



Front view of the Center

The Jerusalem Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children (JCDC) is moving towards attaining its goals, transferring knowledge to the community of children with special needs. Our team of experts is now reaching parents, schools and professionals in their environment,

training and developing awareness and skills, thus creating a unique structure in rehabilitation on a national level.

All rehabilitation departments at the Center are continuing to work within the vision and mission as one of the three national resource/referral Centers. Services are offered to all children admitted to the

Center from West Bank or referred by the Israeli health insurance from East Jerusalem.

**A dream come true:
Inclusive Education at the
Mainstream School.**

The number of students at the mainstream school has increased, totaling 756 students this year. Forty have physical disability, sixty-eight are hearing impaired with either cochlear implants or hearing aides, five have visual disability and six have health problems. 637 are able bodies children. Arabic, English and Hebrew are taught at the school in our curriculum.

We adapt the Palestinian educational curriculum within our school and at the resource and remedial classes to suit the

needs of the children with special needs who are included at our educational setting. We are proud to announce that this year we will graduate our first 12th Grade class. This will enable them to further their university education.

Continual efforts are spent in upgrading the skills of the teachers in their field of inclusive education so that those with learning difficulties, integrated in different classes, will be better served.

Admissions 2009

As for the inpatient children admitted to the Center 220 new children have been admitted this year up to the end of October with their mothers. Children receive a comprehensive rehabilitation program including hydrotherapy and play therapy, psycho-social therapy and nursing care. Mothers receive empowerment sessions and are trained to become equal partners in the rehabilitation process of their children. A new program of counselling for mothers has started as of Tuesday, 17th November, 2009.

The in-patient children are referred through the following:

1. United Nations Relief and Works Agency
2. Non-refugees are referred through the Palestinian Ministry of Health
3. Hearing impaired children within the Jerusalem boundaries are referred through MICHA Center in Jerusalem.
4. Our clinic in Nablus "Farah" Center or "Move" in Hebron.

Conditions of children admitted at the Center include mostly: Cerebral Palsy, post traumatic brain injury congenital malformations, Neuromuscular diseases, scoliosis and kyphosis, speech difficulties, down syndrome, post burn injuries, autism and other developmental disabilities.

Ages: 0-15 years. Length of stay: from two weeks to two months. Treatments offered through physiotherapy, strengthening exercises, occupational therapy sessions, speech therapy and hydrotherapy. Sessions are given to mothers on basic health education and on feeding, toileting, dressing and training the children to depend on themselves. Awareness is brought on the dangers of close inter marriage among close relatives.

A well established monitoring system is available at the Center through the International ISO 9001-2000 standards. Yearly departmental objectives are set and aligned with the main organizational goals.

The Rehabilitation Program at the Center:

Along with the comprehensive physiotherapy program devised for the child, every mother is educated and trained to become a partner in the rehabilitation process of her child with the aim of the mothers' empowerment. In order to upgrade the staff's knowledge and work experience at the PT unit all the staff were enrolled in many lectures and workshops in different related subjects, "MOVE" (Movement Opportunity via Education) workshop at the Center, feeding and seating workshop at Abu Raya and spasticity management through the CARE Organization.

The head of the in-patient physiotherapy department attended a ten-day intensive course in Edinburgh, Scotland on 22nd November, 2009. The course was on MOVE movement for learning and life, a training

methodology for severely disabled persons. The training was aimed to train those professionals to become teachers and trainers for the MOVE staff in Palestine.

The majority of out-patients are referred for physiotherapy through Israeli health insurance, Clalit and Leumit.



All OT and PT students from different universities do their practical and clinical field work training at the Center's Rehab department.

**(In photo below)
Music Session for
Hearing-impaired Children
by BYU Students,**

Occupational Therapy: The department continues to treat every child admitted to the Center in addition to school children at the Center that have learning difficulties. Students from Bethlehem University at the OT program do their practical training at the Center.

The OT department head staff participated in the course in (Dynamic Occupational Therapy Cognitive Assessment for Children) at the school of Hadassah and the faculty of Medicine Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Our OT staff are members of the National Palestinian Team for Autism.

