend to visit their families. On some occasions, students go into the Old City of Jerusalem.

WITHOUT A PERMIT GRANTED BY THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES, WEST BANK PALESTINIANS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CROSS INTO JERUSALEM. BEFORE ATTENDING THE VTC, NEARLY HALF OF THE BOARDING STUDENTS HAD NEVER BEEN TO THE OLD CITY BECAUSE THEY AND THEIR FAMILIES DID NOT HAVE PERMISSION TO ENTER JERUSALEM.

Without a permit granted by the Israeli authorities, West Bank Palestinians are not allowed to cross into, let alone live in, Jerusalem. In August 2009, the VTC was able to secure 24-hour Jerusalem permits for its students and staff, legally allowing them to stay overnight in Jerusalem. Previously, only daytime permits were given to the VTC, which required the permit-holder to leave Jerusalem by 7 p.m. and return the next day.

Through the boarding section, the VTC is offering all West Bank Palestinian youth not only the opportunity to study at a quality TVET institution, but also to live in Jerusalem.



During the 2009-10 academic year, telecommunications trainee Safa'dawd Bitate, a 21-year old from Hebron, boards at the VTC. Photo by B. Moyer

Vocational Training Center, Ramallah

Established in 2004 to reach students throughout Palestine, the Vocational Training Center in Ramallah (VTCR) is based on two concepts newer to the Program: apprentice training and satellite outreach training in villages. The VTCR offers training in telecommunications, auto-mechanics, carpentry and aluminum. About 60 young men and women are trained annually at the Ramallah center. Through the community-based apprenticeship system, trainees complete their education at the VTCR as well as through apprenticeships at local businesses. This is the first of such a program to be implemented in Palestine.

VTCR Student Snapshots



Carpentry trainee Ahmad Habab sands a piece of wood for a table he is constructing. Photos by B. Moyer

Ahmad Habab, 20 years old, Carpentry trainee

A 20-year-old from Beit Iksa, Ahmad has always had a knack for woodwork and is excited to be pursuing carpentry training at the VTCR. Before applying to the VTCR, Ahmad studied computers at another vocational school. When he finished the training, however, he could not find a job. Now, only a few months into his training at the VTCR, Ahmad has enough skills to work part-time at a carpentry workshop in his hometown.

This combination of in-school training and out-of-school apprenticeship is exactly what the VTCR strives to provide its students. Through his part-time job, Ahmad is making connections to the market and experiencing his vocation firsthand. Through his in-school VTCR training, Ahmad says he has learned volumes that he would not be able to pick up solely through his work experience. The VTCR teaches the newest technology in carpentry, such as how to operate specialized machines and tools, compose drawings and designs, and operate computer programs.



After a lecture period in their telecommunications class, Ala' Omar and Doa' Mohammed complete an exercise on electrical circuits.

Ala' Omar and Doa' Mohammed, 18 years old, Telecommunications trainees

Ala' and Doa' each heard about the VTCR from former female students, who advised them to enroll in the program. They are both studying telecommunications and hope to find work in the communications sector at a telephone or mobile company. While females remain a minority in the LWF-VTP, more women are enrolling each year. While young Palestinian women are sometimes discouraged to leave their homes to pursue education, when Ala' and Doa' expressed interest in training at the VTCR, their families were very supportive.

Ala', an 18-year-old from 'Atarah, wants to gain employable skills in order to find a good job. Doa', an 18-year-old from Koofradin, wanted to study at the VTCR because she knew she would learn the advanced telecommunications technology that is found in the market. Through wide smiles, the young women explain that they really enjoy their training. "We are learning so much," says Ala'.

Village Outreach Training

The LWF-VTCR runs satellite training courses designed to reach youth in isolated areas of the West Bank who cannot easily reach the centers in Beit Hanina or Ramallah. The satellite courses are especially important for village women, who are more likely to participate if a course is offered locally.

In addition to providing technical training, the short courses are linked with entrepreneurial skills and internships, which offer trainees a means for income generation. This is crucial, as work has become scarce in towns affected by the Separation Wall. Training is done in villages that greatly suffer from the political and economical situation in Palestine.

In 2009, the VTCR conducted short courses in the villages of Silwad and Az-Zawiyah.

Silwad

In December 2009, the VTCR started a new mobile maintenance short course in the village of Silwad, 12km northeast of Ramallah. The course targeted unemployed youth, particularly women, who are socially accepted in the telecommunications industry. Twelve female and five male students participated in the three-month course.

