Dear EDOF supporters,

It is with great pleasure that EDOF shares with you its 2016 Achievement Report. On behalf of the Essam and Dalal Obaid Foundation board and the entire EDOF team, we thank you for your continuous support, enthusiasm and dedication.

ABOUT EDOF

EDOF was established in 2014 with a vision: to make a positive difference in the health of individuals, to save lives, and to contribute to a more just and humane world. EDOF’s vision is inspired and informed by the compassion and humanitarianism of the late Essam Obaid and his wife Dalal Obaid. Inspired by their parents’ ethics of giving and their principles of peace and justice, their sons Nawaf, Tarek, and Karim established EDOF to honour their dear father’s memory.

EDOF’s MISSION

EDOF’s mission is to support organisations that are leaders in their fields, be they cutting-edge medical research institutions and specialist health service providers or social and humanitarian organisations. EDOF also proactively raises awareness and highlights solutions to pressing global and regional health, social, and humanitarian issues. They fulfill this aspect of their mission through communication, advocacy, social media, and outreach work.
In 2010, EDOF gave a substantial donation to the Mayo Clinic to support reconstructive transplantation, which led to the establishment of the Mayo Clinic Essam and Dalal Obaid Center for Reconstructive Transplant Surgery. The Center is composed of two branches; Face Transplantation and Hand Transplantation. It helps patients deal with difficult and challenging injuries, prepares them for the transplantation, provides post-surgery care and recovery, and assists them in leading a healthy post-operation life.

With the support of EDOF, the Mayo Clinic continues to offer patients the most advanced and finest reconstructive surgery facilities in the world; with highly skilled multidisciplinary medical teams, cutting edge research in regenerative medicine, advanced microsurgery, pre-transplant screening, immunosuppressive medications, and transplant patient care.

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Transforming a Life

On February 17, 2017, Mayo Clinic announced the successful completion of its first face transplant performed at the Mayo Clinic’s Essam and Dalal Center for Reconstructive Transplant Surgery. A team of over 100 surgeons, physicians, and other health professionals led by Dr. Samir Mardini, Surgical Director of the Center performed a near-total face transplant on Wyoming man, Andrew Sandness last summer. This groundbreaking, life-changing surgery will allow Mr. Sandness to chew, swallow, speak, breathe, and smell.

The surgery, which took place in the summer of 2016 but was only just announced, took over 50 hours. It involved restoring the patient’s nose, upper and lower jaw, palate, teeth, cheeks, facial muscles, oral mucosa, some of the salivary glands and the skin of the face. Virtual surgical planning technology and 3-D printing were used to optimize the aesthetic and functional outcomes of the surgery.

Months after the surgery, professionals are proud to say the results are incredible; Andrew Sandness announced « they are beyond his expectations ».
EDOF has been very proud to partner with the CNN Freedom Project, a leading global media entity working to end modern day slavery and human trafficking. In the past 2 years CNN has produced ground-breaking TV reports and stories from all over the world that expose the crimes perpetuated by modern slave traders and human traffickers. The reports have not only highlighted the extent of this global crime, its huge profits, and the terrible price paid by the victims, but have also given a platform to victims and a voice to the voiceless and survivors.

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+ 30 MILLION SLAVES IN THE WORLD TODAY.

5.5 MILLION CHILDREN TRAFFICKED AROUND THE WORLD.

$32 BILLION IN PROFITS GENERATED BY HUMAN TRAFFICKING GLOBALLY.

80% OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS FOR SEX.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS THE 2ND MOST LUCRATIVE CRIME IN THE WORLD.
WE ARE VERY PROUD TO SHARE SOME INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENTS FROM 2016:

> CNN Freedom Project documentary wins award

“Canada’s Stolen Daughters”, a CNN Freedom Project documentary on the sexual exploitation of children in Canada has been recognized by « Beyond Borders ECPAT Canada » with the 2016 International Media Award. This national advocacy organization has been honouring journalists for their coverage of child sexual exploitation and related issues since 2002.

