

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2025

PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ISRAEL
רופאים לזכויות אדם בישראל
أطباء لحقوق الإنسان في إسرائيل

עברית

عربي

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR & DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS:
A YEAR OF REFUSING TO "UNSEE"

2 2025: YEAR IN NUMBERS
THE SCALE OF PHRI'S IMPACT

3 2025 ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS:
PROVIDING CARE AND DEFENDING RIGHTS UNDER INCREASING CONSTRAINTS

4 THEMATIC FOCUS:
CONFRONTING UNPRECEDENTED ABUSES IN ISRAELI DETENTION

5 CHALLENGES:
STANDING OUR GROUND AS THE SPACE AROUND US SHRINKS

6 COMMUNITY VOICES: THE PEOPLE BEHIND PHRI
EREZ SCHWEIZER, IMRAN ANATI AND LUBOV BORSHEVSKY

7 **FINANCIALS, PARTNERS & DONOR TESTIMONIES**

A YEAR OF STRUGGLE AGAINST UNSEEING

China Miéville's detective novel *The City & the City* is set in a single city, home to two hostile societies. The story's backdrop is a historical memory of an unresolved violent conflict. The imposed solution is generations of training to "unsee", which has transformed into a genuine unseeing of people, buildings, and activities by "the other side", even though they share the same physical space.

Is this purely an allegory? Our local reality suggests otherwise. Israeli society, backed by international powers, largely conducts itself while morally, politically, and practically ignoring Israel's crimes in Gaza and the West Bank – barely an hour from the country's center. Over the past year, we have contended with the question of the impact of our work amid an ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people and in the shadows of powerful forces of active unseeing.

The answer is partial and painful, yet also a source of strength. Against invisibilization, cover-up, isolation, and fragmentation, and grounded in our unique fusion of medical ethics and human rights, we choose to see: to investigate, demand accountability, amplify the silenced voices, push for continuum, and lay foundations for justice.

The topics covered in our 2025 annual impact report reflect this struggle. They include efforts to secure visibility—and the right to health—for women and children without legal status in Israel; defending essential services for people experiencing street homelessness as a first step toward broader action; the consistent operation of our mobile clinic throughout all areas of the West Bank under impossible conditions; and support of ambulance drivers in the northern West Bank striving to maintain the flow of emergency care amid violence and fragmentation. Israel's refusal to renew the passage of patients from Gaza to hospitals in East Jerusalem and the West Bank continues a policy of isolation and destruction. In response, we helped establish an international front, calling to restore this vital lifeline.

We exposed the widespread enforced disappearance of Palestinians in Israeli custody, including the deaths of at least one hundred since October 2023, and attempts to suppress investigations into these deaths. We mitigated some of the mistreatment of thousands of detained Palestinians, prompting initial steps by the Israel Prison Service to address Scabies outbreaks. Finally, the testimonies we gathered brought to light the stories of hundreds of incarcerated healthcare workers from Gaza. Mobilizing activists around the world, we continue to press for the release of those still detained.

Moving from unseeing to seeing goes beyond the physical. It is a moral and political call to action. As the residents of Miéville's not-entirely-imaginary city understood, "you cannot train yourself to successfully and sustainedly unsee". We have pushed to hasten the moment in which unseeing is no longer sustainable and to bring others with us. We hope you will join too.



Tirza Leibowitz
Deputy Director and Director of Programs
Physicians for Human Rights Israel

MEDICAL AID

1,309,360 ILS WORTH OF MEDICATION AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTED TO PATIENTS AND CLINICS (EXCLUDING IN-KIND DONATIONS)

CLINIC VISITS

OVER **43,860** FREE MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED AT OUR OPEN CLINIC IN JAFFA AND MOBILE CLINIC IN THE WEST BANK

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS

2,510 VISITS TO OUR WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS PROVIDING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE CARE AND OTHER SPECIALTIES

VOLUNTEERS

2,423 SHIFTS FROM **396** VOLUNTEERS, TWO THIRD OF THEM MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

TREATMENTS FUNDED

139 TREATMENTS AND PROCEDURES FUNDED FOR PALESTINIANS IN THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORY AND STATUS-LESS PEOPLE IN ISRAEL FOR A COST OF **216,720 ILS**

HEALTHCARE WORKERS TRAINED

105 PALESTINIAN HEALTHCARE WORKERS TRAINED THROUGH RESILIENCE WORKSHOPS IN THE WEST BANK

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

48 PETITIONS FILED TO ISRAELI COURTS TO CHALLENGE POLICIES & PRACTICES THAT VIOLATE THE RIGHT TO HEALTH

PRISONERS AND DETAINEES

715 PRISONERS AND DETAINEES RECEIVED ASSISTANCE TO ACCESS HEALTHCARE AND CHALLENGE ILL-TREATMENT AND TORTURE

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

OVER **230** INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY MEETINGS MOBILIZING KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO ACT