Marzuka Ayad, a 32-year-old from Silwad, jumped at the opportunity to take the class, conveniently offered in her village, in order to gain a relevant, income-generating skill set. She hopes to run a small mobile phone maintenance business out of her home in order to support her family. Six years ago, her husband was inexplicably arrested and put in an Israeli prison, leaving Marzuka and their two children to care for themselves.



Rajaa Okab, a 19-year-old from Silwad, saw the importance of participating in the course to gain technical knowledge. "You don't know what's going to happen in the future, so you want to know something," she said. One of the class assignments was for each student to go to a mobile store and talk to an employee, an assignment that encourages student interaction with the market. Rajaa talked to the manager of a mobile store in Ramallah, who was impressed with her knowledge and offered her a job on the spot.



In the uncertain political and economic environment gripping Palestine, practical skills are invaluable for village youth. "You don't know what's going to happen in the future, so you want to know something," said Rajaa Okab, a 19-year-old in the Silwad course. Photo by B. Moyer

With the skills gained from the VTCR short course in Silwad, Marzuka Ayad, an unemployed mother of two children, whose husband is imprisoned in an Israeli jail, will open a mobile maintenance business from home, allowing her to earn income for the family. Photo by B. Moyer

Az-Zawiyah

From March to May 2009, the VTCR conducted a course in modern fuel injection systems in Az-Zawiyah, a village near Salfit. The course aimed to serve unemployed men in the isolated villages. Fourteen trainees from Az-Zawiyah and five nearby villages participated in the course.



A few years ago, at the height of the Second Intifada, Adnan Al-Qasim, a 2001 VTC graduate, worked and saved money while plotting ways to escape economically suppressed Palestine. Now, Adnan, with the support of the VTCR, has opened a successful auto garage in Ramallah and officially scrapped his plans to leave his homeland. Photos by B. Moyer

From Emigrant

VTP Empowers Youth with Skills to Create Successful Careers within Palestine

Inside Safeway Auto Service, an auto garage in Ramallah's industrial zone, Palestinian folk music pulses out of a portable radio. The shop is full of tools and lifts, cars and car parts, and three young men working confidently and efficiently.

Just a few months earlier, the space was completely empty. That was before Adnan Al-Qasim, an LWF-VTC graduate in auto-mechanics, fulfilled his dream and opened his own workshop in April 2009. Among his employees are 18-year-olds Mohammed Khaled and Uwais Ziyad, recent auto-mechanics graduates from the LWF-VTCR.

Adnan, 28 years old, turns down the radio, slides into a plastic garden chair in the back of the shop, and explains how it all happened.

After his graduation from the VTC in 2001, Adnan worked at an auto workshop while aspiring to start his own business. However, the Palestinian economy was greatly suffering during that time. During the summer of 2003, at the height of the Second Intifada, Adnan and his friends brainstormed ways to leave their

homes in Palestine for countries with better job opportunities and a higher standard of living.

Adnan planned to flee to Canada, and he knew proficiency in French would help him enter the country. After tireless days at work, Adnan washed his grease-stained hands and spent hours teaching himself French. During this time, Adnan continued to use his skills learned at the LWF-VTC to excel at his job, gather new skills, and save as much money as possible.

By 2009, Adnan realized there was no need to immigrate to Canada because his local dreams were within reach. As he learned through his entrepreneurship and management training at the VTC, he conducted a feasibility study and calculated the return time on his investment to determine if he could open his own workshop.

Two 2009 VTCR auto-mechanics graduates, Mohammed Khaled and Uwais Ziyad, are employed at Adnan's garage. The VTP uses its networks of graduates to link current students and recent graduates with opportunities in the market.

to Entrepreneur

His calculations were clear: his hard work had paid off, and he had the means to be a successful entrepreneur. Confidently, he partnered with a local businessman to split the initial cost of buying the workshop space and equipment. In the blink of an eye, he invested everything that he had saved from seven years of work.

"I was afraid at the beginning because of the high competition in the market," Adnan says. "But now it's perfect."

Because of his previous job, Adnan was well-known at other workshops and well-liked by his former customers. And because of his expertise and quality work, he has picked up many new customers at his new workshop.

Just then, a customer pulls up in a white pick-up truck, requesting maintenance on the clutch. Two small boys peek out of the truck's front windows. Mohammed and Uwais, Adnan's employees, jump up, pop the hood and begin working.

More than ever before, the LWF Vocational Training Program is using its network of graduates to link current students with the market. Mohammed was an apprentice alongside Adnan at his previous job. Uwais was an apprentice for Adnan at this workshop when it first opened, during the final months of Uwais' VTCR work. After graduation, both young men immediately became employed full-time by Adnan at Safeway Auto Service.

