

SIX-MONTH UPDATE

ISRAEL & GAZA CRISIS RESPONSE



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS' APPROACH

OUR RESPONSE



ISRAEL

In Israel, where International Medical Corps does not have an operational presence, we are supporting ongoing response and recovery efforts by long-time partner JDC, which is providing health and mental health services to affected communities—with a focus on children, older people and people with disabilities—as well as training first responders and healthcare workers.



GAZA

In Gaza, where we have worked since 2008, International Medical Corps has deployed a 140-bed field hospital to Rafah in southern Gaza. The field hospital offers surgical care for trauma, physical rehabilitation, comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care, advanced mental health care, child protection, nutrition support, water, sanitation and hygiene services, and more. We currently are providing care to as many as 800 civilians per day.






PROVIDING
HUMANITARIAN AID IN

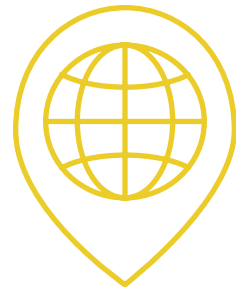
 **ISRAEL**



Immediately following the October 7 attacks, JDC responded with a wide range of services and support for those in need, including financial assistance and targeted mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services for both adults and children.

JDC has so far:

-  Provided MHPSS education and individualized trauma therapy to some 12,000 children
-  Reached more than 51,000 people through online MHPSS services
-  Bolstered emergency services across 81 municipalities through training and more
-  Assisted more than 2,000 displaced job seekers through mobile employment centers
-  Provided cash assistance and debt relief to 5,800 displaced or frontline residents and business owners



FROM THE FIELD

Hibuki Provides Help and Hope



To help Israeli children displaced by rocket fire cope with trauma, Hibuki—from “hibuk,” the Hebrew word for hug—was developed by JDC in partnership with Tel Aviv University and the Israeli Ministry of Education in 2006. This therapeutic toy—a dog with long arms that wraps around the holder’s neck—helps children process difficult emotions by projecting their feelings onto the stuffed animal and, in caring for it, heal from fear and stress.

Over the past 20 years, tens of thousands of children in Israel have been comforted by this toy. Hibuki is being deployed again among thousands of children from southern Israel.

This is just one part of JDC’s wide-ranging response to the current crisis in Israel. According to psychologist Dr. Shai Hen-Gal, who developed the doll with Dr. Flora More, Hibuki has long arms to envelop a child with warmth. In addition to being able to project their negative feelings onto the stuffed animal, children also become its symbolic caregiver, which helps them feel a sense of purpose. In turn, their new active role combats their present pain and enables feelings of empathy and autonomy.

