

ANNUAL REPORT '12



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PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION

CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY 2012 ACHIEVEMENTS



The preparation of another annual report, allows us to see all that the Cyprus Red Cross Society (CRCS) has accomplished during the past year. It is with great satisfaction, if not pride, that I am addressing not only the readers of the CRCS 2012 Annual Report but, most importantly, the contributors to the success of the CRCS.

One could state without any hesitation that the most important development concerning CRCS in 2012 was its official recognition by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as the 188th member of the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (International RC/RC Movement). I am gratified that our long and tireless efforts finally achieved our objective of becoming a full member of the International Movement. I should like to take this opportunity to express our most sincere appreciation and gratitude to all concerned for their invaluable contribution towards the achievement of our well-deserved Recognition.

In 2012, the CRCS carried out its humanitarian work in full compliance with the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the legislation of the Republic of Cyprus and its own Statutes. It was supported, as always, by the commendable efforts of its Branches, Youth Section, its members and several thousand volunteers, as well as its staff members.

In 2012, the CRCS utilized to the maximum its capacity and resources to fulfill effectively its role as an auxiliary body to the public authorities concerned, by mobilizing the strength and enthusiasm of its volunteers and accomplishing thus its humanitarian mission. Our main activity and concern was of course

the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti. The CRCS attempted also to meet the needs of the poor, the sick, the disabled, the elderly, the enclaved, the migrants and other vulnerable people, by offering care and support continuously, without prejudice or discrimination. Activities such as blood donation, first aid training, road safety, disaster relief, psychosocial support, tracing (locating missing persons and restoring family links), tree planting, among others, took place throughout the year. In addition to its traditional humanitarian activities, the most important being the annual Pan Cyprian "Door to Door" fundraising campaign, which took place in May, many other activities, including participation in seminars and conferences abroad, the Alkistis Protopsalti and Evanthia Remboutsika concerts, the official opening of the Limassol Branch building and the fencing of the HQs premises, the fashion shows, the "Cross the Red" Art exhibition and auction, the preparedness of the Disaster Management Committee for the possible arrival in Cyprus of third country nationals and refugees from Syria, the purchase of the necessary equipment for the new Disaster Management Warehouse and the Christmas Love Campaign, were only a few of the activities which made 2012 a really productive year.

To all those praiseworthy individuals who helped the CRCS to undertake its humanitarian activities, I should like to express my appreciation, gratitude and warm thanks. To the members of the Council, the Executive Committee, the Branches, the Youth Section, as well as to our many volunteers, the Director General and to all the CRCS staff members, I wish strength, health and courage to carry on in fulfilling their noble responsibilities, so that together we can all continue our humanitarian mission with even more success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Fotini Papadopoulou". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fotini Papadopoulou
President

CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY: FROM 1950 TO 2012



The Cyprus Red Cross Society (CRCS) was founded in 1950 as a branch of the British Red Cross. After the declaration of independence of the Republic of Cyprus in 1960 and the adherence to the Geneva International Conventions, CRCS was officially recognized by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus through the adoption of law N.39 of 1967. Through this legislation, CRCS became an auxiliary to the public authorities concerned with humanitarian matters, using the Red Cross Emblem in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

As stated in the introduction to the present report, the most important development in 2012 was the recognition of the CRCS by the ICRC as the 188th member of the International RC/RC Movement.

The CRCS is an independent body operating in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Red Cross Law and its own Statutes. The main governing bodies are the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee. The CRCS Branches operate in all towns and are managed by their respective Committees. Since 1973, the Youth Section, in addition to its Central Committee, operates District Committees in each town. Most officers and members of the CRCS are volunteers.

Within the framework of its mission to help improve health, prevent illnesses, alleviate pain throughout the world, in times of peace or war and without any prejudice or discrimination, CRCS undertakes extensive activities which, among others, include the offer of humanitarian assistance, psychosocial and moral support to vulnerable persons, fund raising campaigns,

offer of First Aid lessons and training, blood donation, as well as activities to inform and to raise awareness of the Red Cross mission, its principles and the protection of the Red Cross emblem.

Of particular importance was the assistance provided by CRCS during the Turkish invasion of 1974 with regard to the evacuation of the population from areas under Turkish control, taking care of the wounded, providing housing and assistance to meet the needs of the refugees, the reunification of families, the transmission of messages, the return of prisoners, locating the missing persons, as well as providing assistance to meet the needs of the enclaved persons. To this date, CRCS continues to send all necessary basic provisions and other aid to the enclaved persons and seeks to cover their needs whenever they visit the free areas; it continues to issue certificates of captivity and of having been an enclaved person.

CRCS carries out a wide variety of other important activities such as disaster management, psychosocial support, tracing (locating missing persons and restoring family links), blood donation, First Aid lessons and training, tree planting, road safety, participating in European programmes, organizing camping expeditions, humanitarian and community events, assistance to migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, as well as organization of seminars. Especially noteworthy are the activities of the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti, which since 1957 has been helping children with disabilities.

The above mentioned extensive activities of CRCS are not limited to Cyprus but are also extended overseas. CRCS responds to various appeals of the International Movement and in many cases CRCS has sent humanitarian support to Sister Societies whose countries have been affected by floods, earthquakes and other emergencies. Its largest projects abroad were the building and equipping of a large hospital in Sri Lanka, the financing of the completion of a second one, a Community Medical Centre in Karatoula-Oleni, Greece, an Emergency Call Centre in Haiti and the construction of two ambulance stations in Gaza.

2012 EUROPEAN YEAR FOR ACTIVE AGEING AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN GENERATIONS

JANUARY

**Circulation of 2012 Lucky Charms
New Hospital in Badulla, Sri Lanka**

- 18** CRCS Council meeting
 - 25** CRCS General Assembly - Approval of new CRCS Statutes
-

FEBRUARY

- 16** CRCS Council meeting
 - 18** Charity event of the Kyrenia Sea Scouts
 - 23** CRCS's official recognition by the ICRC as the 188th member of the International RC/RC Movement
-

MARCH

CRCS sends help to Greece

- 9** CRCS Executive Committee meeting
 - 17** Psychosocial support seminars to CRCS members
 - 18** 28th Youth Section Student Conference
 - 24** Sport Relief Mile
 - 28-30** PERCO Meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria
-

APRIL

- 18-22** 20th European Youth Cooperation Meeting (ECM), Lozen, Bulgaria
 - 19** Press Conference concerning the recognition of CRCS by the ICRC as the 188th member of the International RC/RC Movement
 - 21** Psychosocial support seminars to CRCS members
 - 25** DMC - Assessment Mission Course
 - 30-20** May Pancyprian Fundraising Campaign "Door to Door"
-

MAY

- 3** CRCS Council meeting
 - 4** Opening ceremony of the Pancyprian Fundraising Campaign "Door to Door"
 - 8** World Red Cross Day
 - 12** Event by the Kyrenia Branch during the Door to Door fundraising campaign
 - 25 May to 6 June** CRCS Excursion to Mexico
-

JUNE

- 6** Art Exhibition and Auction «Cross the Red»

2012

DIARY OF ACTIVITIES

JULY

- 3-10** Youth Section Camp
 - 4&6** "Allspice, Cinnamon and Celebration" Concerts by Alkistis Protopsalti and Evanthia Remboutsika
 - 9** Closing Ceremony of the "Door to Door" * Pancyprian Fundraising Campaign
 - 10** CRCS Executive Committee meeting
 - 24** CRCS Council meeting
-

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

- 8** World First Aid Day
 - 11** General Assembly Kyrenia Branch
 - 14** CRCS Executive Committee meeting
-

OCTOBER

- 9-12** Disaster Management Exercise "Argonaftis"
 - 10** Charity Fashion Show at the Embassy of Italy in Cyprus
 - 18** Cookbook "diplomatic service"
 - 20** Limassol Branch inauguration ceremony of the new building
 - 24** CRCS Executive Committee meeting
 - 26-28** European Network for Psychosocial Support (ENPS), Paris, France
 - 27** Inauguration of the Community Medical Centre at Karatoula Oleni, Peloponnesus, Greece
-