Adnan, with his creative and entrepreneurial mind, is planning ways to improve and expand the workshop. He already expanded his workshop's services to include auto-electrics. Now, he is interested in green technology and wants to learn how to convert cars to run on natural gas.

By educating and empowering young leaders like Adnan, the LWF-VTP aims to help build a strong Palestinian civil society necessary for reaching a just and lasting peace in Palestine and Israel.

Vocational Training Program Statistics, 2009

In 2009, there were 156 graduates of the LWF Vocational Training Program, including 14 women. Seventy-four youth received instruction in “short courses” offered in villages in 2009. During the current 2009-2010 academic year, there are 295 trainees, 17 of which are women, studying in the VTP. The introduction of the apprenticeship system for second-year VTC students in two vocations enabled the VTC to enroll more students overall for the 2009-2010 year.

LWF-VTC: Two-year “Training Through Production” Program

Department	Established	No. of Trainees 2009/2010 ¹			No. of 2009 Graduates ²
		First Year	Second Year	Total	
Auto-Mechanics	1964	23	15	38	15
Auto-Electrics	2003	26	19	45	14
Carpentry	1950	18	19	37	11
Electronics/ Telecommunications (Female)	2000	4	5	9	10
Electronics/ Telecommunications (Male)	2001	21	7	28	15
Plumbing & Central Heating	1988	24	17	41	14
Metalwork (Welding, Forging and Aluminum works)	1950	17	11	28	13
TOTALS		133	93	226	92

LWF-VTCR: One-year “Apprenticeship Training”

Department	Established	No. of Trainees 2009/2010 ³	No. of 2009 Graduates ⁴
Auto-Mechanics	2004	18	17
Carpentry	2004	16	17
Electronics/Telecommunications (Female)	2004	8	5
Electronics/Telecommunications (Male)	2004	9	12
Aluminum Works	2005	18	14
TOTALS		69	64

Short Courses

Training Subject	Type	Duration	# of trainees
Fuel Injection Systems (Az-Zawiyah/Salfeet)	Village Outreach Course	2 months, March-April 2009	14
Mobile Maintenance (Silwad)	Village Outreach Course	10 weeks, Dec. 2009-Feb. 2010	17, including 12 females
Mobile Maintenance	Continuing Education for Female Graduates	2 months, June-July 2009	12
Aluminum works (VTC)	Short course	3 months, ongoing	16
Webpage design (VTC)	Short course	4 months, ongoing	15

¹ All trainees for the 2009/2010 scholastic year as of Dec. 2009

² 2008/2009 graduates, graduated June 2009

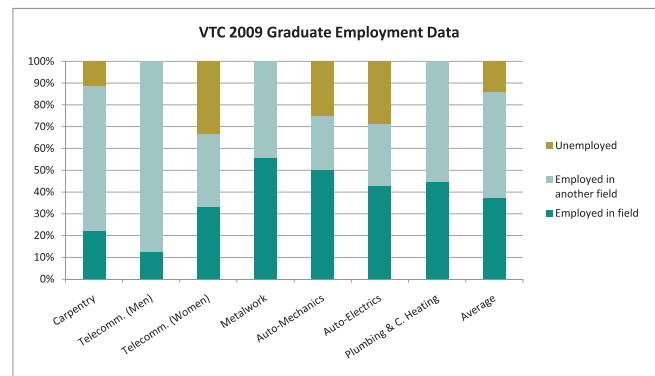
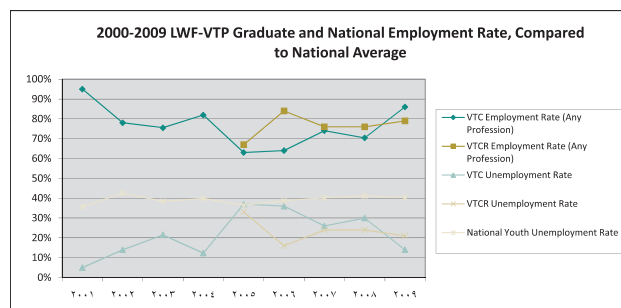
³ All trainees for the 2009/2010 scholastic year as in Dec. 2009