PROVIDING
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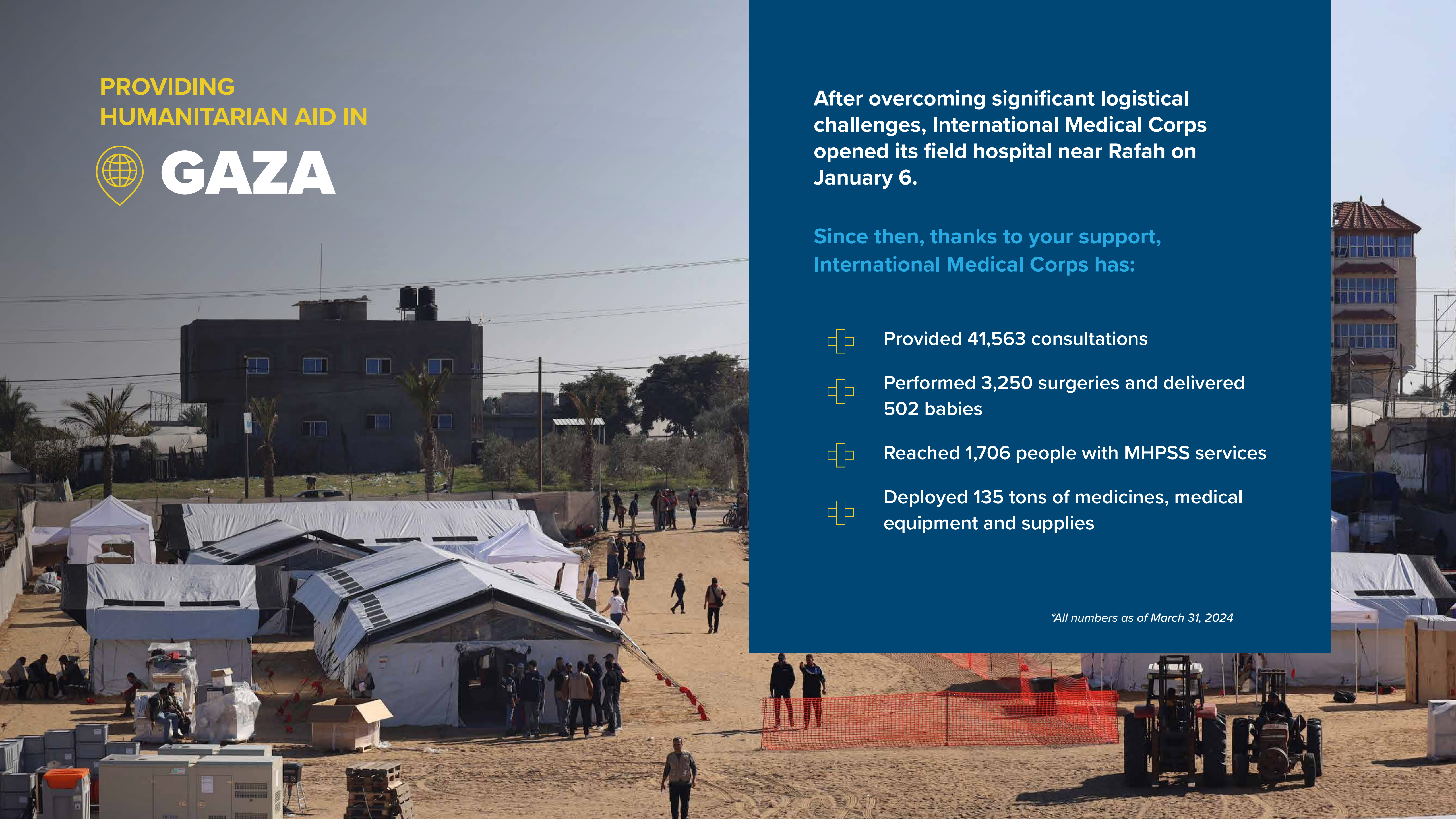


After overcoming significant logistical challenges, International Medical Corps opened its field hospital near Rafah on January 6.

Since then, thanks to your support, International Medical Corps has:

- ✚ Provided 41,563 consultations
- ✚ Performed 3,250 surgeries and delivered 502 babies
- ✚ Reached 1,706 people with MHPSS services
- ✚ Deployed 135 tons of medicines, medical equipment and supplies

**All numbers as of March 31, 2024*





About Our Field Hospital

International Medical Corps' field hospital—now the second-largest trauma center in all of Gaza—provides comprehensive outpatient and inpatient services, surgical care for trauma, physical rehabilitation, comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care, advanced MHPSS services and more.

Our field hospital is:

- ▶ Operating 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
- ▶ Seeing as many as 800 patients per day
- ▶ Performing an average of 20 surgeries and delivering an average of nine babies per day
- ▶ 11,840 square feet in capacity and is constructed with two 20-foot modular containers and 20 large tents, all fully powered and air-conditioned
- ▶ Equipped with two operating theaters, 24 emergency room beds, 96 post-operative care beds, nine labor and delivery beds and 11 intensive-care unit (ICU) beds
- ▶ Staffed by 503 highly trained health workers, including 64 doctors, 6 surgeons, 80 nurses, 7 obstetricians, 14 pharmacy specialists and 5 lab technicians, among others
- ▶ Highly adaptable and was moved in April 2024 to a new location in western Rafah to accommodate shifting needs

Logistics

International Medical Corps coordinated with the World Health Organization, Egyptian Red Crescent and other international agencies, organizations and regional authorities to transport the field hospital into Gaza.

