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**HEART DOCTORS** 

Court decision N° 4229/2001 N.G.O. Serial N° 131

# HEART DOCTORS ACTIVITIES of the year 2020



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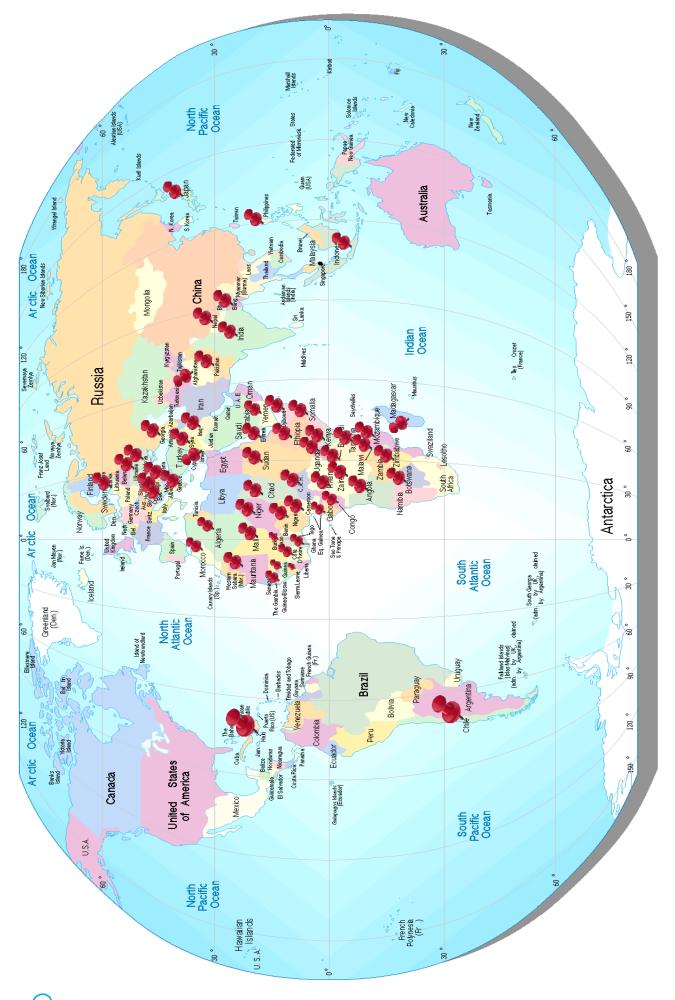




# CONTENTS

| Contents                                | 3  |
|---|----|
| Introduction                            | 5  |
| Missions for medical services           | 9  |
| Missions for delivery of medicaments    | 18 |
| Food Missions                           | 18 |
| Other Missions                          | 20 |
| Humanitarian aid in Greece              | 22 |
| Construction Works                      | 24 |
| Scholarship for graduate studies        |    |
| School visits                           | 27 |
| Offering of medical and other materials |    |
| Mission members                         | 31 |
| Acknowledgements                        |    |
|   |    |







### INTRODUCTION

#### "Heart Doctors" identity and humanitarian activities

During the war in Yugoslavia, a few volunteering friends from Greece decided to help the attacked people by gathering medicines, food provisions and other necessary items, which they transported by car and offered them to the victims of the war. Thus, a group of Greek doctors and other friends was formed at that time, which soon began offering humanitarian assistance initially to very poor African communities. They used to offer medical services, medicines and food to populations living in remote or isolated rural areas, ill and forgotten, without any medical care. The members of that group created in 2001 the Humanitarian Organization "Heart Doctors".

"Heart Doctors" is a Greek, Humanitarian, Non Profit, Non-Governmental Organization of volunteers. Their main task is to provide health care (medical camps), medicines, food, and other supplies free of charge in emergency situations where human health and life are faced with imminent danger. This happens in case of war conflicts, massive violent movements of people (refugees and internal massive and violent movements and dislocation of populations), epidemics, natural disasters (earthquakes, hurricanes and cyclones, floods and tsunamis, major fires) and hunger due to prolonged drought or other reasons. "Heart Doctors" offer also free medical care and necessary medicines to populations they visit in remote areas where there are no doctors and hospitals. As far as possible, they also try to secure economic resources to finance small or larger projects such as rural medical centers, hospitals, drinking water supply, school buildings, orphanages, libraries, etc.

