HÔPITAL FRANÇAIS SAINT-LOUIS de JÉRUSALEM
2, Rue Shivtei Israel, Jérusalem – ISRAËL
Managed by the Sisters of the Order of the Apparition
Refurbishment Project 2012-2016
An International Hospitalaller Project supported in part by the Military & Hospitalaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

HISTORY

The Hospice is sited on the original site of the leprosarium of the Order of Saint Lazarus in Jerusalem established in the 12th century.

The present hospital was founded by the French Baron de Pielat (d. 1925) in 1889. The Baron was a celebrated artist and the magnificent hospital chapel was fully frescoed by him in an art-nouveau style. The chapel had to be painstakingly repainted by him in 1918 as the Ottomans had painted over all the frescoes during the First World War. In 1948-1967 the hospital was the front line between Israel and Jordan: the stained glass window of St Francis has a bullet hole through his heart and the outside wall is also bullet-pocked. The chapel is used daily by all Christian denominations, including the White Fathers and the Greek Orthodox.

HOSPITAL STAFF

The hospital was founded and is still run by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition, an Order originating in France in 1651 and now with significant houses in the Holy Land, the United States, Germany, Malta, and other parts of Europe. The Sisters live on the top floor. The Hospital also has up to 27 volunteers, most commonly from France and Germany, who stay for a minimum of 3 months and most commonly a year. There is a physician on call at all times.

ST. LOUIS HOSPITAL

St. Louis Hospital is a center for Palliative Care (Hospice), and for Geriatric Hospitalization (Geriatric Home and Geriatric Ward for complex nursing care). It is situated in the center of Jerusalem, run by the catholic order of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition and fully recognized by the Israeli Ministry of Health.

With the present capacity of 50 beds, the Hospital cannot receive all the patients applying for place. Many Christian families like to hospitalize their elderly family members who need long term care in an institution of the church and choose our hospital because the Israeli health system takes in charge the costs.

To answer these needs and to improve the financial situation of the hospital, we are planning to increase the number of beds from 50 to 60. Last year, the Israeli Government published a new law obliging all geriatric hospitals to renovate their facilities in order to provide for all patients two bedded rooms with private bath room. Hospitals which don’t apply these regulations may face of closure by 2016.

The project “St. Louis Hospital - Plan 2016” will increase the number of hospital beds from 50 to 60, and renovate the hospital according to the new governmental regulations for geriatric hospitals.

This project can only be realized with the help of several donors. During the year 2011 several organizations from abroad send representatives to visit the hospital and to study with us the project and the plans. For our great joy we could finally obtain the approval of our plans by the Israeli Ministry of Health at the end 2011.

The project is divided in 5 steps. Each step gives benefit in itself, even if the following step has to be delayed because of difficulty of financing.

- Renovating of an empty wing of the hospital building in order to receive 14 patients (Western Wing and Eastern Wing).
- Transformation of the existing ward in four stages to apply the new regulations of the Ministry of Health (2 bedded rooms only instead of the existing 3 or 4 bedded rooms, bathroom for 1 or 2 rooms).
- Additional building for 8 beds to replace the beds lost in the old building.
- Renovating of the kitchen according to new law, with installation of a special lift for the food.
- Installation of a second lift for patients and visitors.

The estimated cost of the whole project amounts to €2 000 000

Any donations can be passed on to the Grand Priory of the Maltese Islands by bank draft indicating “St Louis Hospital Project”

Bankers: Bank of Valletta
Account Name: Grand Priory – Special Events a/c
Account Number including IBAN: MT06VALL2201300000040014532346

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

- The Congregation of the Order of St. Joseph of the Apparition
- German Association of the Holy Land
- Diocese of Cologne
- Knights of the Holy Sepulcher [Germany, Netherlands & U.S.A.]
- Dto., Investigor Dusseldorf
- Individual Donors
- The Military & Hospitalaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem has committed to support the refurbishment of the kitchen estimated to cost about €100 000
- Support will be obtained from the various jurisdictions worldwide.