



THE NAZARETH TRUST

REVIEW
FEBRUARY 2025

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Quarterly Review

THE NAZARETH TRUST

February 2025



'I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.' (Philippians 4:13)

Dear friends,

Despite the difficulties we have all faced, our organisation has succeeded in continuing its development with new facilities being added, additional services launched, and new departments accredited for residency programmes.

We are also proud to say that our Internal Department was rated the best in Israel.

The "Maana" psychology centre flourished and significantly expanded its capacity and variety of services to meet the urgent emerging needs of the population due to the war.

We have ensured the safety and protection of our staff, patients, and visitors with the fortification of our facilities.

The activities of the Nazareth Village and Serve programme ceased temporarily due to the war. Yet, we have used this period to implement investment projects in infrastructure, and prepared new programmes to improve tourism experiences upon returning to normal life after the end of the war.

After completing the addition of two floors enabling an increase of the Academic School of Nursing students enrolment capacity, new modern smart classrooms, and state of the art simulation centre, we have signed a partnership agreement with a leading academic institution and launched new academic programmes within the School of Nursing.

We are also focusing on many spiritual programmes carried out by the organisation to spread Christian values among all segments of society and to support our staff and invest in their personal resilience. This includes promoting values of love, tolerance, and solidarity.

In conclusion, we extend our sincere gratitude to God first for His provision of protection during the past difficult times and our appreciation to all of our employees for their dedication and hard work. Without their efforts, we would not have been able to reach this stage of progress and development.

We also extend our thanks to you for your support and continued prayers for us.

May God bless you all and grant you wisdom and prosperity.

All things we do for the Glory of God.

Sincerely yours,

Waseem Dibbini, CEO

In this review
you can expect:

Our hospital
ranked top in
Israel

Our new MRI
machine is the
first in the
country

Leading the way
in bringing
mental health
services to the
underserved

Academic
School of
Nursing 100th
anniversary

New Nazareth
Village discovery
centre

EMMS Nazareth Hospital ranked top in Israel

A report by the Israeli Ministry of Health surveying the quality of care in hospitals across the country has placed the Internal Medicine Department at EMMS Nazareth Hospital at the top.

The Board of Trustees extended their warm congratulations to the staff of the Department of Internal Medicine 'for their fine and notable achievement'.

"The Board members of The Nazareth Trust send our deep gratitude to you all for your hard work and dedication to patient care which is reflected in this quality index.

"You are clearly an outstanding team with outstanding leadership, and you have achieved this under particularly difficult circumstances.

"We have every confidence that you will continue this wonderful work with the same dedication, teamwork, attention to detail and integrity that you have shown throughout."



The Israeli newspaper *Globes* noted that given the lower budgets and fewer donations that reach the smaller hospitals, their success in the index is evidently positive.

Dr Amer Saffouri, Director of the Internal Department, said the news was 'the result of the continuous efforts of the medical and nursing staff, who work every day to improve our services and provide the best care for each patient'.

Further security for our hospital

We have succeeded in our measures to ensure the safety of our patients and staff.

As you can see above, we have expanded the structure of the hospital to include our new ER department with state-of-the-art equipment to support us as an accredited Trauma centre and better handle emergencies and mass casualty events.

We have transformed our hospital into a safe and secure places with massive investments made possible by funds received.





New MRI machine leads the way in medical care

Our new, state-of-the-art MRI machine will be the first of its kind in the country.

The technology, which will make use of artificial intelligence (AI) to analyse medical images, is a massive leap forward in medical care for Nazareth's community.

This development will allow for even more accurate diagnoses without invasive procedures.

Prof Fahed Hakim, Nazareth Hospital Director, said the machine 'will help thousands of patients', from those requiring neurological evaluations to cancer monitoring and diagnoses, cardiac assessments, and musculoskeletal imaging.

"This specific MRI technology is the first to be introduced in the country and gives our patients the opportunity to access the top technologies in the world," he said.

The machine, among the most advanced of its kind in the region, puts EMMS Nazareth Hospital as a leader in medical imaging and patient care.

"The introduction of this MRI machine will significantly improve diagnostic capabilities at Nazareth Hospital, reducing the need for patients to travel to other cities for high-quality imaging," he said.

"This will lead to earlier detection of diseases, faster treatment initiation, and overall improved healthcare accessibility in the region."

The construction of the new building in the hospital is nearing completion, with further work to outfit the unit ongoing.



