

Mr Hassib Lahoud  
Head of Finance and Management  
Lebanese Red Cross  
Spears Street  
Kontari  
Beirut  
LEBANON

Telephone: 3 202602

5 April 2007

Dear Mr Lahoud

**Lebanon Fundraising Dinner Friday 15 September 2006**  
**Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre**  
**Canberra, Australia**

A fundraising dinner was organised in Australia's capital city, Canberra on Friday 15 September 2006 to raise funds earmarked for the Lebanese Red Cross. Many people in Australia were touched by the work the Red Cross was doing throughout Lebanon to save lives and property of many people. We were deeply touched by the brave Red Cross workers who lost their lives while on duty doing their job.

Diana Abdul-Rahman and Mary Abdel-Massih both of Lebanese background jointly organised this worthwhile event. Diana was born and raised in Australia of Lebanese parents and she works full time in the Federal Government. Mary and her husband migrated to Australia from Lebanon 30 years ago.

These two ladies came together in the spirit of unity to help Lebanon and the Lebanese regain their independence and freedom from this unwonted war. They spent all their spare time towards organising the fundraising dinner, which included preparing the venue, negotiating with many local Lebanese businesses in Canberra for all food items to be donated and was able to obtain items for the auction and raffle tickets.

Many people attended the dinner on the evening including the Ambassador for Lebanon and other Arab Ambassadors, Lebanese Australians, other Arab Australians, and general good willed Australians who were deeply concerned for Lebanon and the Lebanese.

The evening was a huge success with over 180 people attending and there was a genuine feeling of goodwill and support for Lebanon. A segment of the attendees were pensioners and students.

We hope the Lebanese Red Cross will find the enclosed cheque amount of \$10,164 Australian dollars which is being hand delivered to you by the Deacon Marwan Aoun will benefit the future work of the Red Cross and ultimately help mend the wounds of Lebanon and the Lebanese.

We would appreciate if you can provide a general letter of thanks to the Canberra community and outline how this money will be spent and who will be the beneficiaries. This letter of thanks will be sent to all participants, helpers and those who donated food, time and money for the fundraising dinner. Furthermore we would also appreciate if you can provide receipts in the name of the following:

- Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Madam Amal Nazer - \$300
- Embassy of Iraq, Mr Adnan Jboury - \$420

Finally, we sincerely wish you and the Red Cross all the success and are proud of your work and dedication.

Kind regards

Diana Abdul-Rahman

Mobile: 0410 644 595

Email: [dianar@cyberone.com.au](mailto:dianar@cyberone.com.au)

Fax: 02-6260 7562 or 02-6273 4009

Mary Abdel-Massih

Mobile: 0412 174 100

Email: [marmoura11\\_is@hotmail.com](mailto:marmoura11_is@hotmail.com)

For your information, the following is a breakdown of the names of the wonderful people who donated food for the catering, items for auctions and raffles, and the names of people who worked behind the scene and those who attended from the general public. Firstly and importantly, the cost of hiring the hall was donated by the Canberra government.

**Items donated for the raffle and auction:**

- ❖ Dinner for two (\$80) Saffron restaurant, Manuka (owner is Lebanese Australian)
- ❖ Facial (75) Ella Bache, Manuka Ella Bache (owner is South African origin)
- ❖ Dinner for two (\$80) Turkish Pide House, (owner is Lebanese Australian)
- ❖ 5 x mixed grill, Ali Baba, Ziad Issa (owner is Lebanese Australian)
- ❖ Lebanese cultural items from the Arab Australian Women’s Friendship Association
- ❖ Books from the Greens political party
- ❖ The Young Australian Lebanese Association donated \$2,000
- ❖ The Embassy of Saudi Arabia donated \$300