SOCIAL MEDIA

1,003 MEDIA ITEMS & **1,058** SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS RAISING AWARENESS REGARDING VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO HEALTH FOR MARGINALIZED GROUPS

PUBLICATIONS

17 IN-DEPTH REPORTS ON BARRIERS TO HEALTHCARE DISTRIBUTED TO KEY AUDIENCES

EDUCATION

32 EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS ON THE RIGHT TO HEALTH AND MEDICAL ETHICS, RECEIVING OVER **1,000** ATTENDANCES FROM STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONS IN ISRAEL

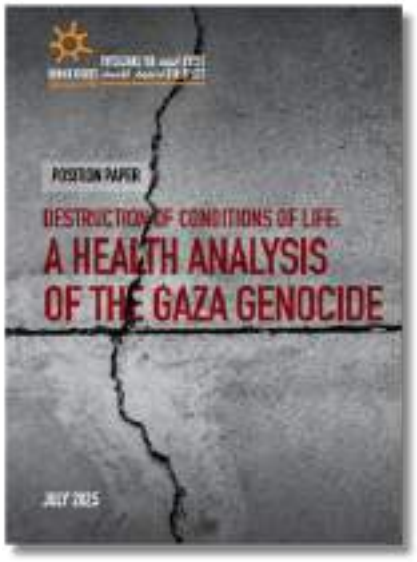


2025 ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS: PROVIDING CARE AND DEFENDING RIGHTS UNDER INCREASING CONSTRAINTS

2025 was marked by escalating crises that posed an unprecedented threat to the right to health across the region. Physicians for Human Rights Israel (PHRI) responded to the genocide in Gaza, worsening conditions in Israel's incarceration system, a deepening crisis in the West Bank, the exclusion of status-less individuals from essential healthcare, and the continuing erosion of Israel's public healthcare system. In the face of these challenges, we combined direct medical intervention with public campaigning and policy-change work to protect lives, uphold human dignity, and reaffirm healthcare as a universal and inalienable right.

COMBATTING THE GENOCIDE IN GAZA

The large-scale destruction of Gaza's healthcare infrastructure and the systematic denial of medical evacuations from the Strip continue to have devastating consequences for civilian health and lives. In 2025, we scaled up our efforts to confront the war and genocide in Gaza, taking a principled stance against Israel's targeted and deliberate destruction of Gaza's healthcare system. Drawing on extensive field documentation, medical evidence, and legal analysis, PHRI published the report *Destruction of Conditions of Life: A Health Analysis of the Gaza Genocide.* The report demonstrates the systematic assault on Gaza's healthcare system and the broader destruction of conditions necessary for civilian survival.





Launched jointly with B'Tselem, which published a separate report on the subject, this work positioned us as one of two Israel-based organizations to conclude that Israel's actions in Gaza constitute genocide. The report received extensive international media coverage, appearing in hundreds of leading outlets worldwide, and contributed to a significant shift in discourse on Gaza, prompting both governments and the public to push for an immediate ceasefire.

The destruction of Gaza's healthcare system, coupled with the denial of physical access to the Strip, has created an urgent need for medical evacuations. Our report *Gaza's Healthcare Collapse: The Denial of Medical Evacuation from Gaza*, produced in collaboration with international relief organizations, exposed the devastating consequences of Israel's systematic obstruction of life-saving medical evacuations, the broader collapse of Gaza's healthcare system, and the inadequacy of solely relying on third-country evacuations. More than three months after the declared ceasefire, an estimated 18,500 patients, including children, cancer patients, and individuals with complex war-related injuries, require treatment unavailable in Gaza.

Together with five human rights organizations, PHRI now leads a petition to Israel's Supreme Court demanding the immediate reopening of the medical referral corridor to East Jerusalem and the West Bank, Gaza's primary pre-war referral pathway.

The corridor represents the only practical solution for providing urgently needed care. This legal action forms part of a broader, multi-faceted advocacy strategy that engages governments and diplomats, the local and international medical community, and both Israeli and international publics. High-level advocacy with the EU, UN bodies, the United States, and diplomatic actors has been essential to refuting the misrepresentation of the situation post-ceasefire as one of recovery. Through engaging in the Ceasefire Now Coalition, we promoted the establishment of a national and international working group that has positioned the corridor as essential to enabling medical evacuations, humanitarian access, and the protection of civilian life. Alongside these efforts, mobilizing the medical community, both locally and internationally, will continue through 2026.



DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO HEALTH OF PALESTINIANS IN ISRAELI CUSTODY

Since October 2023, Palestinians in Israeli custody have been held in inhumane conditions, facing severe medical neglect, torture, and systematic rights violations. Detention conditions deteriorated sharply, marked by overcrowding, poor hygiene, a policy of starvation, and daily abuse, placing detainees' health and lives at serious risk. In response to this crisis, we intervened repeatedly and scaled up our work, combining individual casework with systematic documentation and targeted advocacy. Throughout 2025, PHRI provided medical and legal support to more than 700 detainees through in-person prison visits, medical assessments, and formal appeals to the Israeli Prison Service (IPS) and other authorities, addressing urgent and life-threatening health needs.

Alongside individual casework, PHRI documented recurring patterns of systemic neglect, collecting hundreds of testimonies, medical records, and expert assessments. This evidence underpinned our legal and advocacy efforts, resulting in concrete outcomes. Following sustained interventions, the IPS was compelled to provide treatment to thousands of detainees affected by a scabies outbreak. In collaboration with three human rights organizations, we led a petition challenging inadequate nutrition policies at the Ofer Military Camp, resulting in concrete improvements in both the quantity and quality of food provided at that facility. Similarly, our efforts led to the provision of winter clothing to over ten thousand detainees and prisoners by the IPS and the military. This work is part of PHRI's broader response to the deepening crisis in Israel's incarceration system since October 2023, as detailed in the thematic focus section of this report.

SAFEGUARDING HEALTHCARE ACCESS IN THE WEST BANK UNDER EXTREME CONDITIONS

Escalating violence, severe movement restrictions, and a deepening economic crisis continued to obstruct Palestinians' access to healthcare across the West Bank. Military operations, state-backed settler violence, and the expansion of checkpoints increasingly restricted access to medical facilities, while shortages in medicine placed the public healthcare system under extreme strain. Within this context, PHRI's Mobile Clinic remained a critical lifeline for underserved and remote communities. During 2025, we conducted 91 Mobile Clinic sessions in rural villages, towns, and refugee camps, providing over 37,000 medical consultations to Palestinians throughout the West Bank. Women, children, and patients with chronic illnesses were among the primary beneficiaries, receiving care through specialized women's health and renal clinics, alongside sustained medication provision essential to preventing severe health deterioration.



To ensure continuity of care, we coordinated referrals to hospitals in Israel and East Jerusalem and provided financial assistance for diagnostics, treatments, and medications, enabling patients to overcome barriers to care.

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In parallel, we contributed to strengthening the resilience of Palestinian healthcare workers operating under constant physical and emotional threat. Since October 7, 2023, over 909 incidents of violence against medical personnel and facilities have been documented, including ambulances being blocked, delayed, or damaged during emergencies.

Across this period, 175 health professionals were injured, and at least 37 fatalities were recorded. In response, we launched a new project focused on protecting frontline medical workers and delivered targeted resilience workshops to 105 of them, equipping them with tools to cope with traumatic experiences and prolonged stress. Interviews conducted with paramedics revealed recurring patterns of obstruction and exposure to danger, underscoring the systemic nature of these violations. To reduce risks, we provided protective equipment, including bulletproof helmets and vests, as well as dash cameras, to ambulance teams

PHRI also completed a three-year joint research project with Yesh Din, resulting in the publication of the report *Displaced Communities, Forgotten People*. The report documents the impact of settler violence and Israeli state policies on Palestinian shepherding communities, including the forcible displacement of more than 1,000 residents and harm to their physical and mental health.





DEFENDING STATUS-LESS CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO HEALTH AMID EXCLUSIONARY POLICIES

In 2025, persistent structural barriers continued to exclude status-less individuals in Israel from essential healthcare services. PHRI responded to these gaps through a combination of direct medical care and policy advocacy. At the Bella Kaufman Open Clinic, volunteer medical teams handled more than 4,300 patient visits, including 566 visits to the weekly Women's Health Clinic. These services ensured access to essential care for status-less individuals who would otherwise be denied treatment. We also issued over 5,200 medical referrals for specialist tests, consultations, and treatments at discounted rates through private clinics and hospitals.

Alongside this work, we intensified our efforts to protect the health rights of status-less children following the introduction of exclusionary healthcare regulations in July 2024, which stripped thousands of children of health insurance, affecting their health and well-being and placing them at serious risk. Together with Unitaf and other NGO partners, PHRI led a public campaign, Bring Health Back to the Children, centering the experiences of affected children and their families and amplifying the voices of parents, educators, and health professionals through targeted social media outreach, calling for urgent policy change.







