



NEWSLETTER
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Journey to **BETHLEHEM**



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL
of Bethlehem Foundation

WELCOME!

We are delighted to welcome Jennifer A. McNulty, who joined us as the Foundation Director on October 17, 2016. Jen, a Northern Virginia native, comes to the Foundation with over twenty years of experience and a diverse background in nonprofit fundraising and leadership.



Jen has worked extensively in the nonprofit sector building brand awareness, organization allegiance, and community engagement. She possesses a strong background in social, print, and electronic media, including a depth of experience in television and radio interviews and documentaries.

“I feel extremely blessed to be a part of this amazing mission,” Jen tells us. “Holy Family Hospital is truly a beacon of hope for so many mothers and children in the Holy Land.”

Jen resides in Alexandria, VA with her husband, Colonel Edward McNulty, USMC, and their eight-year-old son. The McNultys are longtime members of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, and are active within the local military community.

We have known Jen for a number of years as a community leader and a friend of the Foundation. Please join us in welcoming and congratulating Jen on her new position at Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation. She can be reached directly at Jennifer@hfhfoundation.org or by phone at (202) 785-0801.

A COMMITMENT *to life*

Inas lives near the ancient city of Hebron, nearly an hour outside Bethlehem. Despite the distance, for each of her three pregnancies Inas has insisted she receive all her prenatal care at Holy Family Hospital. Her husband, Abdel, is happy to accompany her to all her appointments, knowing the Hospital to be the region’s best provider of maternal care.

When Inas became pregnant with her third child, she continued to travel to Holy Family Hospital often for check-ups. During a routine appointment a few days before her due date, Inas’ doctor told her that her baby was in breech presentation. Inas’ water broke at midnight a few nights later.



Fearing for his wife and unborn child, Abdel urged Inas to deliver at a hospital closer to home but she refused. Inas wanted to deliver in the Hospital she knew and trusted most.

Inas and Abdel arrived at Holy Family Hospital just after one in the morning. As doctors and nurses rushed her into the delivery room, Abdel realized his wife had made the right decision. Their son was born just three hours later.

Inas remains grateful to Holy Family Hospital for the safe deliveries of all three of her children. She said, “I’ve had both my daughters here and now my son. I will always choose Holy Family Hospital because I can trust that they will take care of my babies no matter what.”

Holy Family Hospital is proud to be known as the West Bank’s premier maternity hospital, especially for high-risk cases. The dedicated physicians and staff ensure that all mothers and babies are treated with compassion in every situation. Our generous donors make it possible for this high-level care to be given to all, without regard to religion, ethnicity, or ability to pay.

HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL

mobile outreach clinic

Before Holy Family Hospital launched its Mobile Outreach Clinic in 1995, women and children in the West Bank had little access to affordable medical care. Today, the Mobile Clinic annually treats over 800 women and 1,200 children from United Nations Refugee Camps and isolated villages throughout the Bethlehem region. The Clinic brings essential obstetric, gynecological, and pediatric care to these mothers and children who would otherwise go without.



Over its 22 years of service, the Clinic has become a key fixture in the communities it serves. Many women and children rely on its weekly appearances, including mothers like Anwar.

Anwar began visiting the Mobile Clinic four years ago, after she became pregnant with her first child. She made regular visits for her prenatal appointments, and diligently followed the Clinic doctor's direction on how to stay healthy during her pregnancy.

It was after her very first appointment that she knew she wanted to deliver at Holy Family Hospital.

"I saw how well the doctors and nurses treated us at the Mobile Clinic. I knew they would also treat me well when it came time for my delivery," she says.

Just a few months later, she delivered a healthy baby boy, Ali, at Holy Family Hospital.

As her son grew, Anwar began taking him to the Mobile Clinic pediatrician for regular check-ups because she could not afford to travel into Bethlehem to visit a specialist.

Through her second and third pregnancies, Anwar was always a regular at the Clinic. Hamid, her husband, says he owes the health of his family to the Mobile Clinic's high-quality care.