NOVEMBER

- 5-8** PERCO Meeting in Larnaca, Cyprus
 - 7-9** Conference on Community Programmes for Children with Disabilities, Grodno, Belarus
 - 13** General Assembly Nicosia Branch
 - 18** World Remembrance Day for the victims of road accidents
 - 22** General Assembly Limassol Branch
 - 27** General Assembly Paphos Branch
-

DECEMBER

Circulation of Christmas Cards **Issue of the 2013 Desk Calendar** **Christmas Love Campaign**

- 1** World Aids Day – event by the Youth Section
- 4** General Assembly Larnaca Branch
- 5** International Volunteer Day
- 13** CRCS Council meeting
- 13** CRCS Children's Therapy Center Stella Soulioti change of name
- 16** CRCS Christmas Bazaars
- 19** The Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent delegation's visit to CRCS

2012 CRCS MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

NEW STATUTES

Within the framework of the CRCS recognition process, CRCS was required to revise its Rules. The revision of the Rules was a condition set for recognition by the ICRC, in order to ensure that the new CRCS Statutes, conformed with the provisions and requirements of the Movement. Until its recognition, the Rules under which CRCS was operating were first approved in November 1975 and were revised later in 2008. The revised Rules were then submitted to the Movement for approval. The Movement's response was received in 2011 and included extensive remarks and suggestions, the adoption of which was set as a precondition for the recognition. In response to the request for the preparation of the new Statutes, CRCS decided to seek professional guidance and advice from the Tassos Papadopoulos and Associates law firm. The preliminary draft, which was prepared after many meetings and discussions, was presented to, discussed and finally approved by the CRCS Council at its meeting held on 18 January 2012. On 25 January 2012, the Statutes were approved by the CRCS General Assembly. One of the provisions of the new Statutes that led to many discussions was the age limit of the CRCS Officials. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Statutes the Council members, namely, Messrs Andreas Karagiorghis, Nicos Lakoufis, Bedros Shammashian and Stelios Sykallides, were not eligible for re-election to the new Council and had to resign. CRCS expresses its gratitude and very warm thanks to the departing members for their valuable services and long voluntary contributions. Furthermore, CRCS expresses warm thanks to the Law Office of Tassos Papadopoulos and Associates for the pro bono provision of their legal services, particularly to Mrs Amalia Erotokritou, who undertook successfully the difficult task of the preparation of the new Statutes.

According to the new CRCS Statutes the Governing bodies of the Society are the following:

- 1. The General Assembly**
- 2. The Council**
- 3. The Executive Committee**

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL IN 2012

Elected under Article 12 (1) (a) (b) *

Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulos, President,
Mrs. Leda Koursoumba, Vice President,
Mr. Dinos Christofides, Treasurer,
Mr. Andreas Artemis, Nicosia,
Mrs. Evmorfia Fereos, Nicosia
Metropolitan Tamassos and Orinis, Isaias, Nicosia,
Mr. Michalakis Sarris, Nicosia,
Mr. Nicos Gregoriou, Limassol,
Mr. Andreas Poetis, Famagusta,
Mr. Angelos Nikolaidis, Larnaca,
Mr. Georghios Hasapis, Paphos,
Mr. Costas Pandehis, Kyrenia.

* Three seats are vacant and another one is kept vacant for a Turkish Cypriot member.

Under Article 12 (1) (c)

Mrs. Marina Demades, President, Nicosia Branch,
Mrs. Evi Zarifi, Treasurer, Nicosia Branch,
Mrs. Stathoula Sykopetritis, President,
Limassol Branch,
Mrs. Annie Haraki, Treasurer, Limassol Branch,
Mrs. Sylvia Poetis, President, Famagusta Branch,
(d. 29/11/2012),
Mr. Kypros Santis, Treasurer, Famagusta Branch,
Mrs. Chrystalla Pantelidou, President,
Larnaca Branch,
Mrs. Goula Drousiotou, Treasurer, Larnaca Branch,
Mrs. Dina Kakoyianni, President, Paphos Branch,
Mrs. Elenitsa Skordi, Treasurer, Paphos Branch,
Mrs. Maroulla Angelides, President, Kyrenia Branch,
Mrs. Evanthia Papasavva, Treasurer, Kyrenia Branch,
Mrs. Despo Frederickou, President,
Central Committee Youth Section,
Mr. Costas Constantinides, Treasurer,
Central Committee Youth Section.

Under Article 12 (4)

Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou

2012 CRCs MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN 2012

President of the Society, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou,
 Vice President of the Society, Mrs. Leda Koursoumba,
 Treasurer, Mr. Dinos Christofides,
 Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou,
 The representative of the Branch Committees,
 Mrs. Marina Demades, President of Nicosia Branch

The Council met five times, on 18 January,
 16 February, 3 May, 24 July and 13 December.

The Executive Committee met four times, on 9 March,
 10 July, 14 September and 24 October.

MEETINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES

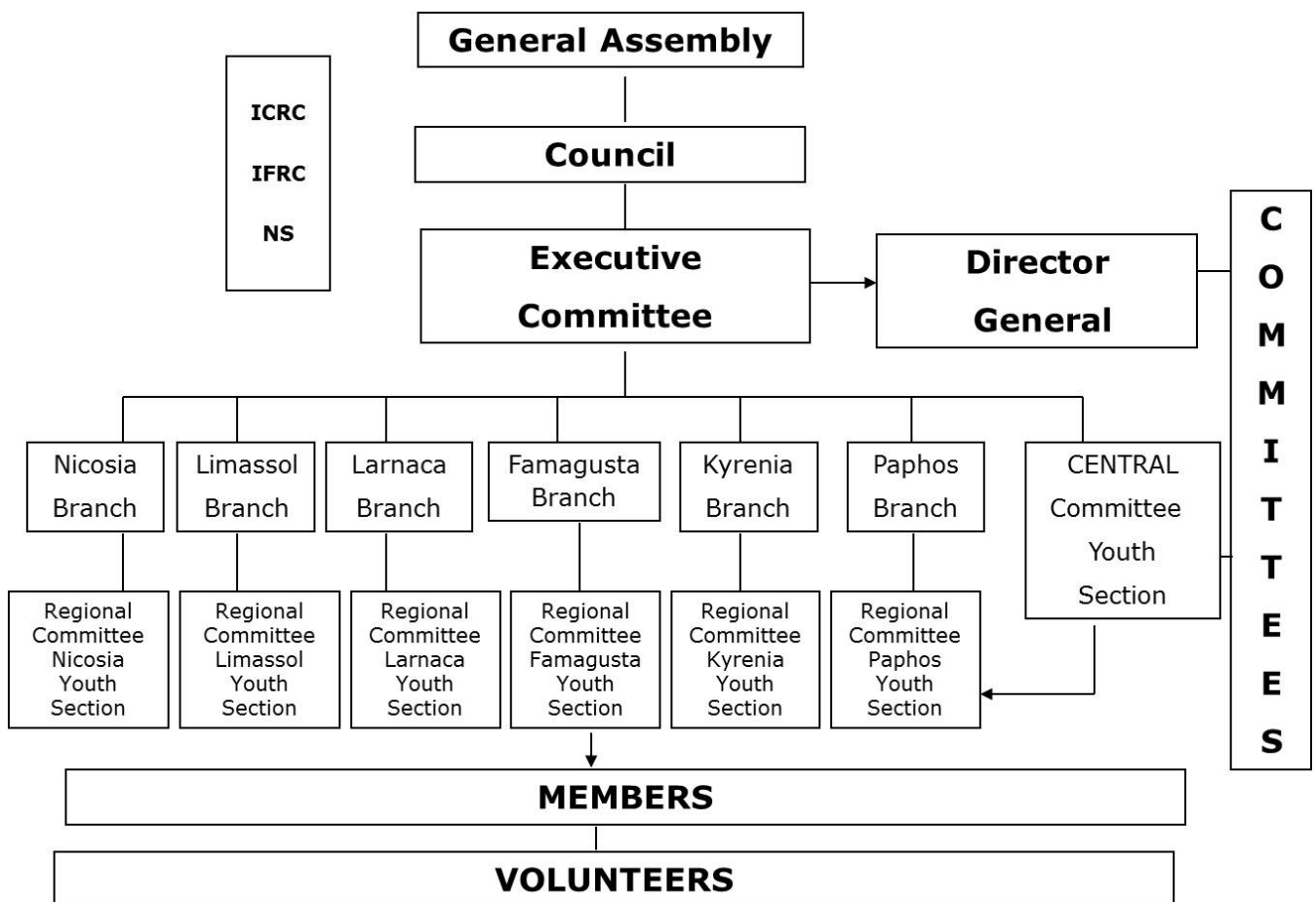
During the course of 2012:

The General Assembly met once, on 25 January.