PHRI led a coalition of 20 organizations and published a joint position paper documenting gaps in healthcare coverage for status-less newborns and children with disabilities, and the severe consequences for their health, development, and educational prospects. The paper actively advocated for change, informing meetings, Knesset committees, and public forums, urging the Ministries of Health, Social Affairs, and Education to restore access to healthcare, abolish the six-month waiting period for insured newborns, and address systemic service failures. These efforts contributed to increased public awareness, media coverage, and a government proposal to abolish the waiting period, an important step toward more equitable healthcare access. Alongside advocacy, we provided direct medical and legal support to status-less children, including psychiatric evaluations for urgent mental health needs.

PROTECTING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE IN ISRAEL



PHRI worked to protect equitable access to healthcare and to prevent policy changes that threatened to deepen existing health disparities among Israel's citizens and residents, particularly those linked to ethnicity, gender, and socio-economic status. Early in the year, we concluded our long-term advocacy effort opposing government-proposed increases in patient co-payments for prescription medications and mental health services. This work culminated in the publication of the report *The Hidden Cost: How Prescription Medication Co-payments Impact Disadvantaged Populations*, which exposed the disproportionate harm these policies would impose on low-income and marginalized communities.
Following our sustained advocacy, the planned increases were canceled, keeping co-payments at current levels and preserving access to care for thousands of individuals.

PHRI also launched a project focused on the health of people experiencing homelessness, one of the most excluded populations in Israel's welfare and healthcare systems. Through research on their health needs and the structural barriers they face in accessing care, we engaged in early advocacy to prevent further reductions in existing services. This work laid the foundation for our collaborative network of civil society actors and professionals committed to strengthening healthcare responses for this population.

In parallel, PHRI coordinated a joint letter to the Director-General of the Ministry of Health, signed by 47 medical associations and unions, calling for stricter oversight of the civilian firearms licensing process and the role of family doctors in it, and urging reforms to halt the proliferation of arms in Israel, reduce harm, and increase public safety. We also completed an extensive report examining the silencing and self-censorship faced by Palestinian medical professionals in Israel during the war. Drawing on anonymized testimonies, freedom of information requests, and survey data, our forthcoming report reflects a climate of fear and intimidation that affects Palestinian healthcare workers' ability to speak openly about their professional and ethical concerns.





THEMATIC FOCUS: CONFRONTING UNPRECEDENTED ABUSES IN ISRAELI DETENTION

Palestinians in Israeli custody have, for decades, been held in dire conditions, facing torture, abuse and systematic rights violations. Since October 2023, conditions in Israeli detention facilities have severely and systematically deteriorated. Throughout 2025, PHRI continued to operate under two interlocking challenges: an official policy of abuse and ill-treatment of Palestinian detainees, including violence, starvation, and denial of medical care; and the growing willingness of the judicial system to legitimize these violations. As a result, our principled court petitions are often dismissed on procedural grounds, while grave human rights violations and life-threatening conditions remain unaddressed at the systemic level. While our individual interventions are often helpful, despite our best efforts, the overall situation remains grave, and the health and lives of all Palestinians held in detention remain at risk.

Against this backdrop, PHRI conducted extensive legal, media, advocacy, and medical interventions to confront the collapse of detainees' right to health. Repeated reports of hunger, infectious disease outbreaks, and medical neglect prompted coordinated action with partner organizations to demand an end to systematic torture and rights violations in Israeli detention facilities. We expanded our efforts to document grave rights violations against incarcerated Palestinians, analyze our findings, and publish previously unknown data and information about these policies and practices to key target audiences with the clear goal of exposing the atrocities taking place and putting pressure on the authorities to stop them.

CAMPAIGN TO RELEASE DETAINED GAZAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL



During 2025, PHRI identified and investigated the growing trend of arrests and enforced disappearances of Palestinian healthcare workers from the Gaza Strip. This work culminated in a major report titled *Unlawfully Detained, Tortured, and Starved: The Plight of Gaza's Medical Workers in Israeli Custody*, on the detention and treatment of Palestinian healthcare workers from Gaza. Based on first-hand testimonies collected by PHRI through lawyer visits to detainees, coupled with in-depth legal analysis, the report exposes the systematic arrest of doctors, nurses, and paramedics throughout the genocide in Gaza. Almost all of them were held without charge, denied access to lawyers, and subjected to physical and psychological abuse, including beatings, prolonged shackling, humiliation, and medical neglect. By documenting these inhuman detention conditions and the violence to which they were subjected, the report demonstrates how these practices violate international humanitarian law protections for medical personnel and further devastate Gaza's already-collapsed health care system. The report and information uncovered by PHRI have formed the basis for an international campaign calling for the release of the medical staff.

