

AHLI ARAB HOSPITAL, GAZA CITY

Travel restrictions and a crippling blockade are a daily reality for Palestinian refugees in Gaza. For thousands of families, Ahli Arab Hospital and its free community clinic offer the only healthcare option. Everyone is welcome. Everyone is treated with dignity and respect.



AT A GLANCE **Ahli Arab Hospital**

- + Ms. Suhaila Tarazi, Director
Dr. Maher Ayyad, Medical Director
- + Ahli Arab Hospital is the oldest hospital in Gaza, founded in 1882
- + In Arabic, its name means "The Arab People's Hospital"
- + \$496,610 donated by AFEDJ supporters in 2019
- + More than 45,000 Gazans receive care at the Ahli Hospital each year

Overcoming obstacles on many fronts is a daily routine for the leaders of Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, but recent years have offered up some particularly daunting challenges: Clashes at the border and deep unrest, the effects of U.S. cuts in aid to the UN agency that serves Palestinian refugees, the total failure of the hospital's aged water system and the collapse of the critically important outpatient clinic building in late 2018. With the threat of a COVID-19 outbreak, the hospital leaders have worked hard to prepare for treat patients in an isolation unit while continuing to provide regular health care.

Despite those challenges, Ahli Arab Hospital continues to serve its impoverished neighbors every day.

The political, economic, and social climate in Gaza is one of the most complicated in the world. The challenges that 2.1 million Gazans face are daunting. Ahli Hospital is a safe haven of peace and compassion in the midst of chaos. Its leaders and medical staff work with dedication to help their patients cope with appalling living conditions, including widespread water contamination, food insecurity, psycho-social trauma from political turmoil and conflict, limited medicine and medical supplies, the lack of fuel for heating and cooking, among others.

Ahli Hospital staff members remain committed to providing compassionate care to all who walk through their doors. "People come through these doors because of the values this institution incarnates," said Bishop Barry Beisner, an AFEDJ trustee, after a visit to Ahli.



Suhaila Tarazi, Director of Ahli Hospital, greets many patients in the waiting room

"Your generous support helps us to continue to be a beacon of light and hope to our devastated community. We are tired, but we cannot give up; there is much work still to do."

— Suhaila Tarazi, Ahli Hospital Director

Ahli Arab Hospital spends an average of \$1,800 a day on diesel fuel to run its generators up to 20 hours.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Ahli Arab Hospital is a safe haven of peace and compassion in the midst of chaos.

- Free community clinic with transportation from outlying neighborhoods
- Clinic for underweight and malnourished children
- Physical and occupational therapy
- Treatment for burn patients, primarily children
- Psycho-social support for children and their caregivers who have suffered trauma from war and the deprivations of the blockade
- Mammography screening for early detection of breast cancer
- Surgery and in-patient care
- Emergency services

YOUR IMPACT AS AN AFEDJ DONOR

Never underestimate the power of one gift gathered together with many others to transform the lives of thousands of families and children.

- + Your donations allowed AFEDJ to make an emergency grant to help Ahli Hospital leaders prepare for the arrival of COVID-19.
- + A \$468,000 Harold C. Smith Foundation grant doubled access to the hospital's community clinic through mid-2020.
- + AFEDJ donors provided most of the funding to rebuild the 110 year-old outpatient clinic that suffered a catastrophic collapse in December 2018.
- + You provided more than \$496,000 in 2019 to support Ahli.



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