To date, **1.284** missions have been accomplished in **75** countries of Africa, Asia, Europe and America. These missions have covered the need of assistance of all the above-mentioned forms. "Heart Doctors" were actively present in various wars and events of war (in Iraq, Lebanon, the Gaza Strip, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria and Libya), in earthquakes (in Iran, Haiti, Chile, Indonesia, Nepal), in the case of tsunamis (Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Japan), floods (India, Bangladesh, Myanmar and the Balkans), in cyclones in the Philippines, India, Bangladesh, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe; they have offered food relief in Sudan (Darfur and Khartoum), the Republic of Niger, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, India, etc. Construction projects have been accomplished in Sri Lanka, Burundi, Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Cameroon etc.

In Greece, many missions have been carried out to deal with extraordinary and devastating events such as earthquakes, major fires and floods. There has also been assistance to provincial hospitals and to very poor families of homeless and uninsured people. In Koutsohera village of Ilia, which was partially destroyed by the big fires of 2007, a building was constructed to house the kindergarten of the village.

"Heart Doctors" function on a genuine voluntary basis, without any employees. Members and associates as well as friends offer their services and everything else they can, without any reward. Any form of assistance offered by "Heart Doctors" is given free of charge and without distinctions of color, nation, religion etc.

The missions of the Organization are carried out by teams of members who visit the patients in the places where they live or are located (settlement, tropical forest, savannah, camp, natural disaster area, etc.). Medicines and other forms of assistance are provided directly by Heart Doctors themselves, not by intermediaries. Those who participate in the mission shall cover themselves all their relevant expenses.

#### **ACTIVITIES IN 2020**

#### **Countries and Missions**

During the year 2020 "Heart Doctors" worked in 25 countries (including Greece).

In 2020, three more countries, Algeria, Burkina Faso and Morocco, were added to those already assisted. Thus, the total number of countries that have accepted humanitarian assistance from "Heart Doctors" up to now, are **75**. The corresponding number of missions accomplished in 2020 is **95**.

In foreign countries, 4 missions for medical services, 18 missions for delivery of medicines, 39 missions for food distribution and 10 missions for provision of other necessary supplies were carried out.

In Greece, 24 missions were accomplished during the year 2020. Provincial hospitals are still receiving humanitarian assistance (mainly expendable hospital material). Poor and weak families with mother and young children abandoned by the father, were supported. Various schools were visited and students were supported (particularly adult students attending second chance schools).

#### **Natural disasters**

"Heart Doctors" sent medicines to the people of Lebanon that were wounded by the tremendous double explosion in the port of Beirut that caused a major disaster to the port and the city. Relief to flood victims was offered in India and Bangladesh.

#### **Construction projects**

In Autumn of 2020, in Niger State, Nigeria, three construction projects were completed in the remote village of Kakihum: a rural medical center, a school building and a well for supplying drinking water.

#### Cooperation

The activities described in this report are the result of the cooperation of many people who selflessly and with great joy and enthusiasm join their efforts to help the victims of disease, physical disasters, hunger, war and other adversities.

Anonymous friends and associates of "Heart Doctors", dedicated to selfless offering, participate personally in many works and missions, covering the relevant costs.

#### **Coronavirus pandemic**

The coronavirus pandemic, during the year 2020, has hindered the work of "Heart Doctors". This was due to the restrictions imposed on free movement of people and the avoidance of close contact of humans in order to control the expansion of the disease.

"Heart Doctors" congratulate and thank all those who in any way contribute to their humanitarian activities.







# MISSIONS FOR MEDICAL SERVICES

Three Sub-Saharan African countries were visited by «Heart Doctors» during 2020 to carry out there humanitarian missions and offer medical services to populations living in remote rural areas. These countries and the number of missions for each of them are shown in the following table:

| Country             | Number of Missions |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Cameroon            | 2                  |
| Nigeria             | 1                  |
| Tanzania - Zanzibar | 1                  |
| Total               | 4                  |

A short description follows for each mission in chronological order of their accomplishment.





a n z b a

On 5.2.2020, a team of "Heart Doctors" departed from Athens for the island of Zanzibar, which belongs to Tanzania. The mission was organized by a local businessman, a friend of "Heart Doctors" from Israel (of the food manufacturing company NEXT GENERA-TION, LTD). That friend, assisted by a Greek associate named Christopher, contacted the responsible local authorities and secured permission for the

implementation of humanitarian medical activities.

The team arrived at the island and was welcomed by the Greek associate of the local Israeli food business, who informed the team that the humanitarian activities had been planned for a smaller island called Pemba in which the rural population needed more health care.

The team was transferred to the island of Pemba by a small twelve-seat plane. Two doctors of the local health authorities received the team and accompanied the members of the mission during the humanitarian medical activities on the island.