Then, following the October 2025 ceasefire and the revelation that many healthcare workers remained in detention, PHRI led intensified public and legal advocacy calling for their release. We publicized the cases of Dr. Musab Sam'an, Dr. Ahmad Mousa, and Dr. Medhat Abu Tabanga, and supported an international campaign calling for the release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya and other detained medical staff. In 2025, PHRI lawyers also conducted prison visits to 35 healthcare workers held in Israeli detention centers – 10 of them since last October (after the ceasefire came into effect). Additionally, we submitted appeals to the Chief of Staff under Section 4 of the Unlawful Combatants Law on behalf of 14 remaining detained doctors, arguing that their detention has always lacked a legal basis, a reality made even more evident with the cessation of active hostilities.



DEATH IN CUSTODY

Our work on exposing the deaths of Palestinians held in Israeli custody was expanded during the year from urgent individual interventions to a systematic investigation into the pattern. Our volunteer physicians played a central role in identifying patterns of medical neglect, untreated injuries, and signs of torture by attending autopsies on behalf of the families of the deceased, thereby transforming individual cases into cumulative evidence.

Through extensive documentation, testimony collection, and repeated Freedom of Information requests, we verified at least 100 deaths of Palestinians in Israeli detention facilities between October 7, 2023, and the end of 2025. The findings relating to 94 of the deaths were consolidated into a report titled *Deaths of Palestinians in Israeli Custody: Enforced Disappearances, Systematic Killings and Cover-ups*, demonstrating that the scale and recurrence of deaths cannot be attributed to isolated incidents but reflect a systemic policy producing lethal detention conditions.



ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE AT THE UN LEVEL



In October 2025, PHRI submitted a joint report to the UN Committee Against Torture (UNCAT) together with fellow Israeli human rights NGOs, including Adalah, the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel, HaMoked, and Parents Against Child Detention, as part of the UN Committee's periodic review of Israel. The report summarized two years of monitoring the crisis in the Israeli detention system and the use of torture as institutionalized state violence against Palestinian detainees. During the Committee's subsequent hearings in Geneva, UNCAT members requested further briefings on PHRI's findings. In its concluding observations, the Committee found that Israel's treatment of Palestinian detainees appears to amount to a deliberate State policy of collective punishment, and called on Israel to end torture and ill-treatment, establish an independent investigatory commission, and ensure accountability and documentation.



CHALLENGES: STANDING OUR GROUND AS THE SPACE AROUND US SHRINKS

This past year was marked by unprecedented attacks on our ability to operate as an organization. This is part of a trend of rapidly shrinking civic space in our local context, which is accelerated and mirrored by similar trends in the United States and globally. Further, the volatile situation on the ground in Israel-Palestine posed numerous operational challenges throughout the year. Yet, we remain determined to stand our ground, operating in solidarity with the communities on whose behalf we act, as well as our colleagues in Palestinian civil society who face far graver pressure and attacks.

ATTEMPT TO FREEZE OUR BANK ACCOUNT

PHRI has been experiencing serious challenges with the Israeli bank where our account is held, Bank HaPoalim, since November 2023, when we attempted to purchase medication for delivery to Gaza. The bank has repeatedly barred us from delivering medicine to Gaza, posing various bureaucratic challenges to our operations, and closely scrutinizing every transaction since then. In January 2025, it informed us of its decision to freeze our account, following a transaction it found suspiciousFortunately, after we filed a lawsuit, the Tel Aviv District Court issued a temporary order keeping our account active until a final decision is made in our case. However, this order comes with a caveat – we are only authorized to make transactions to two Palestinian companies in the interim. This has resulted in several operational challenges throughout the year. For example, we have had to suspend our capacity-building programs for Palestinian healthcare personnel, as we cannot pay venues to host these seminars and workshops.

INVESTIGATIONS BY THE REGISTRAR OF NON-PROFITS

It has become increasingly clear that the Israeli Registrar of Non-profits is scrutinizing anti-occupation and human rights organizations more closely. PHRI received no fewer than three letters from the Registrar during 2025. Two of these related to the receipt of foreign governmental funding and the obligation to share this information on our website; we are aware that similar letters have been received by several other human rights organizations. In the third, and most worrying letter, a full-scale investigation was launched against us in June 2025. We received no background information regarding the reason for the investigation, and although we submitted all of the requested material, we have received no update or response. We are deeply concerned by this increasing scrutiny, and responding to these spurious claims consumes resources that are needed for essential work.

