

Mission & Goals

HCEF is committed to the continued presence and well-being of the Arab Christians in the Holy Land, & to developing the bonds of solidarity between them and Christians elsewhere. HCEF lives its mission by witnessing the teaching of our Savior Jesus Christ:

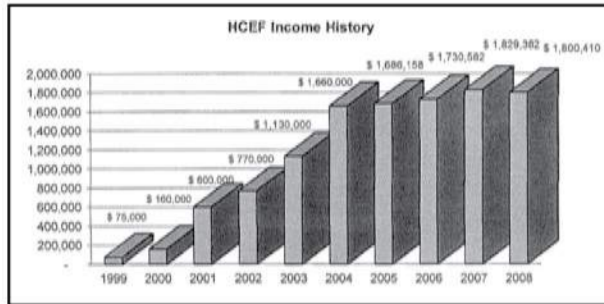
- Educating people around the world about the presence of Arab Christians in the Holy Land, and reminding them of their moral obligation to the Mother Church.
- Building community between Christians throughout the world and Arab Christians of the Holy Land through pilgrimages, publications, and communication.
- Developing bonds of solidarity through church-to-church, family-to-family, and person-to-person partnership programs in order to bring Christians together in community for future cooperation.
- Promoting peace, justice, and reconciliation in the Holy Land by removing the causes of human suffering and replacing despair with hope, fear with security, and humiliation with dignity.
- Undertaking specific projects designed to advance better living conditions for Arab Christians in the Holy Land. Projects focus on creating employment, advancing education, building and rehabilitating houses, and developing the healthy growth of children.



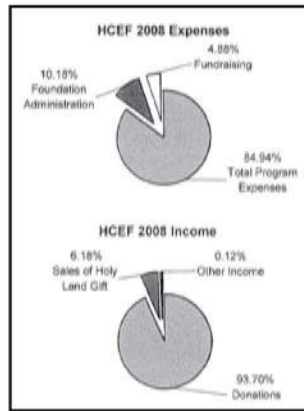
HCEF Summary Financial Statement 2008

HCEF FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2008

Income		
Donations	\$ 1,686,973	93.70%
Sales of Holy Land Gifts	\$ 111,240	6.18%
Other Income	\$ 2,197	0.12%
Total Income	\$ 1,800,410	
Expenses		
Child Sponsorship	\$ 460,593	
Living Stones Housing Projects	\$ 426,956	
Pilgrimages and Parish Partnerships	\$ 304,860	
Holy Land Christian Support Network	\$ 176,022	
Holy Land Gifts	\$ 116,464	
Other Grant Programs	\$ 75,987	
Total Program Expenses	\$ 1,560,882	84.94%
Foundation Administration	\$ 187,096	10.18%
Fundraising	\$ 89,700	4.88%
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,837,678	



This is a partial presentation of the audited financial statements of HCEF. The entire audited financial statements are available upon request.



The Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation (HCEF) is a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



THE HOLY LAND CHRISTIAN ECUMENICAL FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

a decade of Christians Helping Christians



LET US TOGETHER

REPLACE DESPAIR WITH HOPE,
FEAR WITH SECURITY,
AND HUMILIATION WITH HUMAN DIGNITY.

HCEF Mission

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Annual Report for 2008 marks a major milestone for the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation. In ten short years, a hopeful vision of a few idealists has grown into reality. The Foundation has become vital in the life of Christians in the Holy Land.

In writing to you, I am inspired yet humbled by the selfless dedication of uncounted volunteers and supporters of HCEF who have made this reality possible. – To all, a deep heartfelt **Thank you!**

As documented in the Annual Report, this year has seen much progress. In spite of the economic difficulties worldwide, we were able to sustain the HCEF programs and even laid foundations for new initiatives for the coming year. **This was made possible only through the redoubled efforts of our dedicated supporters who by prayer and treasure sustained our work.** Critical support was rendered by the *Ambassadors of the Mother Church* of HCEF. My fervent hope is that if you are not now an *Ambassador*, you will consider becoming one!

In this, our 11th year of service to the Christians in the Holy Land, we have just concluded a very successful 11th International Conference & Awards Banquet. We were honored and privileged that **H.E. John Cardinal Foley**, Grand Master, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (Vatican) graced us with his presence as our Conference Keynote speaker and Awards Banquet Guest of Honor. He encouraged us all to allow ourselves to be an instrument of peace and to give our hearts to supporting Christians in the Holy Land.

I solicit your continued support and prayers for the success of our undertaking. Please know that HCEF is **your** foundation for helping the Christians in the Holy Land, and your continuous support is a blessing and much appreciated. Thank you for another great year!