International Medical Corps:

- ▶ Built the field hospital from the ground up in a matter of seven days
- ▶ Organized the delivery of medicines, medical equipment and supplies through 10 air and 20 truck shipments
- ▶ Set up a solar-powered water-desalination plant, which so far has produced more than 513,000 gallons of clean water for use in our field hospital
- ▶ Leveraged relationships with trusted local non-profit organizations to set up biowaste disposal, laundry services and more



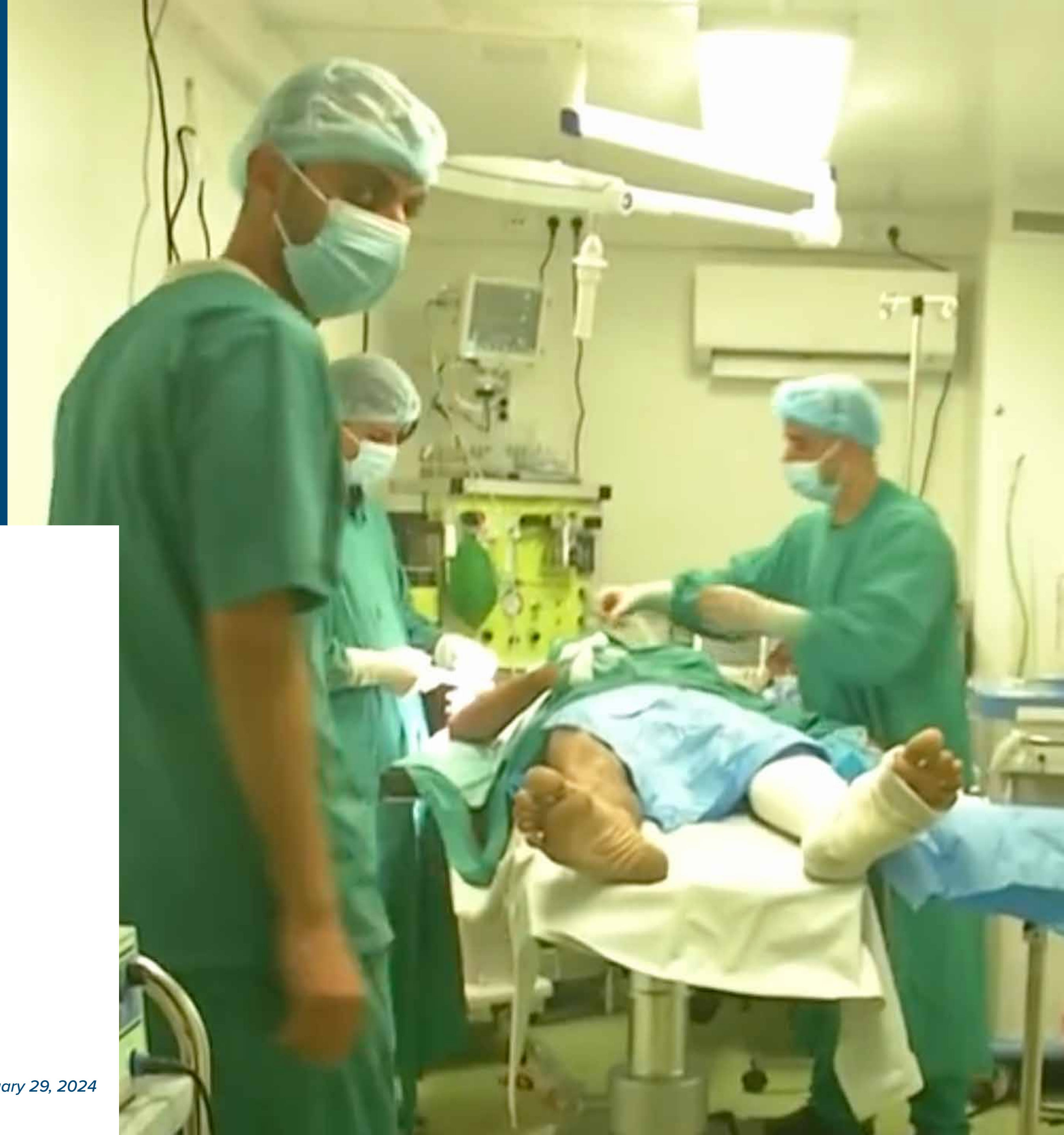
Emergency and Surgical Services

The conflict has led to an extreme caseload of orthopedic and physical trauma injuries. Our hospital is fully equipped and staffed with a team of surgical specialists to stabilize patients, perform operations and preserve functionality of injured limbs.

So far, we have:

- ▶ Provided 3,250 surgical and emergency trauma care consultations
- ▶ Performed an average of 20 major and minor surgeries daily
- ▶ Delivered an average of nine babies (including C-sections) daily
- ▶ Conducted 1,305 post-surgical follow-up consultations*

**As of February 29, 2024*



Maternal and Child Health

Even in a stable living environment, pregnant and lactating women (PLWs), and well as their children, face increased health risks and require unique care. These risks are severely exacerbated in times of conflict, when access to healthcare, food, water and other basic necessities are scarce.

So far, we have:

- ▶ Provided health consultations to 3,329 pregnant women
- ▶ Delivered 502 babies, including 87 through Cesarean section
- ▶ Provided 241 pregnant women with nutrition interventions specifically tailored to support a healthy pregnancy
- ▶ Hosted infant and young-child feeding counseling sessions with integrated lactation support, reaching 1,699 people