⁴ 2008/2009 graduates, graduated June 2009

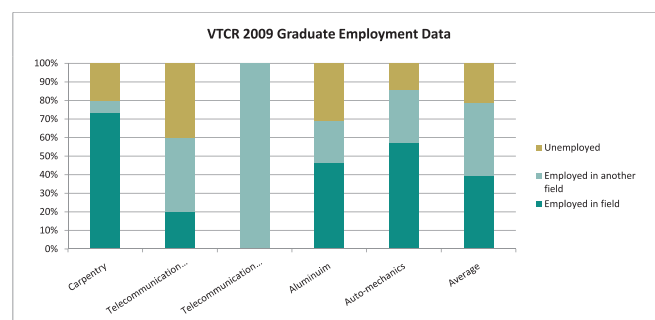
LWF-VTP Graduate Employment Statistics

Amongst its graduates, the LWF-VTP continues to post employment rates higher than the national average. Overall, 82 percent of all VTP 2009 graduates were employed or self-employed in their profession or another profession within six months of graduation (82 percent of VTC graduates and 79 percent of VTCR graduates), in comparison to the 59.6 percent employment rate among all youth in Palestine. The Labor Force Participation Rate, or the percent of VTP graduates actively engaged in work or in seeking work, reached 88.6 percent, compared to 42.5% of Palestine's youth in the same group.¹

¹ Source for national figure is the PCBS, Labour Force Survey, Q4, Oct-Dec 2008



The employment rate of 2009 VTC graduates rose this year to 82%. This can be attributed to the integration between VTC trainees and the market, facilitated through the apprenticeship model.



The VTCR continued to keep its employment rate above 75 percent, despite the difficult economic status and its effects on youth.

The Lutheran World Federation

Vocational Training Advisory Board

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ELCA / Executive for Administration (Retired)

Rev. Mark Brown (Ex-officio)
LWF Regional Representative

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Funding for the Future

In October 2009, 25 Palestinian youth from the local community were awarded financial aid to attend university through the LWF Jerusalem's Scholarship Program.

As part of its commitment to protecting the rights of those most marginalized, the LWF promotes access to higher education through educational loans and grants awarded to Palestinian youth. The scholarships are granted each year according

to financial need and academic performance.

In 2009, a total of approximately US \$17,600 was awarded to 17 women and 8 men from Jerusalem and the West Bank. The recipients will study in a variety of areas, including medicine, nursing, business, law, engineering, science, journalism, education, information technology, French literature, and Arabic language.

Paying it Forward

Former Scholarship Recipient Becomes Hebron's Third Female OB/GYN, Gives Thanks to LWF Program

Dr. Maysa'a Sea'fan, a former LWF academic scholarship recipient, has become one of but three female obstetrician/gynecologists serving in Hebron, the most populated city in the West Bank. She says that the LWF loan is what allowed her to complete her studies and fulfill her dream of becoming a doctor.

From an early age, Dr. Sea'fan aspired to be a doctor because of health problems her brother suffered. Dr. Sea'fan remembers watching doctors and nurses attending to him as he experienced febrile seizures. Despite societal gender norms to the contrary, she remembers thinking, "I want to be a doctor!"

She was accepted to medical school and set off to achieve her dream. However, in 1999, after completing two years of medical school at Al-Quds University, Dr. Sea'fan simply did not have funds to continue her studies. She heard about and applied to the LWF scholarship program, which deemed her a perfect scholarship recipient and awarded her funds towards medical school.

In late 2009, ten years after she first applied for an LWF scholarship, she finished her medical residency and settled her loan repayment to the LWF.



In 1999, Maysa'a Sea'fan received a scholarship from the LWF to help cover her medical school fees. Photo by B. Moyer

In a letter to the LWF Jerusalem, she wrote:

"Thank you so much. These words are the least thing I can offer you, as you stand with me in that tough time, when I couldn't find money to continue my studies, due to the difficult situation we live in our country. When I reached the point where I thought it was the end, it was the darkest time in my life, but you light a candle for me, making my night day. So I pray every day and night that God keeps you to help other students as you helped me once to have a better life."

Sitting in her office at the Red Crescent Hospital in Hebron, Dr. Sea'fan speaks about the importance of repaying her loan. "By returning the loan, I give them back what they give me, but also I give another one. The program will go on, and maybe we will have another doctor, another engineer."

MATERIAL AID

60 Years of Distributing Material Aid

Since the early 1950's, the LWF has acted as a distribution center for material aid resources sent from donor organizations around the world to assist Palestinian refugees. Today, much of the Palestinian population remains in need of basic materials, and the LWF continues to distribute such aid.

The LWF works with contacts in the West Bank to distribute goods to communities, families and individuals most in need. Throughout 2009, material goods donated by Lutheran World Relief (LWR), Canadian Lutheran World Relief, and the Mennonite Central Committee were distributed to local orphanages, schools, community centers, vocational schools, refugee camps, Bedouin communities, and elderly homes. The materials included school kits, health kits, baby layettes, quilts, soap, toothpaste, and toys.