TAXATION BILL

Throughout the year, repeated rounds of discussion were underway regarding a legislative bill that seeks to tax foreign governmental funding to Israeli NGOs. This issue has become incredibly politicized: foreign funding to Israeli anti-occupation and human rights organizations is presented as illegitimate attempts to intervene in Israeli domestic matters, tagging us and other organizations as “foreign agents”. The bill has undergone several changes in its wording and the level of taxation to be imposed throughout the year. We do not know if or when this will become law, but the discussions on the topic have had a chilling effect, including closer scrutiny by the Israeli authorities of our existing foreign funding. This has also compelled us to focus increasingly on fundraising from private sources, based on the assumption that foreign governmental sources are under threat.

FUNDING LOSS

The entire global non-profit sector experienced significant shifts and funding losses in 2025, and PHRI was no exception. The Trump Administration’s decision to dismantle USAID resulted in the loss of our first major grant in 2025: having lost its own USAID funding, UNHCR was forced to cut all programming in Israel, meaning our Open Clinic lost a critical, multi-year donor. This was followed by two other governmental donors deciding to cut back their funding in the region. In total, these grants resulted in over 2 million ILS in lost funds. To make matters worse, some private philanthropic foundations have also discontinued programming in Israel-Palestine, as they too face increasing pressure and their limited resources are stretched thin. To help offset these losses, PHRI ran a successful crowdfunding campaign in May, which raised over 1.7 million ILS from private donors. In 2026, we plan to expand our fundraising efforts from individual donors.



OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES



In addition to trends related to civic space and funding losses, the region's instability had a direct impact on several of our projects. Throughout the year, the repeated military incursions in the West Bank, as well as the widespread settler violence and movement restrictions, impacted our ability to conduct field work. Travel has become incredibly time-consuming, and restrictions force us to change or reroute planned Mobile Clinic visits regularly. In January, we had to cancel a planned Women's Mobile Clinic due to increasing military activity and settler tensions in the target location.

Then, in June, the war between Israel and Iran forced us to cancel wo planned clinicsMovement restrictions and the volatile situation on the ground have also impacted our capacity-building programs for Palestinian healthcare professionals, as well as our field visits to ambulance teams in the northern West Bank, which often had to be rescheduled or rerouted.

Tragically, since October 2023 and continuing until today, we have been denied access to the Gaza Strip. Our staff and volunteers, especially those who previously worked in Gaza regularly, carry deep frustration and sadness over our inability to help mitigate some of the pain and suffering in the Strip. We also experienced considerable challenges in accessing Israeli detention sites, as our volunteer physicians are now almost completely barred from visiting incarcerated Palestinians. Indeed, throughout the year, only one such visit was able to take place. We now rely much more heavily on lawyer visits to incarcerated people – a much more costly practice, and one that also often encounters restrictions and challenges. Yet this is often the only way to learn about what is happening in detention facilities and provide individual assistance.



Erez Schweizer, Board Member and Volunteer at PHRI's Bella Kaufman Open Clinic for Status-less Individuals



The news came at midday. A hospital to provide A. with emergency surgery to save his life was found. Efforts by PHRI's status-less department bore fruit: they mobilized a healthcare institution to conduct the operation free of charge. A., a refugee from Sudan, has diabetes, a chronic illness that is simple to treat. However, with no legal status or health insurance, his diabetes was unmanaged, and an infected necrosis developed in his foot. His foot likely required amputation, but his life could be saved.

Now A. needed to be rushed there, but where was he? He had no phone or permanent address. A group of Open Clinic volunteers went to search for him at the Levinski Garden in South Tel Aviv – an area frequented by members of his community. We were relieved when friends from the refugee community were able to locate him – at the home of friends who had offered him shelter – and promised to bring him over immediately.

I hailed a taxi. The driver expressed concerns. He's afraid of drunk people riding with him, and not everyone can pay. It is understandable. I promised to pay in advance and stressed that the passenger was a quiet man in need of urgent care. His concerns weren't lifted, but when he saw A. approaching, speaking Arabic to his friends, something in the driver's face changed. "I speak Arabic myself", he said. He was Jewish. His parents had probably immigrated from an Arab country. After he exchanged a few words with A., he said to me, "I'll take care of him like a brother". They went on their way.

