



Project Hope Update

1. Classes
2. Trip to Canada
3. Child Heart Surgery to Remove Cancerous Growth: Urgent Appeal
4. Donations (Charitable Status in Canada)

www.palhope.org [No Longer Valid]

Email: projecthope@gmx.net [No Longer Valid]

1. There is a lack of English native speakers, which reduces the number and quality of classes we can have. Many of the classes we can offer are only low level, due to the lack of native speakers. The low level classes can be taught by non-Native speakers, usually Palestinian, with an excellent grasp of the English language. In particular, English department students. Still, we need more native speaker volunteers.

Classes have continued this session in Balata Refugee Camp, Askar Refugee Camp, Nablus and the village of Jayyous. In a couple of weeks, a new set of classes will have to begin with the onset of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. We are just now deciding what they be comprised of. We are also in the process of revising the curriculum. A lot of the focus in Palestinian schools is on grammar, so we are encouraging discussion and the actual use of language in the English classes. This is also a great venue for the students to express themselves and their thoughts, and to just have fun. Fun is necessary in such

a bleak environment, and leads to hope.

Currently we are just finishing what we started in drama and art. Some children's art classes and plays. There will be a film class in Balata Refugee Camp during the Ramadan session. A group of youth will practice filming with a Project Hope senior art student from California.

We're still dealing with 100s of participants and many of the classes have Palestinian teachers, making a real difference.

2. There have been some delays in the Canada trip. It has been moved back by approximately two weeks. The next schedule will be emailed in the next progress report.

3. Project Hope **TOOK THE INTEGRAL ROLE IN ORGANIZING THE HEART SURGERY FOR A CHILD FROM NABLUS.** She had a cancerous growth of the right ventricle that needed to be treated abroad.

It was something that couldn't wait, and we had no funding for this particular case, so it has largely been paid for out of the pocket of one of our volunteers. **The surgery is normally around 25 000 \$US, but we arranged it largely for free.** So the cost was incidental for him to cover at the moment. He is a young, unpaid volunteer, and can't afford to bear this cost for long, and our budget is very tight, so that at the moment we can't reimburse him.

In addition, there is now the need to raise additional money to bring the mother to be with her child. We have had some donations, but need more. Any help would be great. We are able to take tax-deductible donations in Canada, which can be sent to us in the donation information in this update.

Below is the story of Saba Abushehada:

Saba Abushehada is an 18 month old baby girl from Nablus, Palestine. **It was discovered that she has MYXOMA, a cancerous growth inside the right ventricle of her heart.**



A picture of young Saba

Because of the current political and infrastructural problems in Palestine, it was impossible to treat this child in her home country. Saba's father, Wajih, was desperately trying to find a way to save her life. He approached Samah Atout, Palestinian Director of Project Hope.

Samah tried to find medical solutions within Palestine, but this was unsuccessful. It was apparent that she would have to search outside the country. Project Hope's Italian volunteer and Communication's Manager, Emanuele Bompan (mentioned above). After logging many hours on the internet and making countless international phone calls, Emanuele was finally successful in getting assistance from Associazione Bambini Cardiopatici (ABC), an Italian association specializing in the treatment of pediatric cardiac problems.

Dr. Marcelletti from ABC responded to Emanuele's plea. His surgical team offered to operate on little Saba's heart. He provided necessary documentation for the travel visa and provided accommodation so Saba's father could be close by during her treatment. Project Hope managed to arrange the \$25 000 surgery for free in this case, with travel and incidental costs all that needed to be covered.

Nonetheless, the cost of travel to Italy was beyond the means of the Abushehada family. Despite the best efforts of Samah, Emanuele and the rest of the Project Hope team in Palestine, there were still not enough funds to cover the basic travel expenses. This is the cost that was born by Emanuele himself.

Until now we have received \$660, while we have to pay \$1300. **We have an additional PROBLEM:** the mother is now being requested following the operation. The father, sick child and doctors want her there now. We need an addition \$650 for travel, travel permits, and associated expenses. We are in need of extra expenses to help cover the costs of this trip. We are in need of donations to cover the missing \$640 for the initial cost, and \$650 to send over the mother.

* For this first trip Emanuele was needed to travel with the father and young child. However, in the future, having now made the connection and went through the procedure once, we hope that we can further cut costs by not having to send a Project Hope volunteer to accompany the family to Jordan and Italy. We can't bear the costs in dollars or even so in manpower (In this case, Emanuele is an integral member of our management and administration). Of course, it will depend on the situation, and the wishes the family and ABC.

* Note, the first two budgets are rather precise, as they are already ongoing, while the mother's is an estimate.

- JD is Jordanian Dinars, and is mixed with the prices in Euros. We give the final budget price in dollars, however.
- 1 Euro is 1.17 \$ US, while 1 JD is 1.41 \$US

Saba and Wajih Abu Shehada budget

Item	Cost	Date and Nature
Airplane ticket Amman-Palermo round trip	500\$	28.09.03 ord.
Taxi Amman-Allenby- Amman	35 JD	01.10.03 extr.
Hotel Hamman	20 JD	02.10.03 ord.
Rented Car	35 JD	03-03.10.03 ord
Airport Amman Taxes	15 JD	04.10.03 ord

Lunch Al Quds Rest.	10 JD	04.10.03 extr.
Transport Palermo	35 €	05.10.03 ord
Necessary goods	10€	06.10.03 ord

Total: 662\$ (870 \$CDN)

Assistant Emanuele Bompan, volunteer of Project Hope

Item	Cost	Date and Nature
Airplane ticket Amman-Palermo round trip	450\$	28.09.03 ord.
Exit Tax form Israel	38\$	01.10.03 ord.
Bus at Jordan Border	4 JD	01.10.03 ord.
Taxi Allenby –Sheik Hussein	80\$	01.10.03 extr.
Hotel Amman	12 JD	01.10.03 extr.
Taxis embassies	3,5JD	02.10.03 extr.
Hostel Amman	5 JD	02.10.03 ord.
Travel goods	8 \$	04.10.03 ord.
Visa, document, phone calls, and various for Saba	37\$	06.10.03 ¹

Total: 635\$ (835 \$CDN)

**Approximate Mother's
Budget**

Item	Cost	Date and Nature
Airplane ticket Amman-Palermo round trip	500\$	28.09.03 ord.
Taxi Amman-Allenby- Amman	35 JD	01.10.03 extr.
Hotel Hamman	20 JD	02.10.03 ord.
Transportation in	15 JD	03-03.10.03 ord

¹ This amount is taken from the phone call bill on the bank account

Amman		
Airport Amman Taxes	15 JD	04.10.03 ord
Lunch	10 JD	04.10.03 extr.
Transport Palermo	35 €	05.10.03 ord
Necessary goods	10€	06.10.03 ord

Total: 648 \$US (855
\$CDN)

Grand Total of costs for Surgery 1945 \$US (2560
\$CDN)

4. Please donate so we can continue with our activities. In particular, we are in need of donations to continue to work in the medical fields. We are hoping to continue to send sick children from wherever we are working, to ABC in Italy in the future. To continue with the great work like how we are helping Saba, we need donations, as medicine is a new field of work for us. We aren't going to always be able to bear the initial costs from our pockets in the future, if we have no money, no matter how pressing the case.