In Christ,

Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS
President/CEO



INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES FOR 2008 AND BEYOND

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Ecumenical Center for Research and Development (ECRD)

- Dedication of the Ecumenical Center for Research and Development (ECRD).
- The **mission** of the ECRD is based on the HCEF mission to help the churches and people of the Holy Land enhance their role as agents for social justice and equity in all spheres of life at the community level and actively engage in local, regional, and international efforts to make the world a better place.
- **Educating the Educators Workshops:** To train supervisors and **Special Education Program:** To educate in the fundamentals of special education as practiced in the United States
- **College Preparation/Student Counseling Sessions:** To offer services in a variety of needs related to students' daily life and preparation for college.
- **English as a Foreign Language Courses:** To offer courses to children and adults in English to enable them to speak and read accurately and effectively
- **Health Education Initiative:** To employ strategies to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of health care resources.
- The 8-story edifice will have meeting rooms, training facilities, offices and much more. Although it is not completed, the center promises a wealth of potential. **Major funding is still required for the completion of many areas of the center.**

Interfaith Cooperation Health Initiative for the Holy Land (IFHD)

- HCEF and Catholic University of America have collaborated to develop a model of interfaith cooperation among Christian, Muslim and Jewish health care and allied professionals that will increase access to needed health care services for the people of the Holy Land.
- **More detailed information about this project is forthcoming for 2009! Keep your eye on us!**



CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY

Child Sponsorship Program (CSP)

- Through our CSP *we provided support to 48 Christian schools* (Catholic, orthodox and Protestants). Over 1500 children are sponsored with 15,000 others awaiting sponsorship!
- All proceeds go to the school systems of the sponsored children enabling the schools to pay their teachers, purchase educational supplies and meet operating needs.
- Sponsors contribute \$25 per month, or \$300 per year, toward the education of a designated Christian student.
- HCEF facilitates the exchange of cards and letters, between sponsors and students, to build mutual solidarity, an aspect that multiplies the program and is just as important as the financial support.



Jesus Loves the Children Program

HCEF organizes annual visits to Bethlehem (at Christmas) and to Jerusalem (at Easter) for Christian children of all denominations from villages in Palestine, Israel and Jordan.

Parish Partnership Program

16 churches (8 partnerships) currently participate in the Parish Partnership program. Perhaps, your parish would consider becoming a partner with a parish in the Holy Land?



Living Stones Pilgrimage Program

In 2008, HCEF organized *6 different Pilgrimages (128 Pilgrims)*, originating from various cities in the USA to build solidarity and economic support to the Arab Christians.



Birzeit Senior Citizen Center

Provides support for approximately 60 senior citizens in the Palestinian town of Birzeit. The Center provides a place for nutritious meals, social activities and programs of health awareness, culture and recreation.

Maintaining our Christian Heritage in the Holy Land



Building PEACE through FAITH and Dialogue



"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God."
Matthew 5:9

On-going Programs

ECONOMIC SOLIDARITY

HOUSING AND JOB CREATION

Housing Rehabilitation & Job Creation Program

- Renovates standard homes, thus providing better homes and work opportunities for local Christian craftsmen and laborers. From 2004 to 2008, the program *renovated 236 homes, while providing employment for 589 workers.*



Holy Land Gifts:

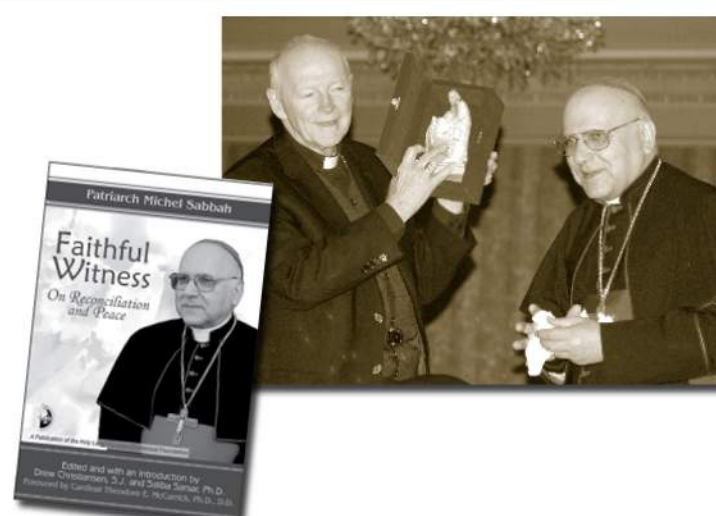
Vital Support for a Living Tradition

- Helped maintain this tradition which has been a major source of economic support for the Christian community in the Bethlehem region.
- Over the years, this program, which is run completely by dedicated volunteers, has been crucial to the livelihoods of Christian crafters' families. Please view and purchase these gifts us at www.hcefgifts.org.
- Please join us in volunteering

Educational Solidarity

Educational Events

- Annual conferences, Symposiums and other Educational Events continue to be the voice of the holy land Christians and bring together people from all over the world dialogue on ways on how to support our brothers and sisters.
- **H.B. Patriarch Michel Sabbah**, *Latin Patriarch Emeritus of Jerusalem*, along with New City Press, launched Patriarch Sabbah's new book, **Faithful Witness: On Reconciliation and Peace in the Holy Land**, edited by Fr. Drew Christiansen, S.J. and Saliba Sarsar, Ph.D.; foreword by Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick.



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HCEF Mission

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