COMMITTEES

Finance, Fundraising and Pan Cyprian "Door to Door" Collection, Disaster Management, Home for Sick Children, First Aid and Blood Donation, Newsletter, Road Safety, Christmas Cards, Migrants Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Health and Psychosocial Support, Training and Volunteers and Events Committee.

CRCs ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS

During 2012, the CRCS, as a purely humanitarian organization, continued to focus its activities on addressing the needs of those considered to be vulnerable or in need of assistance. Although 38 years have elapsed since the invasion of Cyprus in 1974 and the standard of living in Cyprus has risen to rival that of developed countries, the core humanitarian assistance which the CRCS offered in Cyprus was to the refugees and the enclaved, as well as to the poor, sick and other vulnerable persons. Faithful to its principle of providing aid without discrimination, irrespective of ethnic origin, nationality or religion, the CRCS included Turkish Cypriots, as well as a large number of migrants and asylum seekers amongst its beneficiaries. It was fortunate that Cyprus was not affected by any natural disaster or other significant emergencies during 2012. Nevertheless, the CRCS was in a full state of preparedness to intervene and provide assistance when and if it was required.

ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS, HEALTH AND OTHER FORMS OF VULNERABILITY

Hidden behind the visible prosperity of Cyprus, many people continue to need support to live in dignity, or even to survive. Regrettably, there are still many poor, sick, disabled and other groups of vulnerable individuals who require help. True to its principles, during 2012 the CRCS responded readily and discretely to any request for humanitarian assistance and moral support on an almost daily basis. The humanitarian activities of the CRCS included, among others: the provision of food; clothing; footwear; cleaning and hygiene products; medicines; financial support; supplying wheelchairs and rehabilitation equipment for those with special needs; providing companionship to the lonely; visits to hospitals; old peoples' homes; prisons; schools and other institutions for the disabled.

HELP AND SERVICES REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE INVASION

Despite the fact that people have largely overcome the consequences of the 1974 invasion and no longer require material aid, some refugee families and elderly persons continue to need the support of the CRCS. The support of these persons and families is conducted through the community work developed by the local Branches. It includes, among others:

the provision of food parcels and other necessities; financial assistance and psychosocial support. Further information on these activities can be found in the chapter on Branches. Other services offered by the CRCS are the provision of certificates to those who had been enclaved, as well to captives of the Turkish invasion.

SUPPORT FOR THE ENCLAVED



According to the records maintained by the CRCS, as of 31 December 2012, 473 persons - 347 Greek Cypriots and 126 Maronites - lived in the Karpaz and Maronite villages in the Kyrenia District. These enclaved persons received support from the CRCS in various forms, both in the occupied and free areas. With the assistance of the United Nations Force in Cyprus the CRCS provided weekly dispatches to the occupied areas to help

HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS

meet the needs of the enclaved, including, among others: food, medicines, footwear, and monetary allowances. In some circumstances, the CRCS also covered, among others, special needs requirements such as wheelchairs, oxygen bottles, spectacles. In 2012, the CRCS dispatched 654 parcels, including: 19 oxygen bottles; 14 pairs of eye glasses; 6 parcels of toys; 171 parcels of dietetic bread; 436 parcels of medicines, four wheelchairs, one walking frame and three tenders. During the visits of the enclaved to the free areas, the CRCS covered all their needs, such as meals, transportation, hospital care and financial assistance. Furthermore, 174 individuals were transported by CRCS vehicles from the Ledra Palace check point to destinations all over Cyprus.

SUPPORT TO TURKISH CYPRIOTS

Although Turkish Authorities forbid the CRCS from operating in occupied areas and Turkish Cypriots are discouraged from contacting the CRCS, there were several cases where assistance was provided to them in 2012. Within its framework of humanitarian assistance “without borders and discrimination”, and in response to a request received, the CRCS donated wheelchairs and other mobility equipment to individuals and institutions in occupied Cyprus. In addition, the CRCS donated a Sensory Integration Unit to “Engelli Aileleri Dayanisma Dernegi” Centre for mentally retarded children, in the occupied part of Nicosia, as well as rehabilitation equipment to “Girne Rehabilitasyon Merkezi” Centre for physically disabled adults, in Kyrenia. The majority of Turkish Cypriots living in the free part of Cyprus were based in Limassol. On a number of occasions, the Limassol Branch provided assistance in the form of food and clothing. In some isolated cases, Turkish Cypriots residing in the occupied areas had asked for assistance from the CRCS Headquarters, as well as the Nicosia Branch. In conformity with its principles, the CRCS responded positively to calls for assistance with impartiality and without discrimination.

AMBULANCES FOR THE OCCUPIED AREAS WITH THE CRCS EMBLEM



In fulfilling its mission as an auxiliary to the public sector, the CRCS helped implement the agreement between the leaders of the two communities regarding the uninhibited movement of ambulances from and to the occupied areas. As of May 2009, ambulances carrying the insignia of the Ministry of Health and the CRCS emblem had moved between the occupied and the free areas of the island transporting sick or injured Greek and Turkish Cypriots. In 2012, five ambulances were used.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

In response to appeals from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) for assistance to vulnerable groups and victims of human and/or natural disasters worldwide, the CRCS sent humanitarian assistance to several countries. In 2012, the total amount of the financial assistance provided was 20.210 Euros. Taking into consideration the relatively small size of Cyprus, the above amount is proportionally very large and reflects the extent of the solidarity that Cypriots have developed toward their fellow human beings as a result of their own country's tragic past.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

CRCS assistance to Greece

In March 2012, CRCS provided monetary assistance of 20.000 Euros for the purchase of food. The coordination of this assistance had been undertaken by the Bishop of Tamasos and Orinis, Isaias, who is a member of the CRCS Council. Additionally, CRCS sent large quantities of food and clothing to the Nafplion Prison and the Kozani region, again through the Church of Cyprus. The CRCS Branches contributed significantly to the collection of the latter items. For its support and assistance to the victims of the financial crisis in Greece, CRCS has received numerous letters of thanks.

New Hospital in Badulla Sri Lanka



A second hospital, the Badulla Hospital, was completed, equipped and commenced its operation in the eastern province of Sri Lanka, with the financial assistance of the CRCS. Most of the amount of CY€1 million offered by the people of Cyprus through the CRCS for the victims of the tsunami (2004), was used

for the construction and equipment of the Balapitiya Hospital in Galle, in the southern province of the country. The rest was used for the completion of four-storey hospital building in Badulla, which covers an area of 5.000m² and has a staff of 1800 persons, includes an outpatient department, four theaters for surgeries, intensive care, cardiology, neurology, dermatology, psychiatric, oncology, gynecologic, orthopedic, ophthalmology and physiotherapy units and a capacity of 1.375 beds. The Hospital also includes a nursing school which is attended by 786 qualified nurses. The construction had started in 2007, but had stopped due to lack of funds; it resumed after a contribution of US\$300.000 by the CRCS. Although the Hospital was delivered in 2011, it became fully operational in 2012, serving an area with a population of seven million inhabitants.

