



SERVICE PROJECT SHEET

Save a Child's Heart



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Project Name:

Save a Child's Heart UK

(Registered Charity 1077939)

Project Goal:

To provide urgently needed paediatric cardiac care for children from developing countries regardless of nationality, religion, colour, sex or financial considerations. To help in setting up diagnostic and treatment facilities in developing countries. To provide training for medical personnel from those countries so that they may be eventually independent of outside assistance.

Rotary Service Type:

Fund raising. Provision of accommodation for children recovering from surgery. Provision of equipment for partner clinics in developing countries. Funding the training and accommodation of medical personnel from developing countries.

Unique selling proposition:

Every child with a heart defect should be able to expect paediatric cardiology whatever their circumstances and without regard for who or what they are.

Description:

Founded in 1996 by Dr. Amram (Ami) Cohen when, as a cardiothoracic surgeon, he operated on two Ethiopian children in desperate need of surgery. From these modest beginnings Ami, with a dedicated team of professionals, developed Save a Child's Heart. The team is based at the Wolfson Medical Centre in Israel, and in addition to surgeries carried out there, they regularly travel to China, Africa, and Eastern Europe, indeed wherever they are invited, to work with local medical staff and pass on their skills and modern techniques.

Although Ami died in 2001, over 1,300 very ill children from all over the world have been given the chance of a normal life. More than 500 of these children are Palestinian, and now children from Iraq, Jordan and Libya are being treated. Ami's description of the work as "an act of sanity in a crazy world" has never been truer.



The target is for 250 operations each year at a cost of £7,000 each (a fraction of the cost in western hospitals) to cover all costs from the time the children arrive until they are fit enough to travel home.

Personalities supporting project:

- Lord Levy of Mill Hill
- Rt. Hon. Gillian Shephard, MP
- Professor Lord Winston
- Maestro Zubin Mehta
- His Excellency Simon McDonald, CMG British Ambassador to Israel

Benefits to clubs:

The opportunity to contribute to the saving of children's lives, and to future elimination of the scourge of Congenital Heart Disease through the provision of competently staffed and equipped clinics in developing countries.



However small or large donations may be, Rotarians collectively can save the lives of sick children, bringing joy to their families, releasing them from the burden of constant care and enabling them to take a full part in the maintenance of their communities.

Contact for further information:

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or your District International Service Chairman.

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