

Organization: Save a Child's Heart

Presenter: Amanda Belzowski, Founder of Lemonade Stand and Lemon-Stock

Sponsor: Jeffrey Wortsman

Project: One-year Medical Outreach Training Program in Pediatric Cardiac Care for a physician from Africa

Background and Aim of the Organization:

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli based non-profit NGO founded in 1996 that grew out of a pressing need for pediatric cardiac care in developing countries. Currently there are affiliate offices worldwide including Canada. The aim of SACH is two-fold:

- To provide life-saving heart surgery and follow-up care for children from developing countries at Wolfson Medical Center (WMC) in Holon, Israel. (\$10,000 per child)
- To train doctors from developing countries through the Medical Outreach Training Program in Pediatric Cardiac Care at WMC, an affiliate of the Sackler School of Medicine at the Tel Aviv University.

Sustainable development is a core value of Save a Child's Heart. By training doctors, we are able to expand our impact exponentially as the doctors who receive this training return to their home countries better equipped to treat children. Since 1996, SACH has trained over 50 physicians and nurses from China, Congo, Ethiopia, Moldova, Nigeria, the Palestinian Authority, Kenya, Vietnam, Russia, Eritrea, Romania, Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Furthermore, SACH has repaired cardiac defects in over 2,700 children from 42 developing countries. 40% of the children are from Africa; 49% are from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Iraq and Morocco; 7% are from Asia and 4% are from Eastern Europe and the Americas. The SACH comprehensive outreach training program provides knowledge of all related disciplines of pediatric cardiac care i.e. cardiology, anesthesia, intensive care and surgery, with a specialty in one discipline. The trained physician will return to their home country to apply the knowledge acquired in their respective medical centers and act as SACH medical partners whether as a referral center for children sent to Israel or by taking part in the continuing development of their centers, which includes the participation in SACH teaching missions carried out on an annual basis.

China: Over the past 10 years SACH has developed a cooperative partnership with China's Hebei Children's Hospital in Shijiazhuang and the Lanzouh University Hospital in Gansu Province. As a result of this partnership and SACH's Medical Outreach Training Program, 8 Chinese physicians and 10 Chinese nurses have received enhanced training in pediatric cardiac surgery, anesthesiology and pediatric cardiac intensive care. The success of this training has allowed thousands of Chinese children to be treated locally thereby avoiding the costs and challenges associated with bringing these children to Israel for treatment.

Tanzania: SACH works with the Bugando Medical Center (BMC) in Mwanza, Tanzania. Dr. Godwin Godfrey from the BMC began a five-year training fellowship in pediatric cardiac surgery under the SACH training program in 2008. Upon completion of his

training, Dr. Godfrey will return to Tanzania with the necessary skills to provide urgent cardiac surgery to local children. In August 2011 a SACH medical team joined Dr. Godfrey at his hospital where together with his team they operated on 12 children in need of heart surgery. This marked the first open-heart surgery in the region.

Ethiopia: SACH works with Professor Abraham Haileamlak Mitike, a pediatrician from the Jimma University Hospital in Jimma, Ethiopia. Prof. Mitike completed a one-year program in pediatric cardiology under the SACH Outreach Medical Training Program and has now returned to his local hospital with enhanced expertise. He currently works together with SACH, examining, identifying and referring patients requiring life-saving surgery to the SACH program at Wolfson Medical Center.

Project:

One-year Medical Outreach Training Program in Pediatric Cardiac Care for a physician from Africa. Total cost: \$25,000. Outstanding Funds: \$12,000.

Jimma University Hospital is still lacking the expertise of a full medical team trained in pediatric cardiac surgery. On November 10, 2011, Dr. Lior Sasson, Lead Surgeon for SACH and Simon Fisher, Executive Director SACH Israel, will be travelling to Jimma Ethiopia to interview candidates for specialty training. Once selected, the specific medical discipline will be determined according to the needs of the hospital and the expertise of the candidate.

Support from The Funding Network would complete the balance required to fully sponsor a one-year training program in Pediatric Cardiac Care under the Outreach Training Program. It is known that there are hundreds of children in the region suffering from untreated cardiac disease and that if treatment was available locally, not only would there be a reduction in morbidity and mortality but it would also reduce the costs and challenges associated with travel to Israel for surgery and treatment.

Budget:

COSTS:		INCOME:	
Allowance/accommodation	\$18,000	A. Belzowski Lemonade Stand	\$5,000
Airfare	1,600	Save a Child's Heart	<u>8,000</u>
Local Transportation	1,800	Total current income	\$13,000
Books/Journals	600	Balance needed	<u>\$12,000</u>
Fees to Training Depart	<u>3,000</u>		
Total Project Cost	<u>\$25,000</u>		

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