On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February, patients were treated in Wete village, on 8<sup>th</sup> of February in Kiuyu Mbuyuni village and on 9<sup>th</sup> of February in Mkia N'Gombe village. A large number of patients with health problems were examined and received treatment with the help of nurses and doctors from nearby health centers. Most frequent health problems were hypertension and diabetes mostly in obese women, scabies in the village Mkia N'Gombe, low back and joint pain, eye problems, skin infections, infections of the respiratory tract and urinary tracts and stroke. Surprisingly, cases with malaria were scarce. On the last day of activities a representative of the local ministry of health paid a visit and in a small ceremony addressed the "Heart Doctors" on behalf of the community, expressing his thanks for their contribution to the health status of the inhabitants of Pemba.

On 11<sup>th</sup> of February, the team returned to Zanzibar and attended the sick in a health center of the village Fuoni Ijitimal for the days 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> of February.

On the last day, a press conference was organized with all local media and the minister of health in person, who thanked the organizers of the mission and "Heart Doctors" for their activities to the people of both islands.

"Heart Doctors" would like to thank all the kind and sincere friends of NEXT GENERATION LTD for the invitation, local organization, hospitality and support in carrying out the medical mission in Zanzibar.



















### **26th M I S S I O N** 26/02/2020

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2020, a five member team of "Heart Doctors" departed from Athens for Cameroon on a mission of medical attendance of people in Katrang, a poor remote agricultural area of the Extreme Northern Province of Cameroon - this place is visited by "Heart Doctors" for this purpose twice a year. As usual, with an overnight stay in Cairo, the team reached N'Djamena in Chad, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February and then traveled by road south to the village of Bongor, near the river Longone, at the borders with Cameroon. It was a five hour drive with two 4x4 cars on roads of very bad conditions. After a quick customs clearance at the bank of the river at Bongor, the team crossed the river and entered Cameroon. The team used a mini bus to reach the compound at Katrang, where the local Orthodox priest and few residents of the area welcomed the members of the mission, and helped them to accommodate in the huts (those huts had been constructed by "Heart Doctor" many years ago for their residence).

During the period 28<sup>th</sup> of February till 4<sup>th</sup> of March, a large number of patients gathered from far distances of both countries (Cameroon and Chad) and were daily attended by the doctors of the team, from 7am to 3 pm.

Many sick people coming from far had to stay overnight, to be examined next morning and leave early, so that they could reach their villages before dark.

Frequent health problems were: parasites, infections mostly of the respiratory and urogenital tracts, low back pain and arthralgias, eye problems, malaria not so frequent as in past times, scabies, cases of tropical splenomegaly (which were referred to nearest big hospitals for evaluation, diagnosis and treatment), epilepsy and traumas.

In the afternoon hours of several days, food was distributed to young children. Food was also offered to those people who had to spend the night at the compound. African dances and singing followed under the sounds of tam-tam.



















A six-member team departed from Athens on 17.10.2020 to Abuja, the capital of Nigeria. The next day the team arrived in Abuja, where they were welcomed by the local coordinator of the mission with his associates, who had been appointed by the Governor of Niger State, Mr. Abubakar Sani Bello. The local team took also care of the customs procedures for checking the medicines transported from Athens.

Then, the team, accompanied by the coordinator, his associates and policemen, drove from Abuja to Mina, the capital of Niger State. On the morning of next day, the team left for the town of Kontagora, and on the way they met the first community with crowds of patients to whom they offered medical services and medication.

In Kontagora, "Heart Doctors" settled in an hotel, as guests of the Governor of

Niger State. Every morning, the team with the escorts left for the village where, according to the program prepared by the coordinator, would work taking care of the patients of the village and the surrounding area. In the evening they returned to spend the night at the hotel.

In addition to treating patients, the inauguration of a rural medical center, a school building and a well for pumping drinking water was planned in the village Kakihum (Kakihum ward, Mariga LG, Niger State). The relevant projects were funded by friends of "Heart Doctors". The inauguration was eventually postponed because the local authorities considered it very dangerous due to uncontrolled criminal activity by armed groups in that area.

Medical care was offered to patients of the following settlements:

19.10.2020: Atabo village, Yangulu ward, Magama LG,

20.10.2020: Makulu village, Kawo ward, Magama LG.

21.10.2020: Masucci village, Babban Rami ward, Mashegu LG.

22.10.2020: Kakihum village, Kakihum ward, Mariga LG.