I had tears in my eyes. My parents also spoke Arabic to each other, and although their political opinions were far from my own, they never turned their backs on a person in need. I had no way of knowing the driver's opinions about Israel's migration policies, and like my parents and many Israelis, he may not have agreed with PHRI's positions regarding the occupation. Still, he found a common language, in the most literal sense, with A. and with PHRI, and opened his heart to us.

Where can we find hope in days when it seems like darkness is consuming everything? Perhaps this story contains a thread one can hold. In my 16 years volunteering at PHRI, I have come across countless manifestations of evil, racism, and institutionalized discrimination, but also moments where direct human interaction dispelled suspicions and hostilities. Albert Camus once wrote: *"Poverty kept me from thinking all was well under the sun and in history; the sun taught me that history was not everything*." I think about that sentence whenever I look at a patient, whenever I desperately need some hope, and whenever I see PHRI's sun logo.

The operation, we were told, was successful. A.'s life was saved.

Imran Anati, Researcher & Project Coordinator, occupied Palestinian territory Department



“EVERY SHIFT I LEAVE THE HOUSE HOPING TO SAVE SOMEONE, AND NOT COMPLETELY SURE I’LL COME BACK.”

He said it simply, as if it were just part of the job. I wrote the sentence in my notebook, and it has stayed with me ever since. It sits behind every interview I conduct and every testimony I read.

As a researcher and project coordinator at PHRI, I spent 2025 speaking with ambulance and emergency medical teams across the West Bank. While Israeli soldiers set up checkpoints without warning and settlers blocked roads, I called and met Palestinian paramedics who continued responding to every call. I was never inside the ambulance with them, but I was there when they tried to turn years of fear and exhaustion into words.

Some of those words are hard to forget. One paramedic described being stopped at a checkpoint during an emergency. Soldiers ordered him to pull the patient and the entire medical team out of the ambulance, lining them up on the road while they emptied their medical bags and life-saving equipment onto the ground. Another ambulance driver told me, “I keep a clean shirt in the vehicle so my children will not see blood when I come home.” Many told me they hide most of what happens from their families, because they don’t want the people they love to carry the same fears, images, and sleepless nights.

These testimonies reflect only a small part of what is happening. Over the past eighteen months, nearly 800 attacks on health care were recorded in the West Bank alone, affecting more than 500 ambulances. And while we were documenting attacks on healthcare in the West Bank, Gaza’s hospitals, ambulance convoys, and the entire health system were being attacked repeatedly.

At PHRI, we sought to address the recurring needs that emerged in our conversations with paramedics. We provided some of what they requested - helmets, protective vests, and dashboard cameras - and helped create spaces where paramedics could speak openly about their fears and exhaustion. These measures are small compared to what they go through every day, but for many, they were a message that they are not completely alone in this work.

My work is to listen, to document, and to refuse to look away. This ambulance project has taught me that behind every line in a report is a team preparing for another shift, saying goodbye to their loved ones, and hoping to return home safely. My responsibility is to carry their voices into the rooms where decisions are made, to insist that these realities be acknowledged, and to ensure that no one can credibly claim they did not know what it takes, and what it costs, for these paramedics to save a life.

Lubov Borshevsky, Pregnancy Termination Coordinator at PHRI's Bella Kaufman Open Clinic for Status-less Individuals



In April 2025, I began my role as Pregnancy Termination Coordinator at PHRI's Open Clinic in Jaffa. I have since accompanied nearly 40 status-less women, most of whom lack health insurance and live in complex, precarious circumstances shaped by poverty, legal insecurity, and social exclusion.

Under Israel's public health system, residents are entitled to fully funded pregnancy terminations, while non-residents, including asylum seekers, migrant workers, and survivors of trafficking, are excluded and must pay the full cost – thousands of shekels – making safe care inaccessible for many. Supporting pregnant women without legal status is an important part of the Open Clinic's work, addressing a critical service gap. My role involves providing individualized support throughout the process, including comprehensive information, coordination with medical facilities, in-person accompaniment when needed, and follow-up care such as emotional support and access to contraceptives.

One woman I accompanied, a migrant worker from Malawi, arrived in Israel on a work visa and was quickly exposed to exploitation, sexual abuse, and unsafe living conditions. When she left her job, her employer blocked her visa, further deepening her instability. She contacted the Open Clinic for help with an unwanted pregnancy. I supported her by coordinating her pregnancy termination and contraceptive care and helping her obtain health insurance through a new employer.

Another woman, an Eritrean refugee and mother of four, contacted me early in her pregnancy seeking a termination. She was struggling with fear and untreated trauma from torture she had endured before arriving in Israel. Although the medical process was approved, she did not proceed with the procedure at her first scheduled appointment. By maintaining contact, providing clear information, and remaining available to accompany her a week later at her request, she ultimately accessed the care she had sought.