Inauguration of the Community Medical Centre at Karatoula Oleni, Peloponnesus, Greece



On 14 September 2007 immediately after the tragic fires in Peloponnesus, Greece, in July, the CRCS, in

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

cooperation with the Pancyprian Volunteerism Coordinative Council (PVCC), organized a pancyprian road fundraising campaign throughout Cyprus, which raised a total amount of 160.000 Euros. The CRCS contributed an additional amount of 40.000 Euros, bringing the total amount to €200.000, which was utilized for the financing an infrastructure project in the area, a Community Medical Centre in Karatoula-Oleni that serves nine communities in the region. On 27 October 2012, a CRCS delegation led by Mrs Fotini Papadopoulos, President, together with Mrs Leda Koursoumba, Vice President, and Mr Takis Neophytou, Director General, and accompanied by Mr Elias Demetriou, Vice President of the Pancyprian Volunteerism Coordination Council, attended the inauguration ceremony of the Karatoula Community Medical Centre. The Centre which was built by the two organizations at a cost of €200.000, after the tragic fires which destroyed the whole district of Ilia and left behind a large number of victims, in July 2007, serves nine communities in the region. The ceremony was addressed by Mrs Papadopoulos, in the presence of several officials from the area, including the Metropolitan of Ilia, the Mayor of Pyrgos, Mr. Makis Paraskevopoulos, the Mayor of Oleni, Mr. Ioannis Panagopoulos, the representative of the Hellenic Red Cross - Department of Patras, Mrs. Monica Solomou. During the inauguration ceremony the CRCS handed over the amount of 11.000 Euros to be used for the purchase of medical equipment.

Continuation of the construction of an Emergency Call Centre in Haiti

After the earthquakes of February 2010, in Haiti, CRCS undertook the construction of an Emergency Call Centre in the country. Although the agreement was made in 2010, the construction of the Centre started in 2012. CRCS's contribution to the project is 300.000 Euros and will cover, among others, the following:

- The development and the installation of an Emergency Call Centre, together with the required

electronic equipment, to be operated under the Civil Defence;

- The management and operation of the Centre by qualified personnel;
- The training of the personnel; and,
- Educating the public through informative campaigns.

The project is coordinated locally by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Ambulance Station and Medical Centre in Gaza

The CRCS agreed to help the Palestinian Red Crescent with the construction of an Ambulance Station in the city of Tulkarem and the construction of a Medical Centre in the city of Albalah, in Gaza. Due to the prevailing difficult situation in the area, delays have been encountered in completing the projects in a timely manner, though the construction of the projects is progressing satisfactorily [the works are still in process.] The total cost is expected to reach \$50.000.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In a globalized world of inter-dependency and as a member of the largest humanitarian organization in the world, it is clear that the CRCS cannot operate in isolation. As a result of the 2007 policy agreements, in 2012 priority was given to strengthening CRCS contacts and enhancing cooperation with the International and European Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Results achieved have been hailed by all concerned as a great success. Officials, members and volunteers of the Society participated in more than five International and European events that dealt with several subjects, including: migrants, refugees and asylum seekers; psychosocial support; disabilities and volunteering. The most important development was the recognition of the CRCS by the ICRC as the 188th member of the RC/RC International Movement.

CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY IS THE 188TH MEMBER OF THE RED CROSS / RED CRESCENT INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT

The CRCS, continuing its preparations in order to meet the recognition requirements of the ICRC, in cooperation with representatives of the Movement's Joint Statutes Commission, amended and updated its existing Regulations and prepared new Statutes which were finally approved by the General Assembly on 25 January 2012, just in time for the JSC's meeting which was held in February 2012. Thereafter, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), at its meeting held on 23 February 2012, decided to officially recognize CRCS as the 188th member of the Red Cross/ Red Crescent International Movement. The recognition granted to the CRCS, has been achieved after a long period of waiting, confirms that CRCS conforms to the ten criteria, required by the International Movement, in order to allow a national society to become a member of the International RC/RC Movement.

The CRCS initially had applied for recognition by the ICRC on 4 August 1971 and had reiterated its application on 16 October 2008. The Society submitted various documents in support of its application, including a copy of its recent activity reports, the Cyprus Red Cross Society Law of 21 July 1967, and the Society's statutes adopted on 25 January 2012.

The ICRC, on 23 February 2012, prepared a circular (No. 623) which was sent to all National Societies, stating, among others, that "...the ICRC concluded that the 10 conditions for recognition of a new National Society have been fulfilled by the Cyprus Red Cross Society." It was also stated that the CRCS's "...structures, organization and regulations enable it to

operate and achieve its goal in conformity with the Movement's Fundamental Principles and that it has the infrastructure required to carry out its activities, although these remain restricted to one part of the national territory owing to events beyond the Society's control."

The CRCS President Fotini Papadopoulou announced officially CRCS's recognition as the 188th member of the RC/RC International Movement at a media conference held at the CRCS Headquarters in Nicosia, on Thursday, 19 April 2012. Referring to the recognition of the CRCS, understandably with great emotion, Mrs. Papadopoulou described 2012 as a milestone year for CRCS, the official recognition of which was attained 41 years after the first request for recognition had been submitted. Mrs. Papadopoulou noted that the relationship with the ICRC, would now be on a more substantial footing, and that the recognition would give CRCS the opportunity to participate in the decision making centres of the Movement and to play a coordinative role in the Eastern Mediterranean region, utilizing the geo-strategic location of Cyprus.

The next step is for CRCS to join the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), which will hopefully take place during the General Assembly to be held in November 2013. Unfortunately, it seems that it is not going to be easy to secure a unanimous admission by acclamation, which is the usual practice. ICRC's decision displeased Turkey and the Turkish Red Crescent, which have questioned the validity of the decision and have chosen to politicize the issue. In doing so, they

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

have instigated the formation of a so-called “group of friends of the northern Cyprus Turkish Red Crescent” and through them they are trying to promote the idea of granting a “balancing compensation” to the so-called “northern Cyprus Turkish Red Crescent”, an attempt against which CRCS opposes strongly.

The Standing Commission of the Movement appointed Dr. Mohammed Al-Hadid, who is a member of the Commission and the President of the Jordanian Red Crescent, to meet all parties involved and to try to secure a unanimous admission of the CRCS. On the 17 May 2012, Dr. Mohammed Al Hadid visited Cyprus and met for the first time with the CRCS officials: the President, the Vice President and the Director General. On 19 December 2012, a delegation of the Standing Commission consisting of Dr. Mohammed Al Hadid, Sir Nicolas Young, Mrs. Rudina Pema and Mrs. Kristiina Kumpula, visited Cyprus and met with CRCS officials: the President, the Vice President, the Director General and the Treasurer, as part of their continued efforts to secure a smooth admission of the CRCS to the IFRC by acclamation.

INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN MEETINGS

PERCO MEETINGS

Sofia, Bulgaria 28 -30 March 2012

This was the last meeting that CRCS attended as an Observer (at the time CRCS's official recognition had not been announced). The latest meeting of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO) was especially successful. It was yet again recognized by all participants on behalf of the European National Societies (NS) and the International Federation (IFRC) that there was a continued need for humanitarian assistance to refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. Unfortunately, however, because of the economic crisis the needs of the vulnerable groups had multiplied, and it was becoming increasingly difficult for the European countries to meet the growing humanitarian need. The role of the Red Cross had become even more important because, due to its mission and fundamental principles, the Red Cross is perhaps the largest nongovernmental organization (NGO) that those in need tirelessly turned to. The meeting was attended by 25 NS, including representatives of the Federation (IFRC) and the Committee (ICRC). The coordinating role was undertaken

by the President of the Platform, the representatives of the Swedish RC and the two Belgian RCs (Flemish and French-speaking). CRCS was represented by Mrs Andri Agrotis, Secretary of the Nicosia CRCS Branch. Mrs Agrotis presented CRCS' programme that includes a weekly programme of humanitarian assistance, monthly visits to the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers and the psychological support and medical assistance that is provided regularly, as well as to ad hoc cases. After many discussions and exchanges of views, the PERCO platform formalized its strategy for the next two years.