**All food and associated items donated by various people**

<b>Items donated</b>	<b>Donated by:</b>
Fruit and vegetables	Saad Kaddour (Fresh Fruit Market)
Ouzi (one whole lamb) and rice	Jameel Skaaff
Spinach triangles	Haragli family
Soft drinks, juice and water	Wasef El Mir
Dsposable plates, cups, cutlery and napkins	Wasef El Mir
Meat kebab	Ibrahim Adhami skewed by George Abdel-Massih and friends
Shish tawook	Tarek Jabal skewed by George Abdel-Massih and friends
Mixed nuts	Saad Nikro (Cedars of Lebanon)
Vine leaves +kofta +plastic container (50)	Ziad Issa
Kibbeh balls	Yesrah Ajaj
Falafel	Khaled Mourjan
Baklava	Montaha Ajaj
Ghraybieh	Vivienne Bitar
Burghal	Mary Abdel-Massih
Nuts for ouzi, olive oil	Sanaa Kadour
Hommous, Beetroot dip	Diana Rahman
Bread	Khalil Saleh
Tea, Coffee, Milk	Wasef El Mir and Ahlam arrouk
Garbage bags	Wasef El Mir
Cleaning liquids, sponges and skewers	Mary Abdel-Massih

**People who volunteered their time to work before and on the evening:**

Diana Abdul-Rahman  
 Mary Abdel-Massih  
 Roman Abdel-Massih  
 Allan Abdel-Massih  
 Marissa Millard  
 Michleen Farraj  
 Judy Poulos  
 Mona Haragli

**The following are only some of the names of the many people who attended the fundraising dinner.**

Adnan El-Jboury	Khoder Alkhatib
Ahmed Kaddour	Madhat Ajaj
Al Maia	Majid Hmeidan
Ambassador for Jordan HE Rajab Sukayri and Nehad	Maka Kama
Ambassador for Lebanon HE Michele Bitar and Vivienne	Mark Gwynneth
Ambassador for Syria HE Tammam Suleiman	Marwa Kobtan
Ambassador for Saudi Arabia HE Hassan Nazer and Amal	Melissa Mercado
Amro Ali	Michael Fallon
Angela Brown	Mirek
Armin Basic	Mohamed Estanbouli
Armin Hekimian	Mojgan Nozhat
Arrouk Arrouk	Monija Nozhat
Anne Goonan	Mustapha Tawfik
Bilal Adhami	Nathem and Fadia Al Nasr
Dierk Von Behrens	Neha (4+2 students)
Dorothy Tambridge	Nidal Adhami
Edward Sarkis	Peter Davidson
Faisal Sheikh	Ragaa ElWakeel
Farid Naoum	Rasha Ajaj
Father Fayez Assaf and Simone (Melkite Church in	Rawhia
Canberra)	Rick Kuhn
Frank Hmeidan	Ryewyn Baslion
George Abdel-Massih and friends	Saad Kadour
Georgette Faraj	Sabrija Poskovic
Ghada Hmeidan	Sam and Chin Wong
Gladys Oh	Sam Smair
Habib Nikro	Samira Pratt
Hani Adhami	Sharon Seesink
Haralgi family (Gunes, Hussein, Mona, Ahmed)	Tony and Nancy Kevin (former Australian
Hasan Nikro	Ambassador to Lebanon)
Hayat Ayoub, (Sherene ,Tony, Barbara and Paul)	Trish Fuary
Helen Malcness	Toufik Refki
Jamil Skaaf and family	Vanessa Smair
Joe Fegan	Waratah Rosemary Gillespie
Judy Poulos	Yen Chin
Karima and friends	Zaid and Zein Masarweh
Kathryn Kelly	Ziad Ajaj
Khaled Ajaj and Montaha	

**These people provided further monetary donations**

Mohamad El-Istanbouli  
 Mohamed Berjaoui  
 Bishop Pat Power  
 Amir Basic  
 Lyn  
 Con  
 Martha Vitali  
 Khaled Marjan  
 Faisal Sheikh  
 Aouni Raad  
 Sabah Raad  
 David Hutchison  
 Hany Adhami  
 Khaled Ajaj