23.10.2020: Magandu village, Tsoho, Tunga Wawa ward, Kontagora LG. Here the team worked treating patients during half of the day; the rest of the day was spent for moving to the capital Mina.

24.10.2020: Koiko village, Kampala ward, Bosso LG. Here a very serious incident was faced: a ten-year-old girl had high fever and was in coma - after first aid, the girl was sent to the Kontagora hospital.

The most serious and common diseases faced by the team were the following: malaria, respiratory infections, diarrheal syndromes, helminthiasis, hypertension, skin diseases, stomach pains, back pain, arthralgias, etc. To malnourished babies and young children, enriched milk was given to help them improve their health.











On November 7<sup>th</sup> 2020, a five-member team of "Heart Doctors" left Athens for North Cameroon via Chad. The purpose of the mission was to offer medical care to the inhabitants of the area of Katrang.

After a long journey by car, the team reached the Chadian riverside village of Bongor; from there, they crossed the river Logone and entered Cameroon at the Cameroonian border village Yagua and through the village Datcheka they reached Katrang.

The team settled at the "boukaroo" small buildings - which "Heart Doctors" had erected there many years ago for their stay.

From 9 to 14.11.2020, "Heart Doctors" received thousands of sick people from the wider local area for medical examination and treatment, using the drugs and materials they had transported from Athens.

The sick people gathered this time, were much more numerous than those who usually come to this "Heart Doctors" medical camp - among them many from neighboring Chad, crossing on foot the long distance that separates the borders from Katrang.

The main health problems faced by patients were found to be: malaria, anemia mainly in young children (due to the exacerbation of malaria), respiratory system infections, back pain, arthritis, wounds, helminthiasis, skin diseases, urinary tract infections, conjunctivitis and vision problems.

Children who were malnourished, including many twins, were given strengthening milk. The mothers of these children, who due to hunger and hardship are weak and do not have enough milk to breastfeed their babies, were offered all the available quantities of strengthening milk that were left over at the end of the mission.

When the team prepared the daily food for its members, it took care to cook sufficient quantities to offer the same food to the young children of the gathered patients.

Many children, who as malnourished infants had received strengthening milk years ago came to meet the doctors with their mothers and were found healthy and strong.













# MISSIONS FOR DELIVERY OF MEDICAMENTS

During the year 2020, 18 drug delivery missions were accomplished in five countries.

## FOOD MISSIONS

| Country      | Number of Missions |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Bangladesh   | 1                  |
| Burkina Faso | 2                  |
| Djibouti     | 5                  |
| Eritrea      | 5                  |
| Gabon        | 1                  |
| India        | 2                  |
| Kenya        | 1                  |
| Morocco      | 1                  |
| Mozambique   | 3                  |
| Niger        | 1                  |
| Somalia      | 5                  |
| Sudan        | 8                  |
| Zimbabwe     | 4                  |
| Total        | 39                 |

**Bangladesh**: On 29.7.20 "Heart Doctors" provided food aid to flood victims caused by monsoon rains in Southeast Asia (rice and dhal were distributed). Clothing and footwear were also distributed.

**Burkina Faso**: On 16.5.20 and 19.7.20, basic foodstuffs were distributed to starving families living in the outskirts of the capital Guagadoungou (rice, maize, sugar, milk powder for children).

**Djibouti**: With five food missions, the following staple foods were delivered to very poor families: rice, corn flour, wheaten flour, sugar and milk powder (7.3.20, 15.5.20, 16.6.20, 5.10.20, 29.10.20).



**Eritrea**: Five food missions were accomplished in Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, and the following food items were distributed to poor families: rice, sugar, milk powder, corn flour and, wheaten flour, milk powder (7.3.20, 15.5.20, 16.6.20, 5.10.20, 29.10.20).

**Gabon**: On 4.1.20, rice, corn flour and sugar were distributed to poor families living in suburbs of the capital Libreville.

**India**: On 20.2.20 a food mission was carried out in Hyderabad, where dhal and rice were distributed. In various villages of the State of Assam, food was offered to flood victims on 29.7.2020; dahl and rice were distributed to starving people. In both missions clothing was also distributed (dhoti for men and sari for women).

Kenya: One food mission was carried out in Nairobi on 27.6.20, in cooperation with the Archbishop Makarios and corn flour was purchased and distributed to starving families.

**Morocco**: On 19.7.20, one food mission was organized in the city of Fez (or Fes) and the following foodstuffs were purchased and distributed to poor families: wheaten flour, rice and milk powder.

