Background of NGO:
Gift of Life International (GOLI) is a United States based non-profit organization that funds health care projects in developing Countries. The organization specifically provides cardiac surgery and prevention programs for the benefit of children with heart disease, particularly those of low income families. The care provided to the children is free. GOLI projects provide financial and logistic support to partner hospitals through grants and medical equipment. In addition, they teach cardiac surgical techniques, preoperative care and, whenever possible, modern health care management. The organization also works with local government and private organizations to secure sources of reimbursement to hospitals and physicians.

Every year, 1 in 100 babies is born with congenital heart disease, the most common birth defect in the world. In Lebanon alone, more than 700 babies are diagnosed with heart disease every year. In April 2015 the Rotary Inter-Country USA-Lebanon Committee started the 74th chapter of Gift of Life International in Lebanon. The Lebanon chapter is not a regular GOLI chapter, our partnership with The American University Medical Center, Children Heart Center/ Braveheart has enabled Gift of Life Lebanon to serve as a medical main center for GOLI in the region. Our aim is to be able to help every child with congenital heart problems; this will not be limited to Lebanese nationals but open to any child that needs heart surgery whether in Lebanon or surrounding countries and can make it to Lebanon.
We introduced Gift of Life Lebanon through a press conference that took place in the presence of the executive director Rob Raylman and AUBMC representative chief pediatric cardiac surgeon Dr. Issam El Rassi at the Phoenicia Hotel on Monday the 7th of September 2015.

Following our first meeting and agreement with AUBMC back in April Gift of Life Lebanon pledged to help at least one child per month in our first six months. Through a very highly publicized program of Gift of Life International (7 in 7), our chapter in Lebanon was featured twice, once through a little girl operated at AUBMC with the partnership of Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan and another time through a Syrian refugee representing the World Peace Child, a direct invitation from the pope himself, the child was operated in Rome at Bambino Gesu Hospital in total we were able to fulfill our promise and operate on 6 children in the first 6 months.
Gift of Life Lebanon has formed four subcommittees:

1) Financial committee
2) Medical Committee
3) Fundraising Committee
4) Marketing & PR Committee

Gift of Life Lebanon Mission

Our mission is to provide hope to children with heart disease regardless of their gender or national origin. Gift of Life Lebanon, a chapter of Gift of Life International will help fund pediatric cardiac surgeries and aftercare for these children in need through a partnership with American University of Beirut Medical Center AUBMC’s Children Heart Center/ Braveheart and Rotary clubs. These organizations will match donations from institutions, corporations and individuals to help as many children as possible. Gift of Life Lebanon will also launch a prevention and awareness campaign all over Lebanon.

Gift of Life Lebanon Vision

Gift of Life Lebanon would like to grow its partnership with Children Heart Center to make it possible for this wonderful institution to be able to receive any child in need of a pediatric cardiac surgery and give him or her a chance at life through a free of charge service.

For more information on Gift of Life Lebanon please contact:
Lina Shehayeb (Chair) email: goli.lebanon@gmail.com
View Gift of Life International on Facebook
View Gift of NY Rotary Website: http://www.nyrotary.org/

Our goals are:

1) Gift a heart to 100 children through Global Grants.
2) Vocational Training for 5 residents pediatric cardiac surgeons from neighboring countries at AUBMC.
3) Awareness Campaign through educational presentations and free heart checkups “lab on wheels” in villages and cities throughout Lebanon to detect children with heart problems and be able to help them.

In order to achieve our goals we will seek the help of donors through:

1- Fundraising events in Lebanon
   • Rotary clubs
   • Our yearly event: “One Thousand in One Night”
   • The Beirut Marathon in partnership with Rotaract Clubs of Lebanon
   • Sky Bar mega event with our partner Pop Star Rami Ayach
   • Gift a Heart Week at Jane Nassar Institute (50% of all beauty treatments to go to GoL)
2-Our Ambassadors’ Program: Seek a representative for Gift of Life Lebanon around the world to promote our work and help us by organizing one fundraising event per year in their country of residency. Ideas could include: Cooking classes, Zumba classes, Halloween party, Garage sale, Auction, Lunch/Dinner event, Tombola, etc. ...

3-Corporations CSR Department: Raise funds through Corporate Social Responsibility departments of businesses throughout the neighboring Arab countries.

4- "Have a Heart Gift a Heart": A program where we will ask well to do families of pediatric heart patients to donate $5000 that will go towards a pediatric heart surgery to help another sick child from a needy family. We will seek a child of the same gender and age as their son/daughter.

5 - Educational seminars: Invite professional and prominent guests from around the world to visit Lebanon and help improve our programs and promote our cause.

Payments can be made to Gift of Life Lebanon or one of our trusted partners:

- Gift of Life International (tax deductible) note: Lebanon Chapter
- American University of Beirut Medical Center (Gift of Life Lebanon Account)
- Rotary Association - Lebanon (Gift of Life Lebanon Account)

For more information on Gift of Life Lebanon please contact: Lina Shehayeb (Chair) email: goli.lebanon@gmail.com View Gift of Life International on Facebook View Gift of NY Rotary Website: http://www.nyrotary.org/