



SAVE A CHILD'S HEART

INFORMATION KIT



Save a Child's Heart is about saving children's lives, one heart at a time.

Save a Child's Heart is an Israeli-based international non-profit organization, with special consultative status granted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC) and recent recipient of the 2018 prestigious United Nations Population Award. Save a Child's Heart was founded in 1995 at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel, with the mission of improving the quality of pediatric cardiac care for children in developing countries and creating centers of competence in these countries.

Save a Child's Heart's goal is to improve the health and welfare of all children, regardless of the child's nationality, religion, color, gender or financial situation. Save a Child's Heart provides medical treatment at the Wolfson Medical Center for children suffering from heart disease.

Save a Child's Heart holds pre-operative and follow-up cardiology clinics in Israel and abroad on a weekly basis, offers a comprehensive training program within Israel for doctors and nurses from developing countries and leads surgical and teaching missions to partner countries.

Save a Child's Heart is currently building an international pediatric cardiac center at the Wolfson Medical Center. The new center will enable Save a Child's Heart to save more children and will also serve as a children's hospital to improve the conditions for the Israeli children from the area.

To date, we have provided care to over 5,000 children from more than 59 countries in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Europe and South America and trained more than 120 medical team members from these countries.

What we do:

- Provide life-saving cardiac surgery and catheterization for children from developing countries at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel
- Provide a comprehensive training program in Israel for doctors and nurses from these countries
- Lead surgical and catheterization teaching missions to partner countries in the developing world
- Hold pre-operative and follow-up cardiology clinics in Israel and abroad





Afiya and Rayis (Ethiopia), Hannah (myanmar)

From around the world

Approximately half of the children we have treated are from the Middle East, including the Palestinian Authority, (West Bank and Gaza), Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Morocco. More than 30% are from Africa and the remainder from Asia, Eastern Europe and the Americas. **To date, over 5,000 children have been saved by our medical team.**

International Pediatric Cardiac Center and Children's Hospital at WMC

Save a Child's Heart is currently building an international pediatric cardiac center at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel. This new medical facility will house all of the infrastructure and equipment needed to perform pediatric heart surgeries, including all pre and post-operative care, ensuring that Save a Child's Heart will be able to continue with its medical mission and treat even more children, also allowing for better care for local children treated in the Wolfson Medical Center. All funds to build the seven-story children's hospital were raised by Save a Child's Heart. The construction process commenced in January 2017, and the first five floors of the building have already been built.



Teaching from the heart: Comprehensive training in Israel

The ultimate goal of Save a Child's Heart is to create centers of competence in developing countries so that children can be treated in their own communities. Save a Child's Heart trains medical personnel from partner sites around the world at the Wolfson Medical Center in all facets of pediatric cardiac care. To date, Save a Child's Heart has trained over 120 medical staff from a host of countries including China, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Kenya, Moldova, Nigeria, the Palestinian Authority, Romania, Russia, Tanzania and Vietnam. Medical staff who undergo training return to their home countries better equipped to treat children.

UN Population Award

For the first time in history, an Israeli non-profit organization received the United Nation's "Population Award" - Save a Child's Heart was presented with the prize by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres during an official ceremony at UN headquarters in June 2018. Save a Child's Heart's team members attended the official ceremony in New York to receive the award.





Dr. Yayu

As a child growing up in a small village in southern Ethiopia, Yayu knew that he wanted to dedicate his life to helping people. This desire drew him to medical studies followed by surgical education at Jimma University. As a young doctor in the pediatric department of Ethiopia's biggest hospital, Dr. Yayu encountered a young girl who was dying from heart disease because the care she needed wasn't available. Her death deeply affected Dr. Yayu, who decided to pursue a future in pediatric cardiac care. He trained with Save a Child's Heart at the Wolfson Medical Center and became Ethiopia's first pediatric cardiac surgeon, serving a population of over 90 million people. Dr. Yayu is a passionate, talented and dedicated surgeon. Dr. Yayu is currently getting further training in Australia and will return to Ethiopia in 2019.



Ragad

Ragad is a one-year-old girl from Han Yunes, Gaza. At two months old, Ragad was diagnosed with her heart condition due and was referred to Save a Child's Heart. In June 2018, Ragad underwent life-saving heart surgery in Israel. She is feeling well, recovering from her surgery and not showing any symptoms.



Fatma

One-year-old Fatma from Zanzibar underwent successful life-saving heart surgery on May 21, 2019, at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, Israel. She is the 5,000th child to be treated by Save a Child's Heart. Fatma's journey is so special because 20 years ago, her mother Balkis attended a Save a Child's Heart screening clinic in Zanzibar and was diagnosed with the exact same heart defect. Like Fatma, Balkis received treatment in Israel through Save a Child's Heart and went on to grow up to be a healthy, strong woman. We hope that through this surgery, Fatma will follow in her mother's footsteps.



Ilaf

Ilaf is a one and a half-year-old baby girl from Kurdistan, northern Iraq. She was admitted to the Wolfson Medical Center through Save a Child's Heart for evaluation and repair of her congenital heart disease in March of 2019. Ilaf was diagnosed with heart disease right after birth and is in Israel for her treatment with her mother, Helen Iqbal Ahmed, who is only 17 and a half years old. On March 26th, 2019 Ilaf underwent life-saving heart surgery in Israel. It has been wonderful seeing Ilaf open up in her time in the SACH Children's Home.

MEDICAL MISSIONS: TREATMENT AND TEACHING ABROAD

Save a Child's Heart medical teams travel to partner sites in developing countries to perform surgery and catheterization, conduct cardiology clinics to evaluate children pre and post-surgery and provide on-site training to local medical personnel. Medical missions are carried out in cooperation with partner pediatric cardiac teams.

To date, Save Child's Heart has:

- Conducted 30 teaching missions in developing countries treating more than 400 children in Ethiopia, China, Mauritania, Moldova, Tanzania, Romania and Ukraine.
- Provided onsite training to hundreds of medical personnel in Ethiopia, China, Mauritania, Moldova, Tanzania, Romania and Ukraine
- Conducted more than 70 cardiology clinics, examining over 9500 children in Angola, China, Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Jordan (Iraqi children), Kenya, Mauritania, Moldova, Nigeria, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Ukraine, Zambia and Zanzibar.

Save a Child's Heart is constantly working to bring awareness about the importance of improving medical facilities in places where they do not exist.

As well as screening local children to see whether they are candidates for life-saving heart surgery at the Wolfson Medical Center, Save a Child's Heart cardiology clinics also provide essential follow-up care for children who were treated in the past.

“The training I am receiving from Save a Child's Heart will do nothing less than enable me to go home to Africa and save children's lives”

Dr. Godwin Godfrey, Tanzania's 1st pediatric cardiac surgeon



Romania Medical Mission



Tanzania Medical Mission



Zanzibar Medical Mission



Want to learn more?

**Visit our website at saveachildsheart.org
or email us at pr@saveachildsheart.org**