- ▶ Reached 649 PLWs and children through prophylactic distribution of vitamin A
- ▶ Reached 286 children through prophylactic deworming treatment



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

The experience of living in a war zone can have a lifelong effect on mental health. To address this growing need, we provide an array of MHPSS services at our field hospital.

So far, we have:

- ▶ Reached 1,304 people with psychological first aid (PFA) services
- ▶ Conducted 128 individual mental health counseling sessions
- ▶ Hosted 35 group therapy sessions
- ▶ Reached 674 people through awareness-raising sessions, covering topics such as stress management and dealing with grief



Child Protection Services

Roughly half of Gaza's entire population is children. With many children orphaned or separated from their caregivers, the need for protection and MHPSS services among this highly vulnerable group is extremely high.

International Medical Corps has:

- ▶ Hosted 1,272 children in our child-friendly space, where children can socialize and access mental health resources
- ▶ Provided PFA to 468 children
- ▶ Managed care plans for 38 children through our case management program
- ▶ Trained 127 caregivers on identifying and responding to signs of child abuse and abnormal child behavior
- ▶ Provided individual counseling sessions for 196 children who showed signs of psychological trauma
- ▶ Hosted an Open Recreation Day for 72 children, where they had the opportunity to engage in games, art and group meals



Nutrition Services

The amount of food being delivered into Gaza is not nearly enough to keep up with skyrocketing demand. According to the World Food Programme, more than 2.2 million people in Gaza are facing crisis-level food insecurity and as many as 576,000 are facing catastrophic starvation.