Hamid says, "Every Tuesday my wife visits the Clinic. She is so happy to have doctors who can help answer her questions. She and our babies are cared for in the same place, making it very easy for her. I am happy knowing that my family is healthy and that they get the best care."

Your contribution to Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation will help support this essential Hospital program, so please donate today!

HELP SUPPORT US *today!*

Now more than ever, your generous support will ensure that Holy Family Hospital is able to provide critical care and lifesaving treatment to the poorest mothers, babies, and families of the Bethlehem region of the Holy Land.

SAVE A LIFE — CONTRIBUTE TODAY

\$100

Provide prenatal care to expectant mothers in need.

\$250

Celebrate life by sponsoring the delivery of a baby in Bethlehem.

\$500

Provide cancer and diabetes screenings for women without access to healthcare.

\$1,000

Provide vital support for the Hospital's Poor Case Fund.

\$2,500

Save the life of a premature infant through support of the NICU.

\$5,000

Sponsor the Mobile Outreach Clinic for families in refugee camps and remote villages.

Donations can be made online at birthplaceofhope.org.

To contribute by check or credit card, please use the attached return envelope. Please make your check payable to **Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation**.

Remembering Bethlehem's most vulnerable and poor in your will is a wonderful way to provide support in perpetuity. Your generosity will be memorialized at Holy Family Hospital. Please contact Jennifer McNulty at (202) 785-0801 for more information.

Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible according to current IRS guidelines.

the INNKEEPER'S corner

Just as the Innkeeper in Scripture embraced Mary and Joseph in their moment of need, each one of our supporters offers the same level of care and hospitality to thousands of poor and at-risk families in the Holy Land today.

MEET AN INNKEEPER

Finn O'Sullivan first heard about Holy Family Hospital at St. John the Evangelist Church in New York City. His pastor, Msgr. Douglas Mathers, spoke about the work of the Hospital in his homily. At just ten years old, Finn was moved by the great needs of children like him in the Holy Land.

"When I was a baby, I was sick," he told us. "I had stomach problems and needed special care. I felt that we had to help the sick babies in Bethlehem."

As a member of the student council at his school, he recommended Holy Family Hospital as the designated charity for the school's annual Basketball Shootout Fundraiser. His fellow students were eager to help.

The day of the Shootout, everyone came together to shoot baskets. For each basket made, a donation was given to Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation. The baskets quickly added up to over \$500 in direct support of the Hospital.

Thank you, Finn, for using your unique gifts to help mothers and babies in the Holy Land!



HONOR YOUR MOTHER!

This Mother's Day you can honor your mother by supporting Holy Family Hospital! Simply make a donation and provide her contact information. A personalized Mother's Day card will be sent informing her of the services your generous donation has sponsored. A candle will be lit in your mother's honor at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

peace THROUGH MEDICINE

Holy Family Hospital is a proud, longtime partner of Bethlehem University's nursing and midwifery programs. These top-tier programs have succeeded in opening up new employment opportunities for Palestinian men and women.



This semester, four fourth-year nursing students began an internship at Holy Family Hospital. Over the next few months, they will rotate between the labor ward, postnatal ward, and emergency room, shadowing our experienced nurses, many of whom also graduated from Bethlehem University.

Though the internship has been challenging at times, nursing student Waleed Bannoura (pictured, left) feels like he has already gained invaluable experience.

“As a nurse, it’s important to be able to be calm in stressful situations, but that isn’t something that I can learn in a classroom,” Waleed says. “The nurses I am working with have taught me how to be calm, how to help a frightened mother when she is feeling most vulnerable.”

As the second largest employer in Bethlehem, Holy Family Hospital plays a crucial stabilizing role in the community, providing jobs to 170 Palestinian families and creating employment opportunities for women in an area where few exist. All four nursing students aspire to work at Holy Family Hospital after graduation.

“I admire how the doctors and nurses treat the patients here. Everyone is so compassionate and kind, and wants to make the new mothers and infants as comfortable as possible,” Waleed says.