Larnaca, Cyprus, 5-8 November 2012



The PERCO meeting was the second organized by the CRCS in Cyprus and was included in the EU Presidency of Cyprus official list of activities. It was also the first meeting since the recognition of the CRCS as the 188th member of the RC/RC International Movement. The meeting was held from November 5 to 7, 2012, at the Sandy Beach Hotel in Larnaca. The next day, on 8 of November, a meeting was held for the Network Anti-Trafficking. The participants in the meetings were, among others, officials from the Movement. It was officially opened on the 6 by the President of the CRCS, Mrs Papadopoulou, who informed the participants about the activities of the CRCS through a Power Point presentation. Additionally, the Director General of the Ministry of the Interior, Mr. Andreas Assiotis, briefed the participants on the migration policy of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus. The same evening the Larnaca and Famagusta Branches hosted a dinner to all the participants at a traditional tavern in Larnaca.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

On the next day, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Detention Centre of the Aradippou Police Station, in Larnaca, as part of the “fieldtrip”. An officer of the Station welcomed the delegates and provided a detailed briefing about the Centre. The participants had the opportunity to talk to the detainees and see the living conditions at the Centre.

20th European Youth Cooperation Meeting (ECM)

A representative of the CRCS Youth Section, Ms Agathi Hatzoulli, participated in the 20th ECM European Youth Cooperation Meeting. The meeting, a biannual event, was held from 18 to 22 April 2012 in Lozen, a village in Bulgaria, and was attended by 80 representatives, from 41 Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. The Conference elected the new members of the European Youth Coordination Committee and adopted the New Statutes. The four workshops were RCRC European Youth Network, Communication and Social media, Youth in decision making process and evaluation, follow-up and reporting system. Through exchanging views and ideas and participating in workshops and activities, the participants were able to redefine and redirect their priorities until their next meeting in 2014.

European Network for Psychosocial Support (ENPS)

CRCS was represented by Christos Stefanou at the ENPS Conference held from 26 to 28 October 2012 in Paris, France. It was the third year in a row that resilience appeared in the title of the ENPS conference and can now safely be said that ENPS admittedly depends primarily thereon. The resilience is the inherent and acquired mental ability to withstand and manage dynamically and creatively any adversity which directly or indirectly tend to need to erode and deplete stocks mentally. Since the Red Cross cannot change the odds that affect societies, what it can do is to guide the affected individuals to find the most efficient way to resist, and avoid secondary complications (physical, mental, social). Accordingly, resilience is the common denominator of all adverse events or crisis. It is the shared avenue that any consequence of any disaster in the latter’s most sensitive target directed - the social, mental and somatic well-being of people- may be modified.

The content and messages of the conference focused on the gap between communication and resilience. Communication

refers to the coordination of the Red Cross factors in emergency situations, and their relationship with those affected and their community supporting services.

Questions related to the above: how does information of an adverse event (e.g, a terrorist attack) start? Means by which it expands. How censored? What results does it bring, and which factors influence those? How journalists, partners/similar organizations need to be approached? Behaviors which are harmful. When and how and who can take photographs? How is the result of the intervention assessed? etc.

The conference was organized into four parts:

1. What is the message and how does it spread?
2. Communication with communities and individuals.
3. How can we bring out our project as a team?
4. The role of the Red Cross in the current crises.

Community Programmes for Children with Disabilities Conference

In response to an invitation received, CRCS’s Director General, Mr Takis Neophytou, participated in the “Community Programmes for Children with Disabilities” Conference, that was held in Grodno, Belarus, held from 7 to 9 November 2012. The invitation to Mr Neophytou was sent after the Red Cross of Belarus was informed that the CRCS operated a Home for children with disabilities and that its Director General had a long experience and knowledge on the subject. Another reason was the fact that Mr. Neophytou is the President of the Portage Cyprus Foundation, offering early intervention programmes for children with developmental problems, for which the Red Cross of Belarus had also expressed interest. At the conference, Mr. Neophytou made two Power Point presentations, one for the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti (former Home for Sick Children) and one for the Portage programme. Mr. Neophytou also had a meeting with the General Secretary of the Red Cross of Belarus, Mr. Victor Kalbanau, and discussed the possibility for further cooperation between the two National Societies. The Red Cross of Belarus expressed interest in sending some of their staff members to Cyprus in order to visit the CRCS Therapy Centre.

RED CROSS AND MIGRANTS, REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

In collaboration with the International Red Cross and all Government services concerned, the CRCS, pursuant to the conclusions reached at the Society's seminar on "Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers", held in November 2007, has developed a policy in that regard and has been working towards the acceptance and integration of the migrants who live in Cyprus. In 2012, CRCS continued to participate in the meetings of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO) and in November 2012 organized a PERCO meeting in Cyprus. It has also continued its efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, promote respect for diversity and social inclusion, and counteract stereotypes and xenophobic attitudes towards migrants.

ASSISTANCE TO ASYLUM SEEKERS, REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS



It is a well known fact that migrants (legal and illegal) constitute one of the most vulnerable social groups in Cyprus, sometimes living under appalling conditions. The CRCS, without discrimination and irrespective of the migrant's status, or the legality of their demands and actions, was always ready to provide food, clothing, blankets and any other support needed. In cases of health problems requiring medical care, high-ranking officials of the CRCS used their influence in order to overcome formalities and facilitate immediate admission to hospitals, where migrants were treated and looked after until their recovery. As an auxiliary body to the Government, the CRCS repeatedly expressed its intention and offered its services and cooperation to the Ministry of the Interior in meeting the needs of asylum seekers and migrants in general.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE BY THE BRANCHES TO MIGRANTS, REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

All Branches continued to increase the daily provision of humanitarian assistance, consisting of food and clothing to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. The high cost of the assistance led the CRCS to the decision to explore the possibility of securing financial support from the Government.

MEDICAL SERVICES

In an effort to try to meet all the needs of the migrants, the Nicosia Branch made the necessary arrangements with volunteer doctors from the Evangelistria Clinic, as well as other private doctors, to provide free medical examinations and treatment to migrants. This is a desperately needed service, especially for illegal migrants, who for obvious reasons are reluctant to visit Government Hospitals for examinations and treatment.

OTHER SERVICES

Additional personal services were offered to many migrants, such as tracing and connecting with their families, securing documents from their country's National Red Cross Society, examining complaints, preparing applications and promoting requests submitted to Government Departments.

VISITS TO THE RECEPTION CENTRES FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

CRCS members and volunteers visited on a regular basis the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers at Kofinou, the Onisilos Centre in Larnaca, as well as at the Agapinor Centre in Paphos, offering their support and in kind humanitarian assistance such as clothing and food.

CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI

Former Home for Sick Children

Two great losses for the Children Therapy Centre and the Cyprus Red Cross Society

THE CRCS ANNOUNCED WITH DEEP SORROW THE DEATH OF ITS HONORARY PRESIDENT STELLA SOULIOTI



The CRCS announced with deep sadness the death of its President and Honorary President for 52 years, Stella Soulioti, on 2 November 2012. During all those years, in addition to her other responsibilities, Mrs. Soulioti was the President of the Red Cross Home for Sick Children Management Committee and was very attached to the staff and the children. The CRCS, at an extraordinary meeting of its Executive Committee, held 2 November 2012, took the following decisions:

- Declared five days of mourning
- The flag of the Red Cross at its headquarters and the offices of its Branches and Youth Section in all cities to fly at half mast for five days The CRCS President to speak at the funeral and lay a wreath
- CRCS officials and representatives from all Branches and the Youth Section to attend the funeral
- The CRCS Home for Sick Children to be renamed "Cyprus Red Cross Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti"
- A photograph of the late Stella Soulioti to be placed at the conference room of the CRCS Headquarters.