In response, we have:

- ▶ Screened 2,841 children under 5 for malnutrition
- ▶ Identified and treated 149 cases of moderate acute malnutrition and 58 cases of severe acute malnutrition
- ▶ Identified and treated 1,363 cases of malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women
- ▶ Provided infant and young-child feeding counseling services to 1,699 people
- ▶ Provided ready-to-eat meals to 29,430 people





FROM THE FIELD

Helping Abdullah Heal

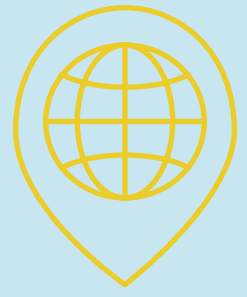


Abdullah Al-Sindawi, a new arrival to Rafah who is the sole survivor of his family, was transferred to the newly opened International Medical Corps Field Hospital on January 15. The 15-year-old had sustained a shrapnel injury to the head that caused paralysis of his left hand and leg, as well as difficulty speaking and swallowing. To address his condition, our specialized surgical team inserted a nasogastric tube while Abdullah remained unconscious and admitted him to intensive care.

After stabilizing Abdullah, our nutrition team conducted a thorough assessment to determine his specific needs, calculating the required calories from each type of food and tailoring his diet to promote optimal healing. For the next month, Abdullah received precise nutrition through the nasogastric tube, aiding in his recovery. It took six days of continuous feeding for Abdullah to regain consciousness.

As his condition improved, Abdullah transitioned from nasogastric tube feeding to direct oral feeding. After six more days of monitoring and treatment, his digestive system began to show signs of improvement. As time progressed, Abdullah exhibited movement in his feet and hands, signaling a notable improvement in his condition.

The nutrition team maintained round-the-clock shifts to ensure that Abdullah received the necessary nutrition to enhance his weight and overall health. Thanks to these efforts, Abdullah's weight increased and his infection subsided, aiding his healing process.

