Gaza Patients... on the horns of a dilemma

In light of the old-new crisis experienced by all different sectors and institutions inside the Gaza Strip, that reflected itself clearly on the health sector in connection with the fuel crisis. This recently worsened due to the aggravation of the electricity crisis, that does not exceed 4 hours of electricity a day, in parallel with the suffocating financial crisis that Gaza Strip is suffering from in its various sectors; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) expresses its grave concern over the austerity procedures taken by the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, which forced it to close some of its hospitals (Beit Hanoun Hospital, Mohammed Al-Durra Hospital and Mental Health Hospital). Additionally MoH was forced to stop running generators at all its Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs), which led to a partial stop to some of the services provided in these centers.

These procedures cast a shadow over the nature and level of services provided to patients, and affect the humanitarian right of the patient to receive health services.

UHWC with its various health facilities, headed by Al Awda Hospital – near the hospital that was recently close by MoH in the northern Gaza Strip--, fear from increasing the number of needy patients who could not afford paying the cost of the services provided at Al Awda hospital despite its charitable prices.

Meanwhile, this will increase the financial burden on Al Awda hospital based on its moral and humanitarian responsibility in the provision of health services for patients and applying its slogan 'Health service is a right to whoever needs it'.

In light of the aforementioned, the continuity of UHWC to operate its facilities and receive more patients to have health care services and the appropriate treatment, threatened to decline or stop because of the financial crisis UHWC is going through.

Therefore, we call on you to stand beside us and contribute to alleviating these crises by providing financial aid or in-kind donation of needed quantities of fuel to operate the generators at UHWC PHCCs along the Gaza Strip, or by contributing to the provision of essential drugs to save lives of needy patients.

Together we contribute in the alleviation of the suffering of our people in the Gaza Strip... to maintain their human dignity when receiving health services.

Union of Health Work Committees
Urgent Appeal

This is Gaza where the siege has been imposed on for more than 11 years, where tens of people are dying every day and the healthy situations of hundreds are deteriorating. A lot of patients are waiting to get their treatments outside Gaza Strip. Hospitals are suffering from shortages in essential medication and medical disposable that are considered critical for saving lives of patients. Electricity is on for just 4 hours out of 24. Many people have died because of fire ignited by lighted candles. All what they were seeking is a lighted spot to hide from darkness. Thousands of people are starving. Graduates are exhausted as they are spending all their time looking for job opportunities.

Once again people of Gaza Strip were woken up on the sound of explosions that have lighted the sky and shaken the earth. Yousef Abu Shkeyan, a Gazan child, is an eyewitness of the random bombing on Gaza, he was harshly injured due to a random bombardment targeted an area near his house, but he was fortunate not being killed, he was taken to the hospital to set beside the other injured people and receive intensive treatment in the intensive care unit. This innocent child was one of thousands of innocent injures who are living in a small spot in the world.

UHWC bank account No:

Beneficiary Name: Union of Health Work Committees – UHWC
Bank payee: Bank of Palestine LTD 89
Beneficiary account: 000/3000/099/0100919-0
Bank payee: Bank of Palestine LTD 89
Brach: El Remal Branch 454
Swift: PALPS22
IBAN $: PS41PALS045401009190013000000
IBAN €: PS46PALS045401009190333000000
IBAN NIS: PS26PALS045401009190993000000
Based on the statistics of the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), the final report of the toll of destruction that the 2014 Israeli aggression left behind pointed that:

- The total number of martyrs during 2014 Israeli aggression was 2322 classified as follows:
  - Children under 18: 630 martyrs at a rate of 27%.
  - Women: 510 martyrs at a rate of 22%.
  - People above 60: 124 martyrs at a rate of 5.3%.

- The total number of injures was 10564 classified as follows:
  - Children under 18: 3806 injures.
  - People above 60: 234 injures.

- The number of Internally Displaced People IDPs was 500,000.
- The number of injures that Al Awda hospital received during the 2014 Israeli aggression was 796.
- The number of deliveries that Al Awda hospital received during 2014 Israeli aggression was 582.
- The number of people who benefited from health services in all UHWC primary health care centers in addition to Al Awda hospital during the aggression was 22159.

As Donald Trump - the president of United States - recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, a military escalation is expected. In fact, the indicators of a military escalation started to show up as Israeli occupation attacked many places in all around the strip. As a result of this:
- 8 people were killed and 500 were injured.
- 57 injures were received at Al Awda hospital.

The Union of Health Work Committees has declared a state of emergency in all its primary health care centers in addition to Al Awda hospital in order to deal with any emergency cases.

To be prepared for any further deterioration, we need to increase the degree of emergency preparedness in Al Awda hospital and all UHWC centers by providing them with **all kinds of medication and medical disposables in addition to the fuel needed to run generators during the cut of electricity which is up to 20 hours a day.**

As Al Awda hospital is a front line hospital and the only hospital that provide maternity services in the Northern area of Gaza Strip during emergency situation, this imposes a huge financial burden on the shoulders of the organization and makes the challenge tougher threatening the continuity of its job.

Since you are our friends and hold a humanitarian messages, we are showing you these facts and accurate statistics to encourage you to contribute to saving innocent people's lives while they are passing through very tough situation these days.