



## NEWS RELEASE

Monday, August 21, 2006

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attention: Religion, News Editors

#### **Canadian Organization Responds to Crisis in Lebanon**

A Canadian-based Christian aid agency is reaching out to hundreds of Lebanese citizens. Partners International reports that the Free Evangelical Association of Lebanon (FEAL), its partner organization in Lebanon, is providing shelter and food rations for more than 450 displaced citizens.

FEAL has transformed their church camp and orphanage into housing for primarily Shiite Muslim refugees fleeing their homes for the safety of the mountains. "Our partners on the ground in Lebanon report dire conditions to us," says Brent Mitchell, president of Partners International. "People are confused, afraid and in very immediate need."

Unstable conditions and remote locations are making it difficult for international aid to reach those who need it the most. Partners International's pre-existing collaboration with FEAL, usually focused on evangelism and church planting, has enabled the Brampton, Ont. based charity to transport and distribute aid quickly to their Lebanese partner.

"It is in situations like these when we see one of the great benefits of being partners with indigenous Christian organizations," says Mitchell. "When disaster, or in this case war, strikes, Partners is already there."

Partners International is in almost daily contact with Joseph Najem, president of FEAL. "It is a very miserable situation here," says Najem. "But there is great opportunity to minister to displaced families by providing them with basic needs like food, water, blankets and medicine. We would like the international community to put pressure on all parties for a real solution to the causes that precipitated this ugly war."

Partners International is a registered Canadian charity that supports indigenous Christian ministries in the developing world.

*Interviews can be arranged with Brent Mitchell and/or Joseph Najem*

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