DR MINAS HADJIMINAS

A few months earlier the Red Cross family and the Home had another great loss, that of Dr. Minas Hadjiminias who passed away on 11 January 2012 at the age of 92. He was an honorary member of the CRCS Council and the doctor of the Home since its establishment in 1957. The deceased was a renowned Cypriot doctor and scientist, the first director of the Paediatric Clinic of the Nicosia General Hospital and is affectionately referred to as the "Father of Pediatrics" in Cyprus. As the Director of the Pediatric Department of the Nicosia General Hospital, his contribution in eliminating thalassemia was immeasurable, and was acknowledged when his book titled "Cyprus and Thalassemia" was published in 2004, in Nicosia. The CRCS Council expresses its deep condolences to his family.

Founding

The CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti (former Home for Sick Children) was founded by the CRCS in 1957 to treat sick and disabled children. By far, it is the largest project of the Society. During its 55 year history, the Centre has gone through three phases. The first phase was the period of its operation in Kyrenia (1957 - 1974), with a permanent base serving as a home to staff and children from all the communities of Cyprus until the invasion of Cyprus in 1974. The second phase was during the period 1980 - 1994, when its operation began in Limassol, on a residential basis. Its third phase began in 1994, providing only day care services.

Since 2012, the Centre has been making a new start through extensive renovations of its 30 years old buildings. From the operational point of view, it has been upgrading and extending its programmes, becoming a modern and high level Day Care Therapy Centre. Furthermore, it has been accommodating in its large complex of buildings, the ELPIDA Day Care Centre for adults with disabilities, operating under the responsibility of the Theodocos Foundation, and the Special School for Children with Disabilities, operating under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI

Former Home for Sick Children



Post - 1974 Operations

The fallout resulting from the 1974 invasion made it necessary to build a new Home in Polemidia. With the assistance of the U.N High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the new Home commenced operations in 1980, complete with all necessary facilities. The Home also offered boarding facilities until 1994, but currently it provides day care only.

Cyprus Red Cross Children Therapy Center Stella Soulioti

Pursuant to the decision taken by the CRCS Council on 13 December 2012, the Home for Sick Children was re named Cyprus Red Cross Children Therapy Center Stella Soulioti, in memory of the unforgettable former CRCS President Stella Soulioti, who not only pioneered its founding, but generously supported its operation with her unlimited care and love until her death.

Services Offered

The Home, the only one of its kind in Cyprus, treats around 75 children between the ages of 0-18 years that live with severe physical disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy and other physical and developmental problems. In addition to medical and

nursing care, the Home offers physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy; it also provides mobility solutions for the children's comfort. Close attention is paid to creating a



family atmosphere, the children's entertainment, facilitating their social integration and generally making the best possible effort to give them a better life. The services offered by the Home are constantly upgraded. A specialist Pediatrician supervises the general healthcare, cooperating closely with the Limassol General Hospital and foreign specialists. Dedicated therapy personnel and a fully comprehensive set of equipment provide healthcare and therapeutic treatment of the highest standard.

CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI

Former Home for Sick Children

Collaborations

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Home operates a special school for children, offering, among others, special education, therapy, and psychological support. It also works closely with the Ministry of Health and the Limassol General Hospital to provide orthopedic, neurological and other treatments on a regular and ad hoc basis. The Home has collaborated with St James' University Hospital in Leeds, the United Kingdom, since 1988 to provide Botulinum Toxin treatment to children with cerebral palsy. Since the successful introduction of the treatment, Botulinum Toxin is now also offered to children in State hospitals. Partnerships are continually being developed with many other bodies, such as government agencies, schools and other institutions for children with disabilities, parents, the British Sovereign bases (who offer hippo therapy programmes), foreign organizations, European programmes (for staff training), charities and other voluntary organizations.

Operational Costs

The Home is largely supported by the love and care of the CRCS members and volunteers who cover the major portion of the financial requirements for the operation of the Home. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus covers approximately 30 per cent of its operational costs; the remaining amount is covered through funds raised at special events, fundraisers and voluntary services offered generously by the ever-willing members of the public.

Renovation funding scheme

The Home is housed in a building that was built in 1980 and today there is an urgent and extremely important need to renovate the over 30 year old building, the cost of which is estimated at 600,000

Euros. Due to the fact that the required amount was beyond its financial capacity, the CRCS prepared a Donors Plan, which divided the cost into room or section



repairs. According to the proposal, each donor would undertake the cost of the repair of one or more rooms/ sections. The cost per room/ section was estimated to be between 5,000 to 57,000 Euros. Outside each room/ section repaired, a plaque would be placed, with the name of the donor. A complete donors list would also be placed at the entrance of the building. Since March 2011, CRCS has received various donations from companies, organizations and individuals, and takes this opportunity to thank them profoundly. The first phase of the renovation is expected to be completed in the first half of year 2013.

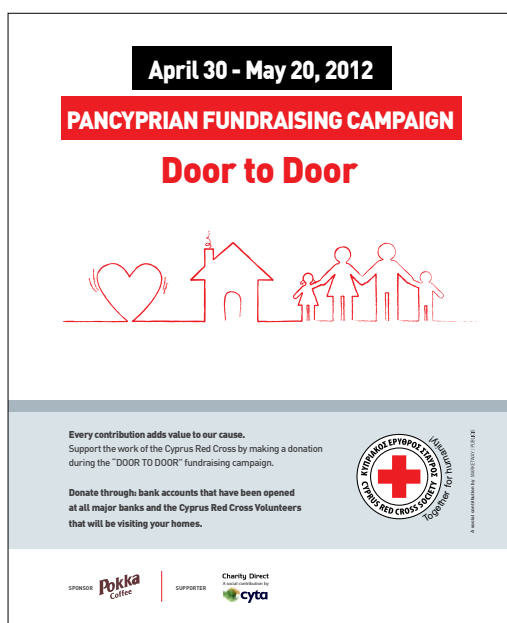
Contact details

Cyprus Red Cross Children Therapy Centre
Stella Soulioti
P.O. Box 55263, 3820 Limassol
Tel.: 25334024, Fax: 25333466
Email: home@redcross.org.cy

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

The rich and multifaceted work of the CRCS is the result of the active involvement and enthusiasm of its members and volunteers, which in 2012 was expressed through a large variety of activities, campaigns and events. A significant number of the CRCS' activities were actualized on a long-term basis. Several short-term events also took place throughout the year. The size of the activities was determined by their goals, duration and geographic coverage. Most of the activities were primarily aimed at the raising of funds in order to enable the CRCS to provide various forms of assistance to vulnerable groups, and to raise social awareness on a number of important topics that included: Road Safety; Blood Donation; First Aid; the Environment; and Disaster Management. Other activities included: fundraising, tracing and restoring family links services, training of volunteers, promoting relationships at the international level, administrative and organizational issues, as well as a variety of activities conducted by the CRCS.

PAN CYPRIAN "DOOR TO DOOR" FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



The annual "Door to Door" fundraising campaign took place from 30 April to 20 May 2012. The Campaign's new sponsor was P.C. Splash Water Ltd with Pokka Coffee. The Campaign was launched on 4 May 2012 by H.E. Dr. Stavros Malas, the Minister of Health, in the presence of CRCS President, Fotini Papadopoulos. The total amount raised was 207.995 Euros. Proceeds from the Campaign were allocated towards the operational costs of the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti, as well as numerous other CRCS programmes. Once again, the "Door to Door" fundraising campaign provided also the CRCS with the opportunity to promote its aims and activities, as well to offer Cypriots the opportunity to be part of a humanitarian society. On Monday, 9 July 2012, the CRCS President hosted in the gardens of her residence the

closing ceremony of the fundraising campaign to thank and honour the individuals, public authorities and organizations



that had contributed to the success of the Campaign, with commemorative gifts, shields and certificates.

