



American Friends of the
Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem
Building Presence – Building Peace

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25 Old King's Highway North, Suite 13, Darien CT 06820



St. Andrew's Clinic
Ramallah
will offer health and hope

Dear Anne,

I just returned from a three week trip to Jerusalem and the institutions of the Diocese of Jerusalem. The thing that stays with me is a visit to a parking lot. Unpaved at that. It's an empty property owned by the Diocese, near the center of the city, and they're working hard to build an office building on it. How would that address the mission of the Diocese to teach and heal?



The office building represents a long term effort on the part of the Diocese to generate revenue and use it to fund the critical ministries of its parishes, schools and hospitals. A tenant would pay rent which would more than cover the costs, and the excess would be used to fund mission. When this one's done, the hope is that another one can be started. Eventually, projects like this could generate enough revenue to make the Diocese financially self-sufficient.

The Rt. Rev. Suheil Dawani is thinking creatively to address the urgent future needs of his Diocese. Over the next months, we'll be telling you more about these efforts to use infrastructure to fund mission. As we travel the road through Holy Week, please keep the Bishop, this

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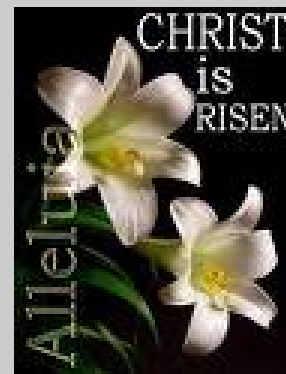
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project and those struggling in the Holy Land in your prayers.

-- Anne K. Lynn, Executive Director

St. Andrew's Clinic Ready to Open



Om David in Ramallah

Om David is a cheerful woman who's almost completely incapacitated. Her husband died several years ago, her two children emigrated to South American a decade ago, and she's bed-ridden with circulatory problems resulting from diabetes. It's hard to know what keeps her smiling, with a kind word for everyone and joy in her heart.

Om David was independent until her physical condition deteriorated when Ramallah was almost completely surrounded by checkpoints. It became impossible for her to get to a hospital. The disease quickly and permanently damaged her legs and feet.

Fr. Hanna Daleh, priest at St. Andrew's Parish in Ramallah, visits her and brings her food. Om David eagerly awaits the opening of the St. Andrew's Clinic at the church in Ramallah. The combination of primary care and high quality advanced care for diabetics will allow her to receive good care locally, something that is currently impossible.

The clinic was built as a three storey addition on top of the parish hall and awaits the purchase and installation of specialized equipment for diagnosing, assessing and maintaining diabetes. Fr. Hanna is pictured at the top of the page in the new waiting room. Because of genetic factors, Palestinians have between 4 and 5 times the rate of this debilitating condition as those in the US. Without adequate treatment, it takes vital, productive heads of households and turns them into unemployed dependents.

The clinic will provide services on a sliding scale to insure that everyone has access. But the waiting room stands empty now, waiting for the children and older people who will benefit from care that will keep them healthy. They're waiting for your gift to make it happen.....

Kids4Peace makes connections that promote tolerance



Kids4Peace continuation ceremony
conflict.

"You can't make peace with strangers," Jeries said. While life in Jerusalem is still marked by division and fear, Jeries is one of the brave children who is forging new friendships among Jews, Christians and Muslims through the Kids4Peace program. Kids4Peace was founded in the Diocese of Jerusalem in 2002, and in the last nine years, over 450 children from Jerusalem and the USA have attended summer camps aimed at teaching understanding, tolerance and respect, while fostering friendships across the lines of

This summer, another 48 Jewish, Christian & Muslim children from Jerusalem, Ramallah and Bethlehem will come to Kids4Peace camps in Atlanta, Boston, North Carolina and Vermont, together with adult advisors from each faith. Already, the children and parents are meeting at St. George's School & Cathedral, slowly earning each other's trust and preparing for a life-changing journey with new friends of other faiths. For the parents, Kids4Peace is transformative, too. "Always in Jerusalem there is a tightness, a burden of fear," one parent said, "but in Kids4Peace, we can breathe for the first time."

Summer camps are only the beginning of the Kids4Peace journey, which continues with two more years of meetings for dialogue, learning and community service after they return home. A new leadership program for older youth is starting this year, with leadership from The Rev. Nicholas Porter. Kids4Peace is growing, with over 150 families applying for the 48 places in this year's camps. We reach the most vulnerable neighborhoods of Jerusalem, changing the trajectory of children's lives, from violence and fear, toward trust and cooperation.

Bishop Suheil Dawani was the Christian Advisor at the first Kids4Peace camp, where his daughter was a camper. "The City of God must be a place that brings people together, a place where reconciliation flourishes, and where the Abrahamic faiths work together to bring about a just peace," Dawani says. "Peace will start from the children." It starts with children like Jeries, who work to make peace, not with strangers, but with friends.

Find out more at www.kids4peaceusa.org

Needs

Our visit to Diocesan institutions was inspiring and motivating! But there is much need. Here are a few of the most critical.

Princess Basma will hold a summer camp again this year. Tuition is \$300. They need scholarship help, especially for their deaf students.

The Vocational Technical School in Ramallah teaches middle school students about the principles of physics, electricity and hydro- and aero-dynamics using kits developed for this purpose. Each kit costs \$1000. Currently, 8 children use one kit because they do not have enough. Any help would be appreciated.

St. John's Haifa is severely overcrowded. They have begun renovating a nearby building to move the lower school children into. But the renovation is stalled because of lack of funds. This school is a Christian anchor in a shifting city. Your help is needed.

St. Matthew's Zebabdeh has built a new library for the entire community. They help children after school with homework and teach adults English after work. The shelves are almost bare. Please consider donating the cost of a book, \$25.

St. Paul's Shefa Amr has built a Community Center for the entire town. It will host outdoor concerts and events that bring in revenue. The raised area needs a railing to prevent falls. The cost is about \$500.



To give to any of these important needs, safely and quickly online, [click here](#)



The AFEDJ is an independent, non-political 501c3 which helps sustain the humanitarian institutions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem -- schools, hospitals and institutes for the disabled. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Diocesan institutions foster mutual respect and tolerance in a land torn by turmoil and poverty. Learn more about the work of the AFEDJ or the Diocese of Jerusalem. Visit www.afedj.org to learn about or contribute to any of the important work done in the region.