



UNRWA

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palestine Children's Relief Fund Assists Palestine Refugees in Syria

The US-based Palestine Children's Relief Fund is this week donating wheel chairs and other prosthetic devices to Palestine refugees with disabilities in Syria.

Mr Steve Sosebee, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Fund, Mr Gregory Skolaski, Occupational Therapist, and Ms Nuha al-Masri, the PCRFB Representative in Lebanon, accompanied by UNRWA Relief & Social Services staff, started to distribute this valuable donation at the Agency's Women's Programme Centre in Yarmouk, Damascus on 30 December. It was the first of five trips which would take them to the refugee camps in Khan Eshieh, Qabr Essit, Homs and end in Hama on 3 January.

The in-kind donation, comprising 84 wheelchairs, walkers and crutches valued at US\$ 87,780, is just one example of the Fund's ongoing contributions to help alleviate the hardships of Palestine refugees with disabilities. They will be fitted to each recipient's needs by Mr Skolaski, who has taken annual leave from his regular job in the United States to come to Syria for this purpose.

The Palestine Children's Relief Fund also arranges medical care free of charge in the USA and Europe for wounded and seriously ill Arab children, and sends medical teams to the Middle East to treat them in their countries of residence. Currently, a young man from Yarmouk refugee camp is to be taken to the USA for a kidney transplant. And the Fund has done much to assist Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza who have been injured during the "Aqsa Intifada".

The PCRFB works in close association with UNRWA, the United Nations organization which provides education, health, relief and social services to nearly 3.9 million Palestine refugees, of whom some 392,000 are registered with the Agency in Syria

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