Additional events of the Door to Door fundraising Campaign - Event by the Kyrenia Branch

On the occasion of the fundraising Campaign "From Door to Door", the Kyrenia Branch organized an event on Saturday, 12 May 2012, at The Mall of Cyprus in Nicosia. The event was launched by the CRCS President Fotini Papadopoulos and was attended, amongst others, by the Vice President and the Director General of CRCS, Leda Koursoumba and Takis Neophytou, respectively, the President of the Kyrenia Branch Maroulla Angelides, the President of the Youth Section Despo Frederickou, CRCS members and volunteers and many others. The event included a programme with gymnastic demonstrations by the Jojo Fitness and Passion Gym, dancing by the Anita Hadjieftychiou Dance Studio, and music by DJ Tryfon Anastasiades, which offered an excellent entertainment to the participants.

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

2012 - EUROPEAN YEAR OF ACTIVE AGEING AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS



2012 was designated by the EU as the European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between the Generations. It is recognized by all concerned that the life expectancy of the current generation of the Europeans has improved substantially; they live longer and are healthier than ever. Active ageing can give the post-war generation and tomorrow's older people the following opportunities:

- To continue working and sharing their experience
- To continue their active participation in the society
- To live healthily and to be able to satisfy their wishes

In societies where the number of older people is continuously increasing, active ageing also constitutes a basic factor for the maintenance of solidarity between the generations. The improvement of opportunities for active ageing in general and for independent living constitute challenges for the politicians and the interested parties, as they are called on to act in areas completely new, such as occupation, sanitary care, social services, adult training, volunteerism, accommodation and transportation. The European Year sought to sensitize its citizens in above matters and to encourage all relevant organizations to develop an effective policy, as well as encourage all interested members to set appropriate objectives and undertake all necessary actions to ensure that they are achieved.

The European Union called on all parties concerned that during 2012 they should move away from words and take

all necessary action in order to achieve tangible results. On the occasion of the European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between the Generations, CRCS dedicated its 2012 Desk Calendar to this project.

CHRISTMAS CARDS



Taking into consideration the economic crisis, as well as the fact that demand for printed cards had been reduced to almost the minimum, the CRCS decided not to print new cards and to dispose its old stock, in order to make available all the proceeds to its humanitarian work. The new cards were offered in nice plastic packaging. The proceeds amounted to 1.600 Euros.

FIRST AID AND BLOOD DONATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

First Aid is a traditional Red Cross activity because of its contribution to the survivors of accidents and other emergency situations, while in many other situations may even save lives. Therefore, the CRCS's goal is to raise public awareness and participation in the First Aid courses and training that it offers. In order to promote further First Aid activities and also coordinate and give the necessary importance to blood donation - another Red Cross traditional activity - the First Aid and Blood Donation Committee organized a considerable number of activities for the CRCS members and volunteers, as well as for the general public.

FIRST AID COURSES

The First Aid courses that the CRCS has been offering since 2007 are being regularly updated. The decision to continue offering and upgrading First Aid courses was taken because of the constantly increasing demands and the need for well-qualified personnel to administer First Aid. The considerable increase in the number of road accidents, as well as the wide availability and increased utilization of mechanical and electrical machinery, both at home and at work, which in turn increase the risk of accidents and injuries were additional reasons.

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

CRCS is one of the official providers of First Aid Training at Work



and holder of a certificate issued by the Department of Labour Inspection of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance, to offer the following two training programmes:

- First Aid at Work - Emergency Incidents (6hour course), and
- First Aid at Work (18 hour course)

Embracing the slogan “First Aid save lives”, CRCS organized 20 First Aid courses, in Greek and in English, for Cypriots and foreigners, including migrants. The total number of persons trained was 170. The Society also upgraded and enriched its First Aid training programmes and materials through cooperation and support from the IFRC, the British and the Hellenic Red Cross.

WORLD FIRST AID DAY



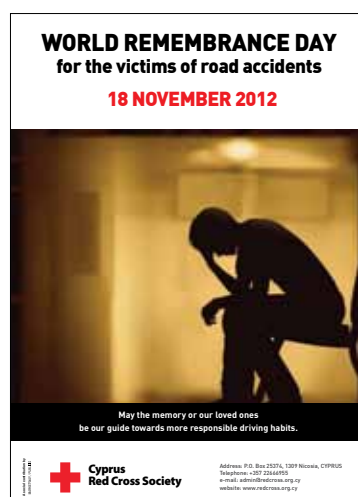
First Aid is an act of charity and the availability of First Aid is not only very important but essential and saves tens of million lives each year all over the world. Red Cross/ Red Crescent National Societies have been recognized as the most important suppliers of First Aid services and training in the world. On the occasion of the World First Aid Day that was celebrated on Saturday, 8 September 2012, (every second Saturday of September each year) CRCS circulated a dedicated poster that called on the public to learn First Aid and to always have a First Aid kit at home, in their car, and at work. The poster’s slogan was “Do not remain inactive – save and protect human lives!”

ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Since 2008, CRCS has been organizing events on Road Safety in order to reduce the number of victims due to road accidents. In 2009, CRCS became a member of the European Charter on Road Safety. The objective of the new European and now World campaign, 2010 - 2020, is to reduce the number of victims from road accidents by 50 per cent. The CRCS slogan on Road Safety is:

“YOU’VE ONLY GOT ONE LIFE! TAKE CARE”

WORLD REMEMBRANCE DAY FOR THE VICTIMS OF ROAD ACCIDENTS



On Sunday, 18 November 2012, CRCS observed the World Remembrance Day for the victims of road accidents (every third Sunday of November) by publishing a poster and distributing it, among others, to all schools and governmental buildings throughout

the island. A relevant press release was also circulated to the media.

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (DMC)

Meeting and cooperation with the Civil Defence

On the 26 July 2012, CRCS's officials had a meeting with the Civil Defence Governor in order to strengthen and coordinate the cooperation between the two parties. The main subject of the meeting was the possible arrival of refugees from Syria. Other areas of discussion were the equipment, maps of Cyprus, radios, contact details etc. The two parties agreed to stay in touch and cooperate in case of an emergency.

CRCS on red alert for possible arrival of refugees from Syria

In July 2012, due to the escalation of hostilities in Syria, CRCS implemented the Assessment Mission's action plan for readiness in case of mass arrivals in Cyprus of third-country nationals leaving Syria and possibly some Syrian refugees as well. The Branches and the Youth Section were kept informed of current developments and were asked to increase their level of readiness, to inform their volunteers as well the psychosocial support instructors to be on the alert. CRCS held a number of meetings with all the relevant governmental bodies and the Civil Defense; all the necessary catalogues and lists regarding emergencies were checked and updated. CRCS also informed the IFRC Europe Zone accordingly, which prepared three possible action plans and confirmed that they would help with personnel and material in case more than 50,000 individuals arrived in Cyprus. According to the plan, during the first phase, the Larnaca Airport and the Port would be activated handling up to 10,000 individuals per day. Fortunately, at the end the whole preparation became just a very good exercise for all the teams involved, since the decrease of hostilities in Syria gradually defused the situation, and refugees moved by land to other neighboring countries.