**Mozambique**: Three missions were realized in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, where various food items were purchased from local wholesale markets (rice, wheaten flour, milk powder) and transported by road to the border town of Mutare; from Mutare they were distributed to neighboring Mozambique (4.1.20, 16.5.20, 30.10.20).

**Niger:** On 9.3.20, a team of "Heart Doctors" visited the city of Zinder (in the southern part of the Republic of Niger) and purchased various basic foods (rice, wheaten flour and corn flour). Those food items were then offered to nomads of shepherds from the nearby wider area (ethnic groups of Fulani, Tuareg and Hausa people). As a matter of fact the relief was delivered to the leaders of the ethnic groups who transported the material to their communities. "Heart Doctors" visited the nomads of shepherds at that place for the first time in 2005; since then, they visit the same area quite often bringing basic food relief to the starving people.

**Somalia**: Five missions were accomplished by which corn flour, rice, wheaten flour, milk powder and sugar were transported from Djibouti to the borders with Somalia where Somalis stay in camps. The food commodities were then distributed to the starving people (7.3.20, 15.5.20, 16.6.20, 5.10.20, 29.10.20).

Sudan: In Khartoum and some suburbs as well as in Darfur (near the city of Nyala) starving refugees and other very poor people were visited eight times by a team of "Heart Doctors" which purchased from local markets and distributed to the needy people the following food items: rice, corn flour, milk powder, wheaten flour and sugar (bottled drinking water was delivered for the urgent needs of the refugees in Darfur). Five missions were accomplished in Khartoum and suburbs (7.3.20, 15.5.20, 15.6.20, 5.10.20, 29.10.20). Three missions were accomplished in Darfur: (15.5.20, 15.6.20, 5.10.20).

**Zimbabwe**: Rice, wheaten flour, milk powder, corn flour and sugar were purchased and distributed in Harare to very poor families by "Heart Doctors" and friends who visited four times the country (4.1.20, 16.5.20, 27, 6,20, 30.10.20).

### OTHER MISSIONS

### CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR, SCHOOL SUPPLIES, ETC.

| Country  | Number of Missions |
|----------|--------------------|
| Algeria  | 1                  |
| Georgia  | 5                  |
| India    | 1                  |
| Moldavia | 3                  |
| Total    | 10                 |

Algeria: A mission was carried out in Algiers, the capital of the country (18.7.20) during which clothing and footwear was distributed to children of families living in the suburbs.

**Georgia**: In Tbilisi, the capital of the country, three missions were organized and school material and clothing for children were distributed to school children of poor families(17.2.20, 5.6.20, 15.9.20). Two similar missions were carried out in the city of Tskhinvali in South Ossetia (17.2.20, 15.9.20)

India: A mission was carried out to provide assistance to the State of Andhra Pradesh (provision of equipment for a hospital in that State, 26.9.2020).

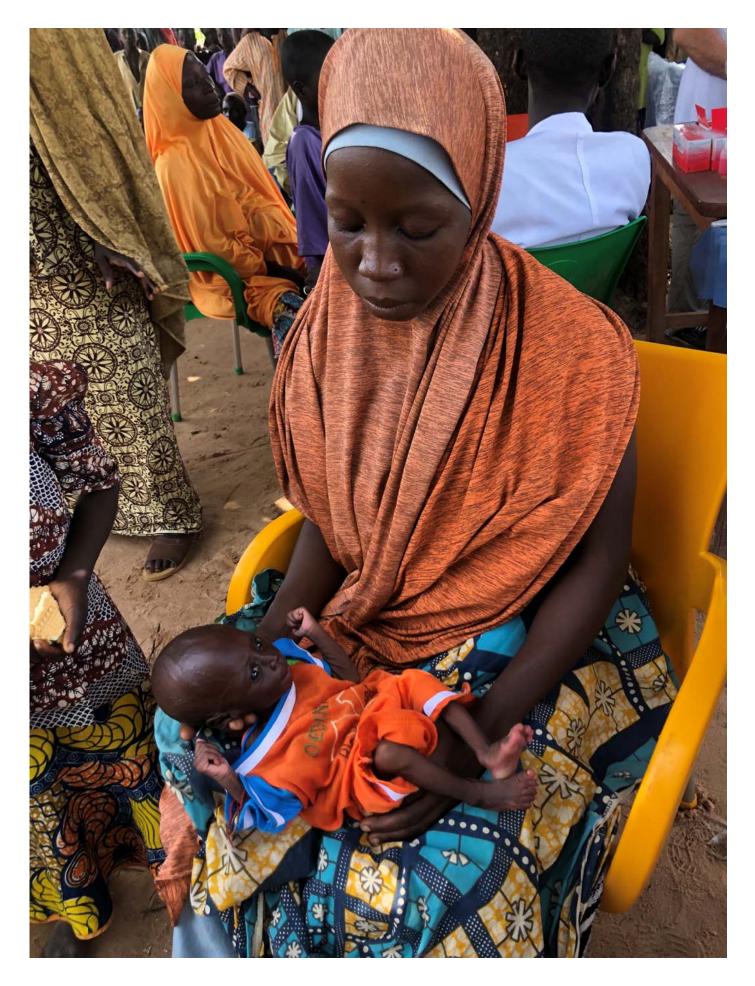
**Moldavia** : In Chisinau, the capital of the country, three missions were accomplished to offer clothing, footwear and school materials to children of poor families living in the suburbs (17.2.20, 5.6.20, 15.9.20).