A student at the Armenian School in the Old City of Jerusalem receives a school kit package donated by Lutheran World Relief. Photo by T. Hauger



AVH and the Mount of Olives campus continue to serve as the distribution point for humanitarian supplies and basic necessities to refugees and people living in poverty. The supplies often include handmade quilts from congregations across North America, blankets, sweaters, health kits, school kits, baby kits and toys provided by Lutheran World Relief and Canadian Lutheran World Relief. Photos from LWF Jerusalem Archives and by M. Brown

The LWF Olive Grove on the Mount of Olives

Following a year of unfavorable weather conditions, Palestine experienced a poor olive harvest in 2009, down by an estimated 80 percent. Despite the national trend, the LWF's 800 trees on the Mount of Olives were blessed with a healthy harvest of nearly 9,000 pounds of olives, yielding approximately 560 liters of olive oil.

The oil is bottled and shipped around the world to supporters of Augusta Victoria Hospital. The money donated for olive oil strengthens the Augusta Victoria Hospital's "Fund for the Poor," which helps to cover the medical costs of patients unable to pay their bills. The Fund guarantees that all Palestinians have the human right of access to quality health care. In 2009, the LWF received \$37,169 in donations to Augusta Victoria Hospital

through the olive oil project.

Each fall, volunteers help harvest olives from the trees that dot the LWF campus. This year, Volunteers were from Palestine, the United States, Canada, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Scotland, England, France, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and South Africa.

Support the Project

Order Olive Oil

The LWF's olive oil from the Mount of Olives has been used as a successful fundraiser at churches and community centers. Olive oil can be requested in cases of ten or more glass bottles when shipped through the mail. For mail orders, there is a suggested donation of US \$30 per bottle, which includes shipping. Visitors to the campus can receive oil by the bottle for a suggested donation of US \$25 each. The bottles are made of recycled glass hand-blown by Palestinian artisans in the city of Hebron. The bottles are shipped empty with the olive oil in a separate container to reduce breakage during shipping.

Donate an Olive Tree

Groups or individuals can donate an olive tree to the LWF campus on the Mount of Olives by contributing US \$1,000 to the Augusta Victoria "Fund for the Poor." Acknowledgment is given to the group or individual through a commemorative plaque displayed in the LWF Jerusalem Central Office.





Following LWF Jerusalem tradition, AVH and central office staff and their families harvested olives from the LWF grove in Oct. 2009, celebrating afterwards with a meal and music. Photo by M. Brown



Photo by J. Granberg



This year we celebrate **Richard Khbeis'** 20th year of service with the Lutheran World Federation.

Since 1990, Richard has served as the LWF Jerusalem Central Office's Driver and Vehicle Coordinator.

RECIPE FROM THE CEO'S KITCHEN

Munazaleh (Baked eggplant with tomatoes)



AVH CEO Dr. Tawfiq Nasser

Ingredients

- 3 medium-sized eggplants
- 3 onions
- 3 tomatoes
- 2 green bell peppers
- 1 hot banana pepper (optional)
- 6 whole cloves of garlic, peeled
- ½ cup tomato paste
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup olive oil (best with LWF's olive oil from the Mount of Olives)
- Salt

This is a flavorful vegetarian dish typical of Palestinian rural cuisine. Eaten warm or cold with pita bread, it is a seasonal dish that uses summer vegetables and local olive oil.

Preparation

Preheat oven to 375°F/190°C. Peel eggplant and slice horizontally into ½-inch, wheel-shaped slices. Sprinkle both sides of slices with salt and rub in; let sit for 30 minutes on a paper towel, flipping occasionally. In the meantime, slice onions and fresh tomatoes into ¼-inch horizontal slices and slice bell peppers and (optional) hot banana pepper vertically.

Heat a skillet and add the olive oil. Fry eggplant slices until brown, adding more olive oil to skillet as necessary. Lay the browned eggplant slices evenly at the bottom a 12-inch baking pan. Spread the sliced tomatoes, peppers, ban and onions on top of the eggplant. Add the whole cloves of garlic around the edges of the pan.

Mix the tomato paste and water and add salt to taste (about ½ teaspoon). Pour the tomato mixture over the vegetables. Cover the pan with aluminum foil and bake 1 hour, until all the vegetables are tender.

Remove from oven and let stand till cooled to room temperature. Serve with toasted pita bread.