> The Safe Harbor / Rachel’s Law” has officially gone into effect

After months of filming the streets of Atlanta, CNN Freedom project aired the documentary « Children For Sale » with Jada Pinkett Smith revealing the prevalence of human trafficking in the heart of America and the importance of combating it. Following the airing of this documentary, Georgia lawmakers decided to take action and put the Safe Harbor / Rachel’s Law into effect, which consists of placing an annual tax on strip clubs, increasing penalties against convicted human traffickers, directing proceeds from property impounded during arrests to establish the Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children Fund and much more.
> CNN mobilizes students for global day of action against human trafficking

CNN is teaming up with people around the globe for a student-led day of action against modern-day slavery. On March 14th 2017, television networks will show the world what students, schools and communities are doing to fight slavery in honour of #MyFreedomDay. CNN will also complement those user-generated submissions by publishing a series of stories that highlight real-life examples of how children are approached by human traffickers in addition to recent studies and statistics from support organisations.

> Italy raises awareness to tackle human trafficking

Italy’s Ministry of Education has decided to educate young people across the country about human trafficking and modern-day slavery, and tackle such issues at a time where levels of migration across Europe keep increasing. The CNN Freedom Project award-winning journalism, spanning reports, documentaries, and digital content will be used in classrooms to promote practical solutions to improve the care of people affected by these issues.
For the past three years, EDOF has been nourishing a strategic partnership with The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the largest humanitarian organisation in the world. The ICRC provides urgent relief to communities, families, and individuals affected by armed conflicts, wars, and natural disasters.

To encourage the ICRC’s mission, EDOF has been supporting the leading specialist medical clinic for war trauma victims in the MENA region, « The Weapon Traumatology and Training Centre » (WTTC), which is run by the ICRC in both Al Chifae and Dar Al Zahra hospitals in Tripoli, Lebanon.

The WTTC offers first aid, treatment, surgery, drugs, physical rehabilitation, and much more to victims of bomb blasts, land mines, and gunshots. It has treated many of the Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria’s armed conflict that have sustained severe physical injuries and in some cases extreme and complex multiple traumas.

EDOF has been supporting the leading specialist medical clinic for war trauma victims in the MENA region: The Weapon Traumatology and Training Centre.

+ 220,000 SYRIANS KILLED IN 4 YEARS OF CIVIL WAR.
+ 5.5 MILLION CHILDREN AFFECTED BY THE CRISIS IN SYRIA.
+ 50% OF SYRIAN REFUGEES ARE CHILDREN.
+ 12 MILLION PEOPLE IN SYRIA NEED HELP.
+ 3.8 MILLION SYRIAN REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES.
IN LEBANON, 1 IN 5 INDIVIDUALS IS A SYRIAN REFUGEE.
Since 2015, EDOF has been proud to support NCUSAR, an American non-profit, non-governmental, educational organisation dedicated to improving American knowledge and understanding of the Arab world. EDOF’s focus on peace, co-operation, and positive social change as well as its firm belief in the energy and aspirations of youth are reflected in its support of NCUSAR’s educational and cultural initiatives.

In the past couple of years, EDOF has supported the «Washington, DC Summer Internship Program», which offers undergraduate and graduate students a ten-week professional, academic, and career opportunity internship in the US capital city. The program features an energizing and demanding mix of professional involvement, intellectual challenge, career exploration, and cultural encounter designed to provide interns with a rich and varied experience during their time in Washington.

EDOF also supports NCUSAR’s Model Arab League program (MAL), which gives participating students from US schools the opportunity to learn about the politics and history of the Arab world, as well as the arts of diplomacy and public speaking. This program prepares students to be knowledgeable, well-trained, and effective citizens as well as civic and public affair leaders.

Finally, EDOF supports NCUSAR’s Cultural Study Visits Program, which has taken MAL students and faculty members from the US to visit Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Lebanon.
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