It is clarified that in two missions carried out in India (on 20.2.20, in the city of Hyderabad, and on 29.7.20, in the State of Assam), in addition to food items, clothing was also distributed (dhoti for men and sari for women).

In Bangladesh also (29.7.20), clothing and footwear (dhoti, sari and slippers) were distributed.







# HUMANITARIAN AID IN GREECE



#### **Relief to General Hospitals**

In the year 2020, assistance was offered to General Hospitals in the form of medicines and various other expendables. For this purpose nineteen deliveries were carried out. Also, a team of "Heart Doctors" offered services to a Hospital for months (cutting, packing and disinfecting of gauze, etc.).

#### Mission to Domokos Second Chance School (SCS)

On Tuesday, 28.1.2020, a team of "Heart Doctors" visited the SCS of Domokos for the second time, after consultation with the Director of the School, Mr. Nikolaos Mallios. The Vice President of "Heart Doctors", Mrs. Eleni Sotiriou, spoke to the students, presenting in video images from the recent humanitarian work of the Organization. A discussion followed in which many students took part. As in the last year's visit, the students were given bedding (blankets, sheets, pillowcases), clothing (jackets, sweatshirts, pants, shirts, socks), toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap etc. For eleven (11) students, who were examined, prescriptions for eye glasses were issued (the eye glasses were prepared later and sent to the students by post). The students presented their own artistic event. Medicines requested in writing by the Social Worker and the Director of Prisons were sent to the prison clinic.

#### **Mission to Larisa Second Chance School**

On Wednesday, 29.1.2020, a group of "Heart Doctors" visited the 2nd SCS of Larisa, after consultation with the Director of the School, Mr. George Trantas, and a written request submitted to the Prison Council. The Vice President Mrs. Eleni Sotiriou addressed the students, presenting in video images from the recent humanitarian work of "Heart Doctors". A discussion followed. As in visits of previous years, various items were distributed to students as follows: Clothing (jackets, shirts, pants, sweatshirts, socks), bedding (blankets, sheets, pillowcases), cookies, soccer balls, A4 paper for PC. Sixteen (16) students were examined, pairs of eyeglasses were distributed and prescriptions for eye glasses were issued (the eye glasses were sent to the respective students later). On the day of the visit, heating oil was offered for heating the premises of the School.

#### Mission to Grevena Second Chance School

On Friday, 31.1.2020, a group of "Heart Doctors" visited the 1st SCS of Grevena, after submitting a written request to the Prison Council. The Vice President Mrs. Eleni Sotiriou spoke to the students, presenting in video images from the recent humanitarian work of the Organization. A discussion followed. As in the visit of the last year, various items



were distributed to the students that had been requested in writing by the school principal Mr. Panagiotis Theodorou (pants, overalls, socks, sports shoes, eyeglasses, cookies and A4 paper for PC). A team of "Heart Doctors" associates from Thessaloniki, participated in this visit

#### **Relief to flood victims of Karditsa**

On Thursday, 24.9.2020, a team of "Heart Doctors" delivered to the Municipal Service in Karditsa, drinking bottled water and other necessary commodities (bedding), for the flood victims of the city after the disasters caused by the cyclone "Janos", which occurred on Saturday 19.9.2020.

#### Special uniforms for nursing staff against coronavirus

On Tuesday, 8.12.2020, in consultation with the authorities of Larisa Prison, special uniforms, etc. were sent by post, for the protection of the people working in the medical clinic attending prisoners infected by coronavirus.

#### Family support

Mothers and children abandoned by the father have been supported by "Heart Doctors". Those families live in various places in Piraeus (Drapetsona, Kaminia, Keratsini, Korydallos, Nikaia, Perama etc.).