The Lutheran World Federation

Department for World Service – Jerusalem Program

Income Received Through LWF Geneva - 2009

	USD
Bread for the World	240,000
CIDA - Europe, Middle East & Maghreb Branch / CLWR	163,741
Canadian Lutheran World Relief	21,627
Aduno-Ch Zang	1,500
Church of Sweden	492,917
DanChurchAid/Danida	50,110
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America	396,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada	2,064
Evangelical Lutheran Church In Japan	1,500
Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V.(EED)	140,272
Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission	766,323
GNC-HA Deutscher Hauptausschuss	98,997
Kind Donors	581
Norwegian Church Aid	114,205

Income Received Locally - 2009

	USD
Norwegian Church Aid / Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,025,347
Pontifical Mission for Palestine	16,500
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America	104,709
DanChurchAid/Danida	182,718
Royal Danish Representative Office	529,250
Lutheran World Relief	115,000
Palestinian Authority President's Office	25,000

Comparative Financial Data

	2009	2008	2007	2006
Revenue (USD)				
Vocational Training Program	1,085,924	1,050,585	1,019,168	934,955
Scholarship Program	22,986	28,778	20,531	27,055
Augusta Victoria Hospital (Operations)	12,667,533	12,526,488	9,346,794	7,110,007
Village Health Clinics	196,035	253,222	205,509	206,431
Emergency through ACT	0	0	0	1,515,152
Expenses (USD)				
Vocational Training Program	1,085,924	1,050,585	1,019,168	934,955
Scholarship Program	22,986	28,778	20,531	27,055
Augusta Victoria Hospital (Operations)	11,849,245	11,014,432	7,922,485	6,279,907
Village Health Clinics	196,035	253,222	205,509	206,431
Emergency through ACT	0	0	0	1,515,152

Visitors 2009

In 2009, the LWF staff in Jerusalem received hundreds of visitors who came to witness the LWF's work in the region. Many of them toured Augusta Victoria Hospital and the site of the Mount of Olives Housing Project, and some traveled to see the vocational training centers in Beit Hanina and Ramallah. The visitors included individuals, delegations, and groups from:

ELCA Conference of Bishops' Academy I • Luther Seminary – St. Paul, Minnesota • Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Group • Trinity Lutheran Seminary – Columbus, Ohio • Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago • St. Olaf College – Northfield, Minnesota • Earth Ministry • John Nduna, Director, ACT International • Christian Council of Norway • ELCA Northern Illinois Synod • Trinity Lutheran Seminary – Fargo, North Dakota • University of Michigan Lutheran Campus Ministry • Dr. David Hilden, University of Minnesota Medical School • Mark Braverman – Bethesda, Maryland • Foundation Wings of Hope – Germany • Italian Foreign Ministry Delegation • John Thomas, United Church of Christ General Minister and President, and Staff • Desert Cross Lutheran Church – Tempe, Arizona • St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church – Plymouth, Minnesota • Trinity Lutheran Church – Freeland, Washington • Land Brandenburg – Germany • Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church – Phoenix, Arizona • Dr. John & Mary Enemark, University of Arizona – Tucson, Arizona • Joe Harbison, World Vision Interim Director, and World Vision Jerusalem Staff • ELCA Northeast Synod • Ascension Lutheran Church – Waukesha, Wisconsin • Cross Lutheran Church – Milwaukee, Wisconsin • Waterloo Lutheran Seminary – Ontario, Canada • St. Stephen's College – Alberta, Canada • Southminster-Steinauer United Church – Alberta, Canada • Central Lutheran Church – Eugene, Oregon • Central Lutheran Church – Minneapolis, Minnesota • Warren Clark, Director, Churches for Middle East Peace • Erik Apelgårdh, International Department, Church of Sweden • Dagmar Lassman, Diakonie Auslands – Austria • Littlefield Presbyterian Church – Dearborn, Michigan • Friends of Sabeel – Colorado • APRODEV • Concordia University – Seaward, Nevada • Nancy Amacher Group – Chicago, Illinois • Daniel Benaim, U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee • Emma Jane Jordan – New York • Lauren Sholley, Candace Dodge & Shawn Jones – Washington, D.C. • Presbyterian Church (USA) Middle East Study Team Delegation • ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission • German Students Delegation • Pastor Connie Thompson, New Joy Lutheran Church – Indianapolis, Indiana • LWF Standing Committee for World Service • Journalists Delegation Sponsored by Church of Sweden • Esther Nelson & Debra Johnson, Central Lutheran Church – Portland, Oregon • Rev. Canon Dr. Karl Donfried, Smith College – Northampton, Massachusetts • Victory Lutheran Church – Mesa, Arizona • Arnie Voigt & Jan Miller Ecumenical Group • John & Carol Mapa • Our Savior's Lutheran Church – Mesa, Arizona • The Presbytery of the Ohio Valley – Columbus, Indiana • Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – Chandler, Arizona • Westmoreland United Church of Christ – Bethesda, Maryland • Rev. Phil Haslanger Group from Wisconsin and Mississippi • Educational Opportunities Tour – Santa Barbara, CA area • Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church – Bloomington, Minnesota • Grace Lutheran Church – La Grange, Illinois • Prince of Peace Lutheran Church – Appleton, Wisconsin • St. John's, Good Shepherd, & Advent Lutheran Congregations – Sacramento, CA area • Trinity Lutheran Church – Ottawa, Illinois • Lunds Diocese, Church of Sweden • Atonement Lutheran Church – Overland Park, Kansas • Doris Warrell, Field Director, Churches for Middle East Peace • Swedish Theological Institute Delegation of Theologians • Paivi Hieta – Finland • Siri Blesvik – Norway • National Interreligious Leadership Initiative for Peace in the Middle East Delegation • ELCA Southeast Michigan Synod • ELCA Conference of Bishops' Academy II • Bruce Moyer & JoAnn Bowman • Dr. Thomas Neu, The Carter Center • David Wildman, Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church • Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) – Italy • Medical Aid for Palestinians • Rev. Rolf Gunnar Heitmann & Håvard Kleppe, Norwegian Church Ministry to Israel