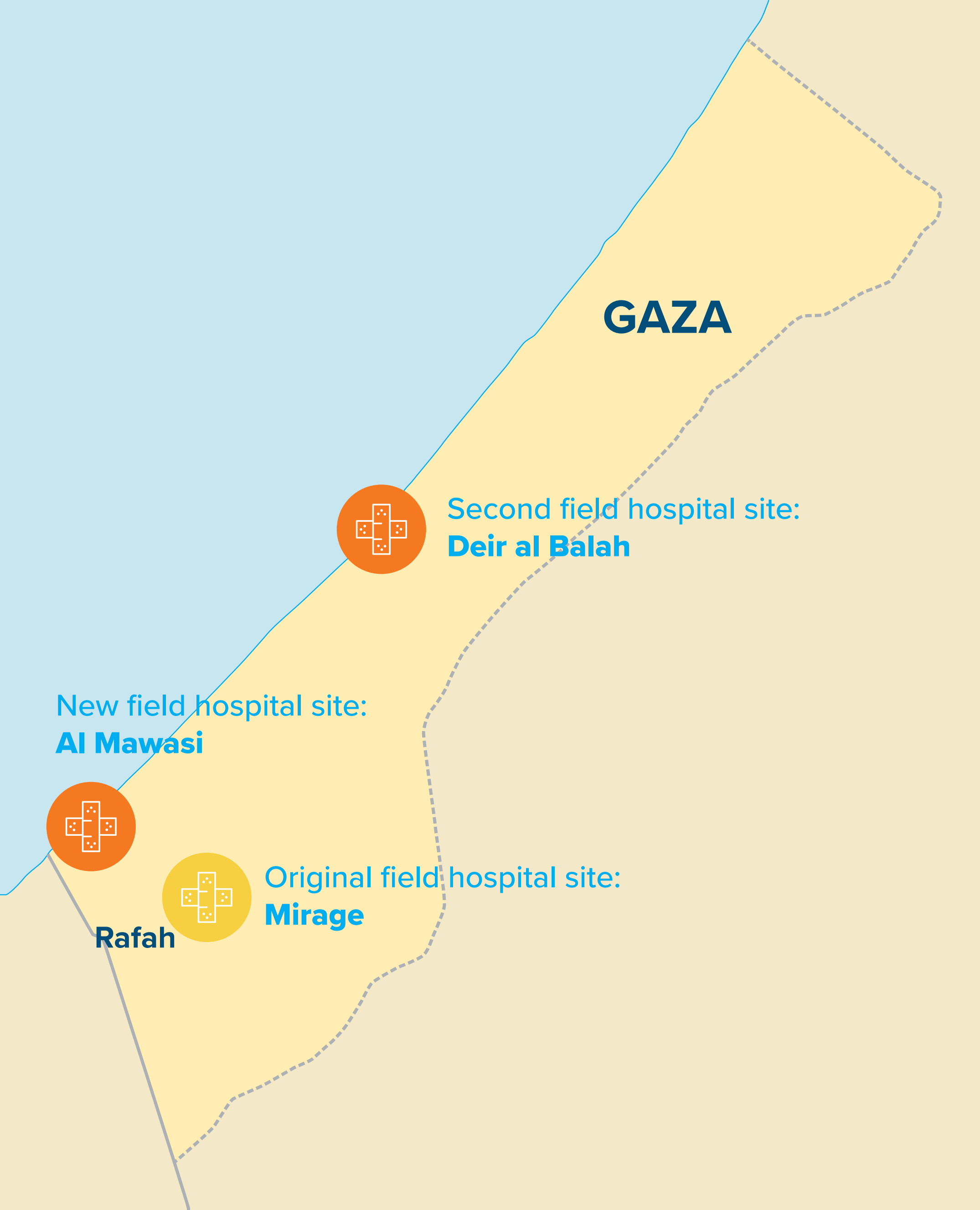


FROM THE FIELD

Treating Trauma

Dr. Haitham Qandeel, a surgeon at the International Medical Corps field hospital in Gaza, poses with a child who came in with a severe lung injury caused by shrapnel from a nearby explosion. By the time the 12-year-old boy arrived at the field hospital, his oxygen levels had dropped to zero, putting him close to death. Dr. Qandeel performed a thoracotomy and repair of his lung, and the child has completely recovered.





Moving Forward

With no immediate end to the conflict in sight, the need for health and related services remains high. International Medical Corps is expanding our field hospital to reach as many people in need as possible.

We are:

- ▶ Increasing the capacity of our field hospital from 140 beds to nearly 200 beds, with an additional five tents
- ▶ Expanding ICU capabilities, trauma services and orthopedic and plastic surgery, as well as ancillary services, including the laboratory, blood bank and physiotherapy
- ▶ Adding two mobile operating theaters to increase the number of surgeries provided
- ▶ Opening a second field hospital in Deir al Balah to expand our capacity to provide emergency obstetric, newborn and primary care

Media Highlights

GLAMOUR

November 24, 2023
The Heartbreaking Reality of Giving Birth in a War Zone



December 20, 2023
165 Humanitarian Aid Trucks Crossed into Gaza Tuesday, Israel Says

CBS NEWS

February 6, 2024
Inside a Gaza Hospital as US Doctors Help Carry Out “a Small Miracle” to Save a Young Life Shattered by War

KGW8

March 3, 2024
‘We’re Not Guaranteed Tomorrow’: Salem Nurse Returns from Helping Victims of War in Gaza



March 6, 2024
Retired Asheville Doctor Aids Hundreds Amid Escalating Violence in Southern Gaza



March 12, 2024
Retired NC Doctor Returns from Serving in Southern Gaza Hospital



March 22, 2024
Oregon Nurse Shares Experience of Volunteering in Gaza

CSIS
CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

March 25, 2024
Inside a Gaza IMC Field Hospital

HOW TO HELP
LISTS

marie claire

BOSTON.COM

COSMOPOLITAN

BAZAAR

TimeOut

yahoo!life

THANK YOU



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*International Medical Corps is headquartered in
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