Mental Health Department recognised for speciality training to help underserved communities

Our Mental Health Department has been recognised by the Ministry of Health and the Scientific Council, allowing for doctors who specialise in the field to train new psychiatrists for the department.

The achievement is the first of its kind since the establishment of the department, coming after it made strides to ensure mental health care becomes more accessible to Arabic speakers.

Previous studies have shown that Arabic speakers experience disproportionately high rates of mental distress compared to the rest of the population.

Despite this, there is a societal stigma around accessing mental health services and language barriers to accessing them. Although Arabs in Israel make up 21% of the population, only 1.4% of psychologists and 1.9% of psychiatrists are Arab.

The EMMS Nazareth Hospital has broadened its work generally over the past year to address the emerging need due to the war.

The Maana Centre, for example - part of the mental health system at the Nazareth hospital - has expanded its scope and recruitment of new professionals, as well as creating new treatment rooms to accommodate the increasing number of children and families seeking services.

The Centre is the only officially recognised Arabic-speaking psychological centre in Israel.

With the huge shortage of culturally and linguistically mental health services accessible to the Arab community, it makes the work of the Maana Centre all the more crucial.

The Centre has also launched its new mental health support line, which is further increasing the number of options available to Arabic speakers.





100

YEAR

ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

NAZARETH ACADEMIC
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Academic School of Nursing marks 100th anniversary

The School of Nursing is celebrating its 100th anniversary by launching new programmes to expand accessibility to education.

In partnership with major universities in Israel, the School's new programmes offer specialised training and a BA in nursing.

With its new facilities and modern educational tools, the School is a leading institution for future generations of nurses focusing on high professionalism and the Christian values of love, compassion and mutual respect.

Established in 1924, it has trained thousands of nurses and midwives who have gone on to work in leading medical and health institutions.

Dr Salam Hadid, Director of the School of Nursing, said the programmes are 'designed for both current and future needs, ensuring continuous progress and development.'

"Our vision is to provide high-quality nursing education that contributes to community development," she said.

"We believe in fostering a culture of respect, love, and cooperation among our students and staff.

"Our programmes support learning, development, and cultural exchange, contributing to the overall well-being of society."



Plans approved for Nazareth Village Discovery Centre



Plans to begin work on a new tourist centre have been approved ahead of the Village's 25th anniversary.

Entering a new phase of development, the Discovery Centre is expected to significantly enhance the Village economically by attracting more visitors and tourism opportunities.



The interior of the new Discovery centre.



The wall of engravings from the Discovery Center Inscription Appeal.

Nazareth Village looks forward as anniversary approaches

The Nazareth Village, which is celebrating its silver jubilee anniversary this year, is praying for tranquility and calm in the broader area, with hopes that visitors from outside the country will again return in large numbers.

More than a million people have visited the Village over the past 25 years.

During the past year and a half, the Village has experienced great challenges resulting from the situation in the country. We thank the Miracle of Nazareth International Foundation for their crucial support during this time.

With tourism being among the industries most affected, the Village saw a drastic reduction in visitors, both foreign and domestic.

The programme was enjoyed by hundreds of individuals and families living the Christmas story in its simplicity and depth.

In spite of this, they have been able to use the time to develop infrastructure, strengthen buildings, and find new ways to invite people into the time of Nazareth two thousand years ago.

In December, the staff worked hard to build a new programme inviting the local public to 'walk in the footsteps of Christmas' in more than 13 separate tours.



A spiritual reflection

We give thanks to God for his abiding love, presence and protection over the staff, leadership, and facilities of the Nazareth Trust over the past year during the pain and trauma of the war.

We are also grateful for the prayers and messages of encouragement received from all our friends and supporters over the year which have sustained and strengthened us as we have continued to provide healing, hope, and hospitality in Jesus' name to all those in our employ or who use our services.

The focus of our Spiritual Care services over this time has been to build hope and resilience in our staff and to provide encouragement and support to them through routine visits, developing resources, conducting special prayer services for peace during the year, organising the Farah Summer Camp for the children of our staff, and planning stress reduction activities during Spiritual Care Week.

We have also demonstrated our faith in action by visiting employees who have been on long-term sick leave, raising funds for needy families through our Christmas appeal, and distributing food parcels to families in the wider community.

Finally, we ended the year on a hopeful and joyful note with an engaging Christmas programme which included Advent songs, readings, and prayers and the singing of carols throughout the Nazareth Hospital and the very inspiring Christmas programme at the Nazareth Village.

Frank Kantor, Spiritual Director





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