

IOCC

The first humanitarian aid agency of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of America (SCOBA) was Orthodox Christian Charities, founded by Mr. Ajalat, its first Chair in early 1991, and doing domestic and international work, which became International Orthodox Christian Charities in March, 1992 and Mr. Ajalat stepped down as Chair to become Vice-Chair for the sake of Orthodox unity.

Mr. Ajalat was an active chair the second time, as he was the first time. During his 6 year leadership (1996-2002), IOCC was very significantly expanded: from increased fundraising to the creation of a reserve fund, to the number of beneficiaries served, to the number of country offices, to significant expansion of the number of government donors. (1996-2002 Attachment.)

Mr. Ajalat also expanded the board significantly, encouraged active membership, implemented a committee structure, and made overseas visits (some with 2 Board members) which strengthened old, and created new, IOCC foreign offices. He gathered together, for the first time, the Orthodox members of both houses of Congress to meet the IOCC Board. He presided over the resolution of the 11 month IOCC employee hostage crisis and started U.S. domestic work. Perhaps the most important accomplishment, however, was the creation of the stabilization and increased credibility of IOCC. These resulted, by its 25th anniversary in 2017, IOCC having given over \$650 million of aid in over 60 countries.