In October 2009, the LWF Standing Committee for World Service visited the LWF Jerusalem projects and met with Bishop Munib A. Younan and other local leaders and humanitarian workers.



The Lutheran World Federation Department for World Service – Jerusalem Program Donors to LWF Jerusalem

The LWF is grateful to the many groups and individuals who have supported us during 2009, including:

Anthony Vis • Are Blomhoff • Ascension Lutheran Church - Waukesha, Wisconsin • Atonement Lutheran Church - Overland Park, Kansas • Rev. Barbara Berry-Bailey • Barbara Knudson • Barbara R. Rossing • Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Lansing, Michigan • Bishop Bruce Burnside • Bishop Herman & Cindy Yoos • Bishop Leonard & Rita Bolick • Bishop Peter Rogness • Bishop Ray & Debbie Tiemann • Brenda Viehle • Capitol Drive Lutheran Church - Milwaukee, Wisconsin • Carolyn B. Albert • Carthage College - Kenosha, Wisconsin • Central Lutheran Church - Eugene, Oregon • Central Lutheran Church - Minneapolis, Minnesota • Central Lutheran Church - Portland, Oregon • Chelsea Mathis • Christ Lutheran Church - Norfolk, Nevada • Christ the King Lutheran Church - Cary, North Carolina • Christ the King Lutheran Church - Durango, Colorado • Christ the King Lutheran Church - Nashua, New Hampshire • Christine Cowan • Christine Hovland • Colin & Jeni Grangaard • Rev. Dale & Donna Finch • DanChurchAid/Danida • Daniel Dickens • Daniel Edwins • David & Amy Groen • David Fleener • David & Joellyn Kacynski • David Powell • Dawn Kolotka • Debra Johnson • Dennis Douglas • Desert Cross Lutheran Church - Tempe, Arizona • Dianne Hendrickson • Dorette Abruzzi • Dorothy Dykstra • E.R. Coacttr • East Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA • Ecumenical Young Adult Bible Study • Dr. Edward Langerak • Esperanza Lutheran Church - Phoenix, Arizona • Esther Nelson • Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Faith Lutheran Church Women - Shelton, Washington • First Lutheran Church WELCA - Blooming Prairie, Montana • First Lutheran WELCA - Bothell, Washington • Foundation Wings of Hope - Germany • Rev. Frances Hayes & Group • Friends of Sabeel, Colorado • Gail Marie Chupick • Georgine Steude • Goldstone Lutheran Church - Rudyard, Montana • Good Shepherd Engineering & Computing • Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Bismarck, North Dakota • Grace Lutheran Church - La Grange, Illinois • Greg & Lisa Buck • Greg & Mary Steeber • Greta Steeber • Hegre Lutheran Church - Kenyon, Minnesota • Helen Rowe • Holden Village • Ian Alexander • J.A. Esser • James Glanzer • Janet & Dale Crouse • Janet Johnson • Janice Klein • Jason Burggraff • Jean Lutterman • Jill Kuhel • Jill Stubbs • Jim & Cathy Monkman • Jog Edinger • Joseph N. Ballan • Joy Doerzbacher • Judy Birt • Julie Stucky • Karen Schultz • Karin Anderson • Karin Karlberg • Kathleen NedreLOW • Kathy Burkett • Katrina Harder • Kendrah Fredrichson • Kenneth Gatzke • Kirsten Glue • Larry Liddiard • Lauren Kleinschmidt • Lavi Jenner • Rev. Leon Gilbertson • Lois S. Boyce • Lord of Light Lutheran Church - Ann Arbor, Michigan • Lutheran Campus Ministry at the Michigan University • Lutheran Church of the Atonement - Barrington, Illinois • Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word - Rochester, New York • Lutheran Church of the Redeemer - Jerusalem • Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries - Omaha, Nevada • Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Students • Marc Beland • Maren Edvardsen • Maria Knuutinen • Bishop Marie & Rev. James Jerge • Martha Eyer • Martin & Nancy Hillila • Mary Jo Huelle • Members of the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem • Middle East Committee of Westmoreland UCC - Bethesda, Maryland • Nancy Amacher & Group • Nancy Zine • Niles Eastman • Pacifica Synod, ELCA • Paivi Muma • Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - Appleton, Wisconsin • Paul Buck • Paul Kvale • Peace Lutheran Church - Grass Valley, California • Philip & Cynthia Hauger • Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - Marlton, New Jersey • Ralph & Laurel Doermann • Ralph Quere • Randall & Donelia Heyn-Lamb • Rebecca Lund • Rebecca Circle • Region I Montana Synod, ELCA • Rev. Rhonda Kral • Richard & Kathleen Olson • Richard & Mary Glendening • Richard Dowhower • Rita Anderson • Robert Shaff • Robert Smith • Dr. Robert Winshall • Robyn Kistemaker • Rudolf & Briggeta Rogg • Ruth Hansen • Dr. Shaheer Yousaf • Siri Blesvik • Southeast Michigan Synod, ELCA • St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Oak Harbor, Ohio • St. John's Lutheran Church - Columbia, Pennsylvania • St. John's Lutheran Church - Stamford, Connecticut • St. Matthew's Conestogo - Ontario, Canada • St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Wauwatosa, Wisconsin • St. Olaf Student Congregation - Northfield, Minnesota • St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Lutherville, Maryland • St. Stephen's Lutheran Church - Monona, Wisconsin • Stiffelsen Betanien • Susan Briehl • Susanne & Mark Brown • Svein Haukson • Teresa Weber • Rev. Thomas Reiff • Tracie Wrisk • Trinity Lutheran Church - Freeland, Washington • Trinity Lutheran Church - Herkimer, New York • Trinity Lutheran Church - Valparaiso, Indiana • Tyler Haguer & Janne Dale • Upstate New York Synod, ELCA • Vibeke Borum • Wakachiai Project - Tokyo, Japan • William Funk • Zion Lutheran Church - Indiana, Pennsylvania

