



Embracing AND Defending Our Community



THE HAZAK PRE-EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN

Case for Giving

The Galilee Medical Center (GMC) is literally on the frontlines, located just six miles from the Lebanese border. The largest hospital in northern Israel – a world class institution with 69 departments and 723 beds, the GMC provides top-level medical care to Western Galilee's diverse population, a mosaic of Jews, Moslems, Christians and Druze. Our Pediatric Dialysis Unit, Neurosurgery and Pediatric Psychiatry Departments are the only units of their type in the north of Israel, serving an even wider population. In addition, the hospital treats IDF soldiers and UN forces stationed locally and is the first line of treatment in case of mass casualty events.



In 2006, during the Second Lebanese War, northern Israel was under rocket fire for 34 days and the Hospital's Surgical Building suffered a direct missile strike, causing significant damage. The GMC has continued to lead the country in preparing for emergencies by expanding the underground hospital facility, Israel's first, with a capacity of 500 beds. **But our job is still not yet completed.**

"Analysts estimate there may be as many as 2000 rockets fired into Israel daily during our next war, compared to 130-180 daily during the Second Lebanon War," Brig. Gen. Yossi Kuperwasser recently told the Jerusalem Post, adding that there would be many thousands of rockets fired at Israel within the first hours of combat. Despite this ominous scenario, Galilee Medical Center continues to rely on above-ground infrastructure – water lines, electricity, oxygen and communication lines. It is essential that all critical infrastructure is placed underground, ensuring continued operations and the ability to effectively perform medical procedures during a mass emergency.



In addition, two vital life-saving facilities, the Neonatal Unit (including Neonatal Intensive Care) and the general Intensive Care Unit are above ground, and protecting these key units is an urgent priority.

The American Friends of the Galilee Medical Center (AFGMC) is leading the call to action.

Galilee Medical Center has designated space for a **protected Neonatal Department and NICU** in the underground level of the new Women's Health Wing. The department will house 30 incubator stations, including 12 for intensive care for newborns requiring special care and tiny premature infants who are especially vulnerable.

GMC has also dedicated space for a **protected underground Intensive Care Unit**, with a capacity of 45 beds, ensuring a safe hospitalization environment for ICU patients during missile attacks. While already protected, this underground space will require significant construction changes to accommodate an ICU. Underground tunnels must be added to serve our logistic department (including the kitchen) and the Women's Health wing, allowing us to bring important equipment as necessary.

The **AFGMC's \$5 million Hazak Pre-Emergency Campaign** will bridge these critical gaps, strengthening GMC's ability to function under attack, saving thousands of lives. We call upon our friends and supporters who care deeply about Israel, its security, and its future; and about the residents of the Western Galilee; to **join us with their generous participation.**

Please join the **American Friends of Galilee Medical Center** with your support of
THE HAZAK PRE-EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN

Your leadership will ensure that the Galilee Medical Center will be fully prepared to serve its diverse community, the IDF, and the State of Israel in case of emergency or war.

For more information please contact:

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