Her case underscored that access to healthcare is not only about the availability of services and funding but also about sustained, informed, and compassionate support. Since taking on this role, I have provided respectful care while maintaining thorough documentation to support continuity of care and provide evidence for our advocacy for sustainable funding and policy changes. Denying affordable access to reproductive care has far-reaching consequences for women's physical and mental health, their economic stability, and their families' well-being: this care is a human right, not a privilege, yet it remains denied to those most marginalized.



In addition to the organizations and foundations below, PHRI thanks the hundreds of individual donors whose generous support allows us to continue fighting for justice and healthcare for all who live under Israel's control.

B8 OF HOPE
BADER PHILANTHROPIES
BREAD FOR THE WORLD
CONSULATE GENERAL OF FRANCE IN JERUSALEM
DIAKONIA
ENTWICKLUNGSHILFEKLUB
FOUNDATION DISRUPT
FRONTLINE DEFENDERS
HILTI FOUNDATION
MEDICI PER I DIRITTI UMANI
MEDICO INTERNATIONAL
MEDICO INTERNATIONAL SCHWEIZ
PORTICUS
SECOURS CATHOLIQUE - CARITAS FRANCE
SIVMO (NETHERLANDS)
SPANISH AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
THE BRITISH FOREIGN, COMMONWEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
THE EUROPEAN UNION
THE JEWISH WOMEN'S FUND OF ATLANTA
THE NEW ISRAEL FUND
THE RICHMAN FOUNDATION
THE SIGRID RAUSING TRUST
THRESHOLD FOUNDATION
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

14 K

Over 14,260 hours volunteered in our clinics and beyond

13.8 M

PHRI's total expenses in 2025 came to approximately 13,844,190 ILS

20%

20% of our budget raised from individual donors

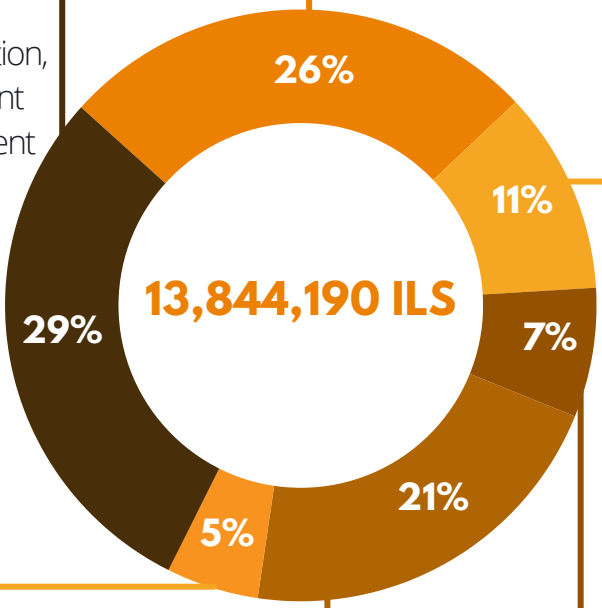
2025 EXPENSES BY PROGRAM AREA



Operations, Administration, Resource Development & Financial Management



Occupied Palestinian Territory, Mobile Clinic





Bella Kaufman Open Clinic & Status-less individuals



Health Policy in Israel



Public Department



Prisoners & Detainees

The figures presented here are based on internal year-end financial data, prior to the completion of our annual audited accounts. They may therefore be subject to minor adjustments.



As a Jewish org in Israel, you spoke up about the genocide promoted by Israel on the people of Gaza. ***Thanks much for your courage to do what's right.***

PAUL F.

I wanted to make a small gesture of support to PHRI, for the important work your team is doing, but also ***in solidarity, recognizing that your staff and supporters show incredible courage and resolve in standing up for human rights, particularly for Palestinians in Gaza.***

ANONYMOUS DONOR

I donated out of ***wonder and admiration that you persist, that you continue to help those you can despite incredible odds and in the face of practiced evil and destruction.*** *I am grateful to PHR for its amazing care.*

ANONYMOUS DONOR

For over 38 years, PHRI has worked to promote a just society where the right to health is granted equally to all people under Israel's responsibility and control. We provide free healthcare and humanitarian aid to thousands of people each year, and work to challenge and change discriminatory and abusive policies. Help us keep doing this lifesaving work.



Our work is funded entirely by donations. Help us provide healthcare to thousands more in 2026.
Support our work by making a monthly donation here.

www.phr.org.il

mail@phr.org.il

PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
רופאים לזכויות אדם
أطباء لحقوق الإنسان

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