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The Lutheran World Federation

Department for World Service

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Alex Kuttab	Chief Finance Officer
Atif Khatib Al-Rimawi	Director of Human Resources

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V. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Suad Freij	Supervisor
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Front Cover

A pediatric dialysis patient sits in bed, her mother nearby, in the new Specialized Child Care Center at Augusta Victoria Hospital. Photo by M. Brown



Back Cover

At the LWF Vocational Training School in Ramallah, a trainee completes a class exercise in the telecommunications department. Photo by B. Moyer

Please note the new **actalliance** logo on the back cover of this report. **actalliance** was established on January 1, 2010, bringing together the efforts, resources, people and organizations who have been working together since 1995 as ACT International and since 2003 as ACT Development. **ACT is an alliance of 100 churches and church-related organizations that work together in humanitarian assistance and development.** The alliance works with over 30,000 people in 125 countries, and it mobilizes US \$1.5 billion annually in its work for a just world. The LWF Jerusalem program hosted the ACT Palestine Forum's launch at Augusta Victoria Hospital early in 2010.

LWF Jerusalem 2009 Annual Report

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الاتحاد اللوثيري العالمي هو تجمع عالمي للكنائس المسيحية. أنشأ في العام 1947 في مدينة لند في السويد، يضم حالياً 140 كنيسة عضو في 79 بلد ممثلة لأكثر من 68.5 مليون مسيحي.

دائرة الخدمات العالمية في الاتحاد اللوثيري العالمي تعمل في 36 بلد حول العالم، تقدم اعانة وتنمية للشعوب التي تعيش في الفقر. الاتحاد اللوثيري العالمي عضو مؤسس لمؤسسة العمل معا من قبل الكنائس.

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The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

is a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition. Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the LWF now has 140 member churches in 79 countries representing more than 68.5 million Christians.

The Lutheran World Federation's Department for World Service operates in 36 countries around the world, offering relief and development to people and populations living in poverty.

The LWF is a member of **actalliance**.

actalliance



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