#### **Escorts of patients**

In some cases, when necessary, "Heart Doctors" provide escorts for patients who have to be transported urgently to hospitals in Athens. Travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses of the escorts were covered.

#### **Other activities**

-The church warden of Agia Triada in Kifisia asked "Heart Doctors" to vaccinate young people, members of the parish. The pediatrician of the Organization did the vaccinations.

-Clothing for children was offered twice to boys and girls living in Bulgaria.

-Drugs were offered to social pharmacies of the Municipality of Athens and the Municipality of Saronikos in Kalivia Thorikos (the drugs in question have been given to "Heart Doctors" by friends but were not used in their medical missions).





### CONSTRUCTION WORKS

#### Rural Medical Center, School Building and Borehole at Kakihum village (Niger State).

"Heart Doctors" continued in 2020 their program of infrastructure projects in remote rural settlements of Nigeria. This time, the works took place in the village of Kakihum, located in the Kakihum Ward of Mariga Local Government, in Niger State, Nigeria. The projects started at the end of summer and were completed in October. A rural medical center, a school building for primary education pupils and a borehole for fresh drinking water were constructed. The official inauguration was scheduled to take place during the 35th "Heart Doctors" Mission in Nigeria. However, the responsible authorities did not allow the inauguration to take place, due to increased risks from the uncontrolled criminal activities of armed groups in the larger area. These projects were financed by friends of the Organization.











# SCHOLARSHIP FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

A young man from Katrang, in North Cameroon, with the financial support of a relative who lived in neighboring Chad, N'Djamena, managed to get there and complete part of his higher education. However, that relative died and the young man was unable to continue his graduate studies. As a result he returned to Katrang and stayed with his poor parents. The priest of the Christian Orthodox Church of the Holy Apostles, at Katrang, talked to "Heart Doctors" and asked to help the young man complete his studies in Cameroon. The issue was carefully examined and "Heart Doctors" happily decided to grant the young man the necessary scholarship to complete his studies at the University of the capital Yaounde. Local supervision of the studies in Yaounde has been undertaken willingly and happily by the Greek Orthodox Archbishop Gregory of Cameroon.

The young man aspires to offer his services as a legal scientist to his hometown, Katrang.





### SCHOOL VISITS

The Vice President of "Heart Doctors", Mrs. Eleni Sotiriou, acting as head of a group of members, associates and friends of the Organization, visits schools and other interested private units to inform them about the humanitarian work of the Organization and the living conditions of the communities visited. School visits of this kind are carried out only when medical and other missions allow it. In cases where such visits take place very far from Athens (Northern Greece, Peloponnese, Crete), the team remains for days in the places it visits.

In 2020, due to the restrictions imposed to deal with the coronavirus pandemic, a relatively small number of school visits were organized (only two in Thessaloniki and three Second Chance Schools - SCS).

- 28.1.20, 1<sup>st</sup> SCS of Domokos, School Principal Mr. Nikolaos Mallios.
- 29.1.20, 2<sup>nd</sup> SCS of Larisa, School Principal Mr. George Trantas.
- 30.1.20, 4<sup>th</sup> High School of Polichni, Director: Ms. Triantaphyllia Syvaka.
- 30.1.20, 9<sup>th</sup> Primary School of Stavroupolis, Director: Antonios Koutsogiannis.
- 31.1.20, 1<sup>st</sup> SCS of Grevena, School Principal: Mr. Panagiotis Theodorou.









1st S.C.S. GREVENA

1st S.C.S. DOMOKOS

2nd S.C.S. LARISA



### OFFERING OF MEDICAL AND OTHER MATERIALS

"Heart Doctors" welcome medicines from the general public, which are offered to assist their humanitarian missions. Students of schools, language teaching institutes etc. send medicines to the Organization by mail or bring them to the offices of the Organization. The Orthodox Christian Church, Municipal Social Welfare Organizations, private firms, pharmacies, individuals, pensioners, and even unemployed people find ways to offer the few medicines they can.

Medicines, which are necessary for humanitarian missions, such as those against tropical diseases, which are not produced or marketed in Greece, are purchased from the European markets.

Expendable hospital supplies, often needed to support provincial hospitals, are purchased from the Greek market. The same applies to a variety of items offered to natural disaster victims, poor families, to needy adult school students in prisons etc. (Many of these items are offered by friends who are sensitive to other people's distress). In addition to medicines, "Heart Doctors" missions use many other items such as basic food items (milk powder mainly for children, sugar, wheaten flour, maize, cornflour, corn oil, rice, beans etc.), drinking water, clothing and footwear, bedding items, household equipment, school supplies, mosquito nets etc. Most of these items are distributed when missions are made mainly abroad. They are purchased in wholesale markets close to the populations to which they are offered (minimization of transport costs).