Out-patient physiotherapy unit: There has been an increase in number of patients attending out-patient physiotherapy unit during 2005, 2006, 2007. Although there was a slight decrease during the year 2008 (4%), the number of patients increased again by year 2009 to reach (684) by the end of October. Social cases have the priority to be treated with affordable fees, even free of charge if need be. Treatments offered at the out-patient unit are: - Hydrotherapy, Manual Therapy, Electrotherapy, Exercise machines. Patients who have Palestinian health insurance face difficulties in obtaining permits to Jerusalem.

Speech Therapy Unit: The unit continued its usual services for the in-patients; in addition to providing services to the Israeli-insured clients, private patients and to the school students who have different phonological problems. The hearing-impaired children accompanied by their teacher attend the kindergarten classes to enable them to learn new things for specific activities during the educational day.

Outreach Program: At least two providers of international level services in the community are being reached by our Center's professional experts to upgrade skills, knowledge and competence of staff in order to provide quality services to clients. Twenty children with special needs are assessed, treated and monitored at Emleson Center, Jerusalem, by our Center and staff twice a week. Our specialized doctor and two professional therapists from the Center attend Farah Center twice per month where intermediate level services are provided in the community for children with special needs. The in-patient Physiotherapy (PT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) units and our specialized doctor are performing two visits monthly to the northern area of Palestine in cooperation with the Medical Relief intermediate level service and CBR program at Farah Center, and weekly visits to the rehabilitation kindergarten (Emleson) in East Jerusalem, as well as weekly visits to Move Center in the south of Hebron, aiming at transferring knowledge and expertise in the field of rehabilitation and integration by empowering the staff working there.

Continued Staff Education:

- ☞ One staff is completing her Bachelor's degree at Al-Quds University in physiotherapy.
- ☞ The professional staff were active participants in different conferences which were held nationally and internationally concerning rehabilitation, education in kindergarten schools and communication technology in order to upgrade the staff knowledge and work experience in connection with the Center's continued education programs for the staff at the Rehab units and the school.
- ☞ A Telemedicine (video conferencing) network has been installed between our Center and other partners on the national and the international levels: Abu Raya Center, Bethlehem Arab society, Al Wafa Hospital in Gaza. All required equipment including the video conference were donated and properly installed and fully functional funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo, Norway, until end of 2009.
- ☞ Building the capacity of early childhood sector in East Jerusalem: The principal of our kindergarten classes and the pre-school teacher have attended a two-week intensive capacity training course with the Italian party (Regione Emilia Romagna and Arci) conducted by CADIAI in Bologna, Italy. The main objective was to enhance the institutional capacity of the early childhood sector and improving their capacities at various levels.

Donation through our bank in Jerusalem:

Account Name: The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children
Name of Bank: Mercantile-Discount Bank Ltd.
Address: Salah Eddin Street- East Jerusalem
Bank #: (17) - Branch # (638)
USD Account # 402052
Swift code: BARDILIT

Remedial class decorating Christmas tree



Donation through our bank in London:

Account Name:
The Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children
Name of Bank: HSBC Private Bank (UK) Limited
Address: 78 James's Street, London SW1 1JB
Multi-currency Account #: 303289 0001
Swift/BIC Code: SMCGB2P
IBAN: GB29 SMC0 4093 4130 3289 01

Orthopedic workshop: A field visit was made by Leila Faraj Project Officer at Montmorency International college at Quebec, Canada on the REHAB Projects in Palestine funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) regarding the training of staff and capacity building activities in the sector of orthosis, prosthesis and in physiotherapy and occupational therapy, through professionals from Canada. In July 2009 Robert Archambault, professor and specialist in orthoses and prostheses spent two weeks at the Center's workshop evaluating and training our staff and has left us with constructive suggestions including the re-arrangement of the workshop area. A new fitting room was created for the safety of both staff and clients. These were greatly appreciated and implemented. The devices done at the Center workshop have increased by working with the Palestinian Ministry of Health through Abu Raya Center in Ramallah.

