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New York City-Based Doctors of the World – USA Announces Salma Hayek Pinault and CHIME FOR CHANGE Support for Doctors of the World Initiative Helping Syrian Refugees Access Health Care

- Individuals Encouraged to Donate to Doctors of the World to aid Syrian refugees at <http://www.catapult.org/project/help-syrian-refugees-access-health-care> -

(New York, N.Y.) – Today, Doctors of the World – USA, the international humanitarian relief organization, announced the support of CHIME FOR CHANGE and co-founder Salma Hayek Pinault for its efforts to provide health care to Syrian refugees.

Hayek Pinault is helping Doctors of the World raise \$25,150 to defray the costs of providing health care in Qah. Specifically, funds will pay for: water and sanitation; facilities costs; hygienic kits (blankets, soap, plastic sheeting); health education and local staff training; psychological aid; and, basic sexual and reproductive health services.

In addition to raising funds online, CHIME FOR CHANGE will hold an internationally broadcast concert on June 1, 2013.

“I believe that by working together we can change the course of history to ensure that girls and women are empowered to realize their potential and thrive,” Ms. Hayek Pinault said. “I am an actor and activist, mother, member of the V-Day Association's Board of Directors and the PPR Foundation for Women's Dignity and Rights, and co-Founder of CHIME FOR CHANGE, a new initiative joining the growing international movement on behalf of girls and women around the world.”

CHIME FOR CHANGE announced “THE SOUND OF CHANGE LIVE” concert, a live concert in London that will be broadcast globally. Ticket buyers can donate the value of their ticket to non-profits – including Doctors of the World – listed at www.chimeforchange.org.

Doctors of the World is an international humanitarian organization providing medical care to vulnerable populations affected by war, natural disasters, disease, famine, poverty

or exclusion for more than 30 years.

With the increasing number of internally displaced persons - more than 2 million according to the United Nations - and an upsurge in violence, Doctors of the World opened an emergency primary healthcare center in a refugee camp in Qah, in northwestern Syria. Since October 2012, its doctors, nurses, and pharmacists have been treating respiratory infections, skin diseases, wounds and diarrhea.

The program includes medical and psychological care for refugees and support for medical personnel treating wounded Syrians who have fled to neighboring countries. Hundreds of refugees—mostly women and children—arrive daily at the health care center in Qah; 5,000 Syrians have congregated in the village.

Amid harsh winter conditions, Doctors of the World is distributing blankets, soap and plastic sheeting to ensure better living conditions. Efforts have been underway to implement water supply and wastewater disposal systems and distribute hygiene kits to reduce the risk of infection in the camp.

Doctors of the World needs additional funding to continue providing services to the growing number of displaced persons at the camp.

“We are thrilled to have been personally chosen by Hayek Pinault for CHIME FOR CHANGE’S campaign. The work we do in Syria – and other places like Nepal and Laos – is critically important to the women and children who live there. Too often, we provide the only source of medical care,” said Henry Chang, Executive Director, Doctors of the World – USA.

CHIME FOR CHANGE is powered by Catapult, the first crowd-funding site where passionate people make real change happen for girls and women. Through Catapult, every person can choose where their money goes. Partner organizations post their projects, and people can find and fund the issues that speak to them the most.

CHIME FOR CHANGE also is supporting initiatives by Doctors of the World in Laos and Nepal, in large measure due to the organization’s work to help women and children.

Visit the Doctors of the World website at www.doctorsoftheworld.org to learn how you can contribute to the Doctors of the World programs.

About Doctors of the World-USA

Doctors of the World is an international humanitarian organization providing medical care to vulnerable populations affected by war, natural disasters, disease, famine, poverty or exclusion. Originally established in France in 1980, the Doctors of the World international network now has offices in 14 countries in Europe, Asia and the Americas, including the U.S. office, which launched in 2012. In 2010, Doctors of the World’s global network used \$152 million to run 365 programs that provided medical care for more than 1.6 million individuals in more than 70 countries. Learn more about Doctors of the World-USA at www.doctorsoftheworld.org.

About CHIME FOR CHANGE

CHIME FOR CHANGE, founded by Gucci, is a new, global campaign focused on girls' and women's empowerment. It serves to convene, unite and strengthen voices speaking out for girls and women around the world, and to raise funds for non-profit organizations pursuing change. As Founder of CHIME FOR CHANGE, Gucci is proud to join the wave of momentum by calling for change for girls and women. Gucci recognizes the opportunity for a global brand to facilitate a coalition of individuals and organizations to amplify these stories and effect real change. CHIME FOR CHANGE is about raising an alarm and drawing attention where there is work to be done – with a focus on Education, Health and Justice.

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