

## The Conflict:

Since the beginning of the second Intifada (Arabic for “throwing off”) in the fall of 2000, the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories has become increasingly oppressive. Military checkpoints, roadblocks, enforced curfews, and closures, all serve to paralyze the daily lives of the Palestinian people. In West Bank cities such as Nablus, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Ramallah, citizens routinely face long periods of curfew during which they are confined to their houses and are unable to work.

The restrictions on movement have decimated the Palestinian economy.

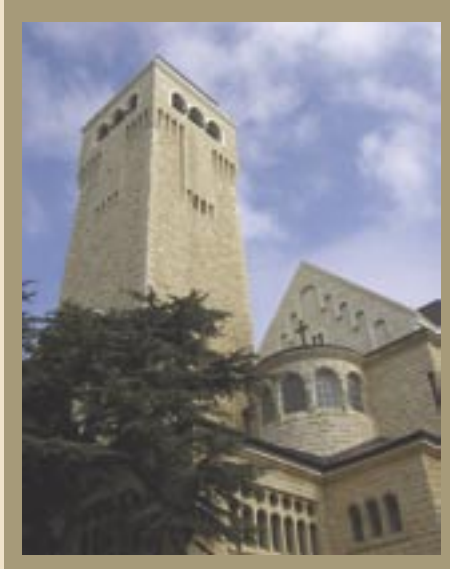
Unemployment has skyrocketed, making it increasingly difficult for families to pay for basic needs, such as food, lodging, and medical care. Under these circumstances, we are faced with an increased need for the AVH Poor Fund.



## How you can help:

By making a donation to the Poor Fund, you are directly contributing to the medical treatment of a person in need. This fund is used exclusively to pay for individual patients who could not otherwise afford treatment. Small and large contributions all make a difference.

To make a contribution please send checks made out to The Lutheran World Federation to the address below. Please note “Poor Fund” on the check.



The Augusta Victoria Hospital Poor Fund  
c/o LWF – Jerusalem  
P.O. Box 19178  
Jerusalem 91191  
Israel

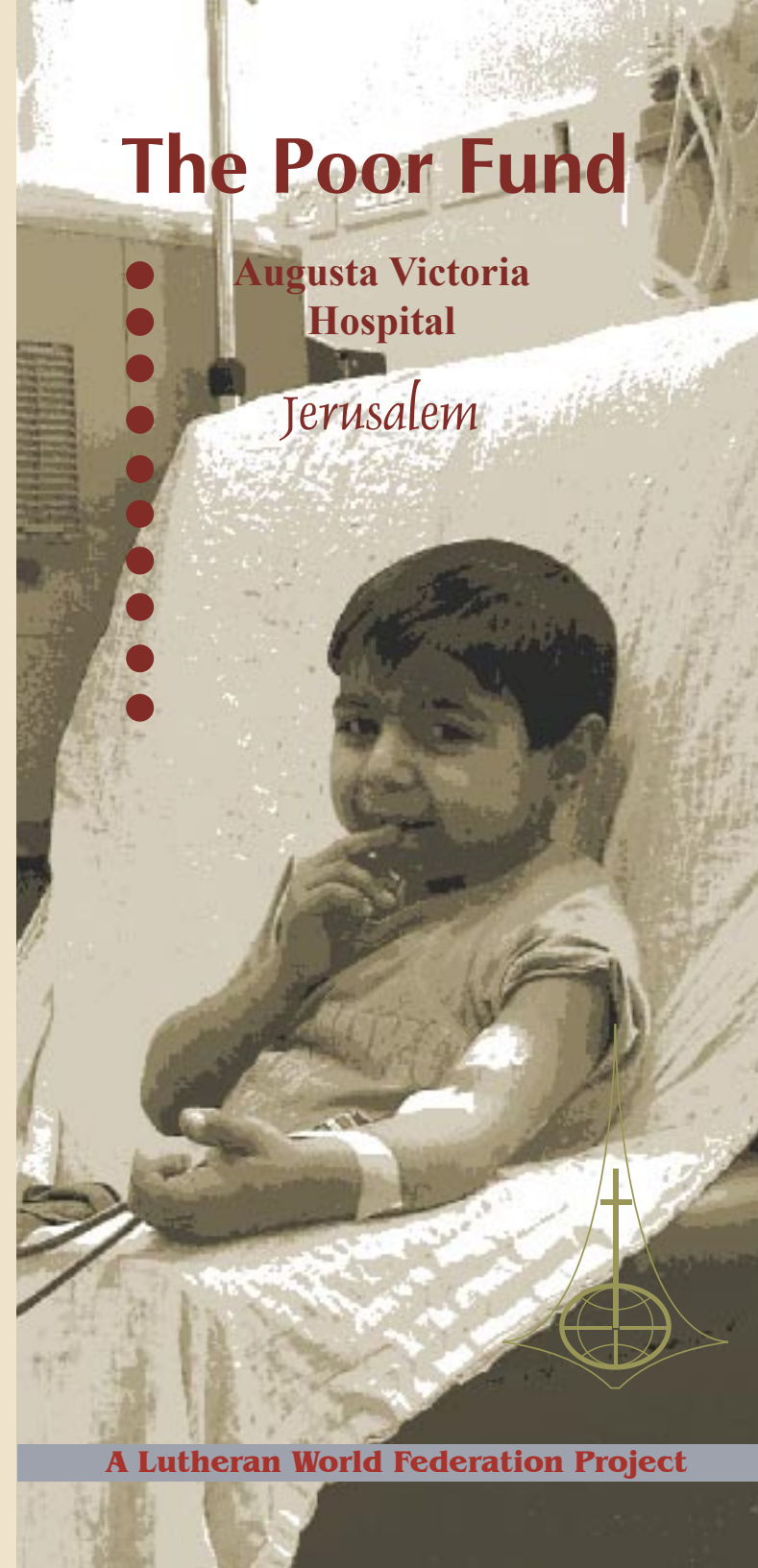
Or you can electronically transfer funds to:

The Mercantile Discount Bank  
Salah Ed-Din Street – Jerusalem  
Account Name: Lutheran World Federation  
Account # : 980-01-300241  
Swift code: bardilt

## The Poor Fund

Augusta Victoria  
Hospital

Jerusalem



**A Lutheran World Federation Project**

## The Fund:

Since 1997, The Poor Fund has been helping needy families in the Occupied Palestinian Territories to receive the health care that they so desperately need. Many of these families are refugees, others find themselves in deep poverty due to the collapse of the Palestinian economy. In 2002, over 2,500 patients received treatment that was made possible by this fund.

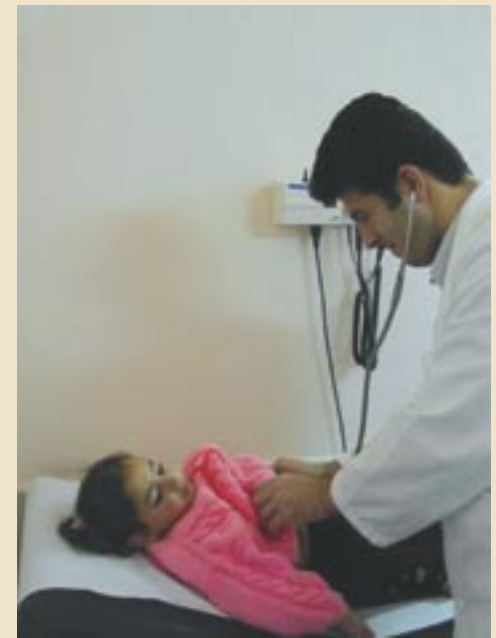
The Poor Fund is unique in that it is directed specifically to the individual patients of the Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH). This means that all donations to this fund go directly to the needy.

In 2002, the AVH provided more than US \$1.5 million of charity care. Most of the support for these services comes from donor organizations and individuals. The expected need for The Poor Fund in a normal year is US \$250,000. However, with the intensity of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,

an increasing number of Palestinians are unable to pay for their health care. Hence, the AVH expects to need additional funds.

## The Hospital:

The Augusta Victoria Hospital has been a project of the Lutheran World Federation since 1950. The LWF assumed full responsibility for the Augusta Victoria in



1951, taking over the hospital administration from the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Today, the AVH continues to serve the Palestinian community, caring primarily for refugees residing in the West Bank. No one

is denied treatment, as the hospital does not discriminate based on race, nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, or ability to pay.

The hospital is in a process of continuous development. The character of the AVH has changed to meet the needs of the Palestinian community, and though it continues to treat large numbers of people, the hospital is now developing its resources for specialized treatments and diagnoses. These include pediatric and adult dialysis; ear, nose and throat surgery; pediatric subspecialties; emergency care; and endoscopy. Very soon the AVH will become the only hospital in the West Bank or Gaza to offer radiation oncology treatment for cancer patients, as part of its comprehensive cancer treatment center.