The number of devices done up to end of October: Orthotic 85, Prosthesis 27, Surgical boots 105, Arch support 143, Straps 65, Technical aids 15.

Between 350-400 cases, males and females, of all age groups are assessed at the orthopedic manufacturing unit. The appropriate device/technical aids are produced at our Center's workshop and delivered to the clients in the West Bank according to their needs. This arrangement entails additional expenses on the Center's budget due to the restrictions imposed by the Israeli Authority on the clients living outside the Jerusalem borders being prevented from entering Jerusalem area; permits are not easily obtained to enable them to reach the Center.

Thanks and Acknowledgement

1. Flagship Project: funded by USAID assisting the Center with US \$ 90,000 for 2010 towards enhancing the rehabilitation structure in Palestine on national, intermediate and community levels.
2. BYU Brigham Young University Jerusalem for the art students for beautifying the Center's wall with their beautiful murals including the cost of paint needed.
3. The Consulate General of Italy on the Palestinian Municipalities Support Program on:
A-Providing and constructing a car park at the back of the building, to support the safe accessibility of those children with special needs to and from the school premises.
B- Installing acoustic and FM system to six classrooms.
C- Developing human resources by upgrading skills of knowledge, abilities of teachers, social education and rehabilitation as an outstanding necessity. External consultants/specialists will provide training/education to our teachers and therapists to develop their abilities and keep them updated with the latest international trends in the field of inclusive education. Amount donated: US\$ 110,000.
4. The USAID/CEP West Bank support in kind at an estimated cost of US\$ 119,860

towards supplying food, equipment, furniture and the renovation works for the internal spaces required for the classroom doors and construction of school canteen.

5.The Consulate General of Belgium for:
A-Developing the Physiotherapy Unit in terms of human resources and equipment.

B- Training of therapists and nurses in hydrotherapy treatment.

C- Upgrading and development of the security system at the Center.

D- Construction of a shading roof for the secondary school playground. (Amount donated: 55,000 Euro).

6. Our partnership with the Advance program at the General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church, for their gifts towards service provision to the children including their support towards services to social cases and cost of meals

7- BibleLands U.K. towards general support.

8-Jennifer and Michael Brown U.S.A. for supporting our core budget

9- Randa Majaj and Bill Veach towards the summer camp.

10-Dr. and Mrs. Michel Farah, for their yearly effort of fundraising towards the services at the Center. This year's proceeds from their traditional dinner dance amounted to US \$ 10,450.

11-Karla Schuchmann for yearly fundraising efforts towards running cost.

12-Armond and Josephine Habiby, USA, for their contributions towards education.

13-Sisters of St. Joseph, Canada, for their contribution towards running cost.

14-Arab Women's Association, UK, for their contribution towards running cost.

15-DIAKONIA of Sweden for their contribution towards the outreach program in North of Palestine.

16-Palestinian Ministry of Health for covering part of the cost of treatment of inpatient children.

17- UNRWA for covering part of the cost of 12 refugee children.

18-August de Jong and Robert Muhlig from Komoto Foundation in the Netherlands.

19-For the anonymous donors, individuals, friends and supporters who have gratefully contributed towards the services at the Princess Basma Center this year.

Looking forward to your continued support now more than any other time,

With our gratitude and many thanks,

Betty Majaj
Chief Executive Officer

Summer Camp:

A team of 8 British volunteers through Highway Projects conducted gratefully by Ian White share in our three-week camp this year for the eighth consecutive year contributing to the richness of the programs. It was conducted on our premises. Fifty children ages 4-7 years with their mothers joined the camp and greatly enjoyed it. At the end of the camp children exhibited proudly their production.

It was challenging to meet with the team from the U.K. and share with them our hopes and our day to day frustrations and experiences on the ground under the prevailing conditions.



Summer Camp with Highway Projects team

**For further assistance,
please use the contact information shown below ...**

**P.O. Box 19764
East Jerusalem 91197**

**Phone: +972-2-628-3058
+972-2-626-4536**

Fax: +972-2-627-4449

E-mail: info@basma-centre.org

www.basma-centre.org