

Health and Wellness in the Middle East

The ELCA is helping the blind to see and the broken to heal in the Middle East.

ELCA mission personnel work hand in hand with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

Since 1950 LWF has administered the Augusta Victoria Hospital, Jerusalem, providing health care for Palestinians. The hospital offers the only cancer radiation treatment and the only juvenile dialysis center in the West Bank. “This is the only place that offers the treatments these people need” said William Hadweh, Director of Nursing for the hospital. He continues: “Many of these people are suffering from kidney failure and there is no hospital in the West Bank that has dialysis machines. Others are suffering from cancer, and we’re the only place for Palestinians - from both the West Bank and Gaza – that offers radiation therapy.”

In addition to this medical assistance, the ELCA works with Lutheran World Relief to fund the Peace Center for the Blind. It is an academic and vocational training center for blind Palestinian women. All of the students at the center come from Jerusalem and West Bank families who are at or below poverty level. The women are provided training in basic academic subjects; in life skills such as Braille reading, housekeeping and personal care; and in marketable vocational skills such as hand and machine knitting, crochet, weaving, and crafts. The school serves about 60 Palestinian students with visual impairment from kindergarten through 7th grade.

It is your dollars thru the ECLA that bring this important medical help to these Palestinians in need.

Thank you for the HELP and HOPE you bring to so many.

Rick Antin
Woodland Lutheran Church