In the past, "Heart Doctors" used to collect food items from the general public in Greece; those items were transported to the places of great famine or natural disasters by C130 planes and at the expense of the Greek State.

In cases of earthquakes and other natural disasters in Greece and the Balkan countries, food, clothing, drinking water, bedding, etc. are collected in Greece and transported by road to the disaster sites.

It is clarified that certain friends of "Heart Doctors", and volunteer associates, who prefer anonymity, help the work of the Organization by personally participating in the humanitarian missions and covering the cost of buying and distributing the material donated by them.

The website of "Heart Doctors" and the relevant Facebook, list the specific medicines that are currently and urgently needed. There is also information for the personal delivery of medicines in the Offices of the Organization.







Medicine donation from the Piraeus Pharmaceutical Association and the "Pharmacists of the world"



Donation of food, toys, school items, etc. from the employees of COSMOTE

### MISSION MEMBERS

Xenophon Giataganas, Doctor, Professor of Medicine and Hematology Ioannis Sotiriou, Doctor, General Practitioner Vasilios Dimadis, Pediatrician, Doctor of the Athens University Nikolaos Dimakis, Doctor, General Practitioner **Helen Sotiriou Eygenia Lyras Pantelis Ypsilandis** Mary Ypsilandi Maria Giatagana Stefania Lamprou - Giatagana **Aggelos Lamprou Irene Andersen** Stella Sfetkopoulou **Michael Anastasiadis** Urania Galli - Ypsilandi Konstantinos Kalaitzis **Romylos Genetoglou** Venetia Xiptera **Andreas Giataganas Tryfonia Anastasiou Kyriakos Pardalos** Despina Tsoukala Eleni Varvitsioti **Stefanos Bertakis Efstratios Laggakis Alexandros Magganas Antonis Zahariadis Colleagues from Thessaloniki :** Popi Dimitriadou Hassan Badawi, Professor, University of Thessaloniki Evina Dimitriadou – Badawi Eirini Dimitriadou - Badawi **Timos Dimitriadis Pantelis Ziogou** Simeon Ziogou Konstantinos Ziogou **Parthena Kiorteve** Vasilios Abatzidis **Artemis Kehagia Ioannis Maniatis Dimitrios Paraskevas** Prodromos Sfikakis



### A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

Primary, secondary and higher education students, as well as students of foreign language institutes, on their own initiative or more commonly encouraged by teachers or relatives, continue to offer medicines to "Heart Doctors". We thank them cordially.

Many friendly people remember the humanitarian work that is being done for years and contribute by offering drugs and by other ways. Pharmacists, various individuals, even retired, and the Orthodox Church, offer medicines and other useful items. The Organization thanks them very much indeed.

Many friends and associates of "Heart Doctors" contribute offering their personal services in transporting, checking, classifying and organizing the drugs that are collected. Others offer their own means of transport for transportation of materials. Others work in groups in Athens, Thessaloniki, Rhodes etc for the collection of medicines. Others assist the doctors in offering medical services. To all these selfless and tireless friends, who act anonymously and selflessly as volunteers, we express our very grateful thanks.

Leaders and employees of Air France, Lufthansa Airways, Aegean Airlines, Egypt Air, Emirates Airways and Turkish Airlines, are cordially thanked for their willingness to serve our members when traveling for our missions. Especially, we greatly thank Aegean Airlines because, in addition, it often provides us with milk for malnourished babies and young children. Candies, t-shirts and other material is lovingly and enthusiastically prepared by the Customer Service Department as a gift to infants and young children of Africa (responsible is Ms Eleni Kefala).

The transportation companies "Grammi Brothers Stati OE", "Spanos Dodecanisiaki Marine EN", "Skevos Mougros and Co EE" and "Thessaloniki – Athens KTEL Transport" are very gratefully thanked for their substantial contribution to the work of "Heart Doctors" by transferring free medicines and other materials.

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We thank the competent Directorate of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religions for the approval it gives us to visit the schools in Greece and inform the students about our humanitarian work, volunteering and solidarity of people.

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We are grateful to all our dedicated friends, inside Greece and abroad, who contribute in every way to our work. In particular, we thank cordially the anonymous friends and associates, who support with devotion and generosity poor human beings by carrying out many food missions and providing other necessary commodities, in collaboration with "Heart Doctors".