We are grateful to the doctors, nurses, and staff who make Holy Family Hospital the well-loved institution that it is. Our committed donors make the Hospital’s high-level of care possible, and we ask for your continued support today!

HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL

Diabetes Clinic

Khawla and her husband, Sami, celebrated twenty years of marriage in the postnatal ward of Holy Family Hospital. On the day of their anniversary, Khawla was recovering from the delivery of their newest daughter, Maria.

“I have delivered all my children at Holy Family Hospital,” Khawla said. “I always come back here because this is the best hospital for mothers and babies.”

Khawla and Sami reside with their five children in Handazeh, a small village on the outskirts of Bethlehem. Eight months into her pregnancy, Khawla was diagnosed for the first time with gestational diabetes. Holy Family Hospital’s Diabetes Clinic identified the condition during a routine prenatal exam.

Like any mother hearing such a diagnosis, Khawla worried for her unborn child. Her pregnancy was now considered high-risk, and she was nearly two decades older than she was during her first pregnancy. Sami confessed that he did not think their family could pay the added healthcare costs.

Doctors assured Khalwa and Sami that Holy Family Hospital’s Diabetes Clinic would be able to mitigate these new health risks at a cost that their family could easily afford. Khalwa spent two nights at the Hospital for monitoring and had regular check-ups at the Clinic throughout the last month of her pregnancy.

After her delivery, baby Maria was immediately admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for observation. Miraculously, she showed no complications and was discharged after only two days.

“I am so grateful to the Diabetes Clinic that Maria is healthy. The doctors monitored me and my baby after I was diagnosed and made sure we were both well.”

Khawla and Sami say their twentieth anniversary was their best yet.



A BEACON OF *hope*

DOCTOR SALIM KUNKAR

Dr. Salim is the warm, welcoming face in Holy Family Hospital's nursery. He has been hearing the first cry of newborns since 1982, when he started as a pediatrician. Today, Dr. Salim is retired from his private practice, but he continues to work at Holy Family Hospital part-time. He cannot bear to fully retire and be away from the newborns he loves so dearly.



Born in Bethlehem to a hotel owner and a stay-at-home mother, Dr. Salim grew up in a busy household of five children. He loved science as a child and would often spend time in his parents' hotel chatting with guests, one of whom would one day become his medical mentor.

Dr. Salim's mentor was a well-known pediatrician from Palestine who would visit Bethlehem often, always asking young Salim about

his studies and academic life. After high school, Dr. Salim enrolled in medical school in St. Petersburg. When his mentor died unexpectedly during Dr. Salim's first year, he was driven to work harder. Today, he dedicates his pediatric vocation to the memory of his mentor.

Boasting a stellar academic career, including a postdoctoral fellowship in France, Dr. Salim had job opportunities at some of the top pediatric facilities in the world. Instead, he chose to return to Bethlehem to care for the underserved children in his hometown.



Dr. Salim was born with achondroplasia, a form of short-limbed dwarfism, but his family never allowed the disability to hold him back. His outsized, extroverted personality has allowed him to excel in his career as a well-loved and respected pediatrician. He has worked extensively with children with cerebral palsy, hoping to impart to children with disabilities a message of hope and transcendence beyond the physical.

More than anything, Dr. Salim is attracted to the human side of medicine. He loves reassuring new parents and teaching them how to care for their growing children. **Throughout his career, he has been guided by a conviction that medicine is not merely a job, but a vocation in the service to humanity.**

"Other fields pay higher salaries," he says, "but my heart is with the newborns and families at Holy Family Hospital." Thank you Dr. Salim!

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A Primary Work of the Order of Malta

Holy Family Hospital is a primary hospitalier work of the Order of Malta. Its U.S. foundation is a shared work of all three U.S. associations. The Grand Master has asked all Knights and Dames throughout the world to share in its support.



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL of Bethlehem Foundation

Delivering LIFE, PEACE, and HOPE in the HOLY LAND

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After you have enjoyed this newsletter, we encourage you to share the good works of Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation with a friend by passing this along!