Other DMC Activities

During 2012, the Committee participated in the meetings and activities of the ESTIA and ARGONAFITIS disaster relief plans. The Committee took the first steps in securing the required equipment, organizing the CRCS stores, establishing teams for emergency intervention throughout Cyprus; it also promoted the establishment

of a Psychosocial Support unit. Some of its members were sent abroad for training and others participated in the European Civil Protection Assessment Mission Course. The Committee has been working very intensively in order to be ready in case of an emergency. Amongst others, it has organized or participated in the following:

"ARGONAFITIS" EXERCISE

Argonaftis is the largest national emergency and disaster management exercise which takes place in Cyprus once a year with the participation of the National Guard, Government Ministries and NGO's, including the CRCS. The first preparations for the 2012 exercise started in March and April when details were discussed and roles assigned among the participants. The exercise took place from 9 to 12 October 2012, at the port of Larnaca. It was observed by about 60 representatives from different countries, from eight embassies, by the new Head of the National Guard and many other Cypriot stakeholders. The CRCS's participation was very visible and drew many positive comments. The CRCS had an impressive participation and had a booth with all the necessary equipment which could be needed in case of an emergency. In addition to the members and volunteers from Larnaca Branch, other volunteers from the CRCS Headquarters responsible for psychosocial support, tracing (locating missing persons and restoring family links) and first aid were also available. Particularly impressive was the banner of the CRCS presenting all the humanitarian activities of its Disaster Management Committee through relevant text and photos.

ASSESSMENT MISSION COURSES



ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

CRCS is also actively involved in the exercises organized by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus within the framework of Crisis Management Training of the various members of the European Union. These exercises take place three to four times a year. At these training sessions, individuals from other countries also take part. Until 2011, the training was undertaken by the German companies Technisches Hilfswerk and Johanniter International Assistance, in cooperation with the Cyprus Civil Defence, under the umbrella of the Ministry of the Interior. As of 2012, and with the old contract expiring, the training will be undertaken by the Cyprus Civil Defence in collaboration with the two German companies. CRCS as an auxiliary member of the Cyprus Civil Defence, takes part in the training. On 25 April 2012, members of the Assessment Mission Course from various EU countries, consisting of four trainees and one leader, came to the CRCS Headquarters, where Mr. Costakis Constantinides and Mr. Achilleas Kontos, CRCS volunteers and DM Committee members, provided them with a presentation on a scenario of an earthquake in the southwest of the island and what CRCS would do and what kind of assistance CRCS would need from the countries of Europe in order to cope with the crisis.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT WAREHOUSE



The Disaster Management Committee (DMC) focused on the study and continued the purchase of the necessary equipment for the demands of the new large Disaster Management warehouse that was built in 2011. The equipment that was purchased during 2012 contained a large number of blankets, a forklift, maps of different areas of Cyprus, fire extinguishers, first aid kits etc.

CLIMATE CHANGE



Among other priorities CRCS is very sensitive for and concerned with environmental issues. Accordingly, during 2012, CRCS focused its programming, among others, on the following priorities and activities:

- Tree planting campaigns
- Participation in Government's public awareness efforts
- Activities promoting the acquisition of water saving practices
- Activities promoting energy saving
- Organization and participation in relevant events in Cyprus
- Participation in events abroad
- Relevant announcements, articles, leaflets, posters etc.

EXCURSION TO MEXICO



CRCS continuing its tradition of organizing annual excursions for its members and friends with visits during the last years to Sri Lanka, China, India and a cruise to the Western Mediterranean, organized an excursion to Mexico from 25 May and 6 June 2012. The success of the CRCS's previous excursions, attracted

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

36 friends who participated in the excursion to Mexico, most of whom knew each other from past excursions. Visiting the land of tequila, sombreros, tacos, cacti, the Aztecs and the Mayans has evolved into a pleasant experience with unforgettably beautiful impressions, from the city of Mexico, Cuernavaca, Taxco, Cholula and Puebla and, finally, from the exotic resort of Cancun, on the Caribbean Sea. The great and world famous Anthropological Museum of Mexico City, the pyramids of the Sun and Moon in Teotihuacan, the impressive basilica with the miraculous image of the Virgin of Guadalupe, the palaces, the cathedrals, the ancient cities Chichen Itza and Tulum, the folkloric ballet and other performances, helped the travelers to get to know the long history and rich culture of the country. The excellent programme of the excursion was made complete with the many social and other activities, such as the impressive visit and meeting with the Mexican Red Cross, the visit to an institution for children with cancer, the ceremony held at Anahuac University, which maintains a Cyprus Chair, created by the Leventis Foundation, and much more, that were further embellished by the warm hospitality and constant care afforded us by the Ambassador of Cyprus in Mexico H.E. Mr. Vasilis Philippou. All 36 excursionists returned back very excited and enthusiastic, looking forward to the next CRCS excursion. The CRCS President hosted a dinner for the excursionists where they shared photographs from the excursion.

ALLSPICE, CINNAMON AND CELEBRATION CONCERT



The title of the Concert "Allspice, Cinnamon and Celebration" of the two top Greek artists, Alkistis Protopsalti and Evanthia Reimboutsika, is taken from a song featured in the film "Politiki Kouzina" (Recipes from Constantinople). CRCS organized two charity

concerts, which were vastly enhanced by Alkistis Protopsaltis and her magical voice, and by Evanthia Reimboutsika and her unique compositions and violin playing. The lucky music fans experienced a superb musical event. The combination of Alkistis Protopsaltis beautiful voice and Evanthia Reimboutsika's superb music was truly magnificent. The concerts were held on 4 July, at the Makarios III Amphitheatre, and on 6 July, at the Kourion ancient amphitheater. Both concerts were sold out. The Nicosia concert was under the auspices of the Minister of Education and Culture, H.E. Mr. George Demosthenous. The major sponsors of the concerts were – OPAP Cyprus and the law firm Andreas Neocleous & Co. Ant1 Cyprus and the newspaper Phileleftheros were the media sponsors. The Niche, Phil Andreou Group, the Central Cooperative Bank Ltd, Nicos and Elpida Shacolas Foundation, Charalambos Pilakoutas Ltd, G4S Secure Solutions Cyprus Ltd, Remedica, PG Economides & Co Ltd, Total Serve Management Ltd, Ironfix Financial Services Company Ltd and the Iordanis Coaches were supporters. Cyprus Airways were the official carriers and hotel accommodation sponsors were Le Meridien and Curium Palace. CRCS would like to thank ThoC (Cyprus Theatre Organization), the Department of Antiquities and the Episkopi Community Council for their support and assistance. The net proceeds from the concerts were given to the Nicosia and Limassol Branches.

2012 LUCKY CHARMS



Michalakis Aloupas Jewellers Ltd specially designed, produced and donated to CRCS, 2000 silver 2012 Lucky Charms. The charms were sold by CRCS at 15 Euros each; the proceeds were used for CRCS's charitable activities. CRCS extends warm thanks to Michalakis

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

Aloupas Jewellers Ltd for their very generous donation. The total net revenue from the sale was approximately 14.000 Euros.

SPORT RELIEF MILE 2012



The British High Commission (BHC) in Cyprus, the Nicosia Cycling Association (NCA) and the CRCS organized the charity event One Mile for the Red Cross, which took place at the Athalassa Park on Saturday morning, 24 March 2012. The Sport Relief Mile is an annual charity event organized by the BHC. The event, held on the occasion of the London Olympics, included cycling competitions for children and youngsters aged 6 – 15 and 15 – 20, organized by the NCA. Those who did not want to cycle but still wanted to participate, walked the distance of 1,5km in the wonderful environment of the park with H.E. Mr. Mathew Kidd, the British High Commissioner, the CRCS Vice President Leda Koursoumba, other Ambassadors, as well as other officials leading the walk. Very many others simply applauded the athletes, while enjoying a wonderful day in the countryside and supporting a good cause. Each participant (cyclist or walker) collected as many sponsors as possible who supported his/ her effort with a monetary contribution. The net proceeds of 3.200 Euros were divided equally between CRCS and the Cyprus Paralympic Commission.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SEMINARS TO CRCS MEMBERS

Within the framework of the ongoing training of its volunteers, CRCS organized two seminars on Psychosocial Support, led by Dr Cemile Mustafa and Mr George Hadjievangelou. The first one was held in Larnaca on 17 March 2012 and was attended by 24 members of the Larnaca and Famagusta Branches. The second one, held in Nicosia on 21 April 2012, was

attended by 18 members of the Nicosia and Kyrenia Branches.

The following topics, among others, were presented and analyzed:

- Crisis and psychosocial Support
- Stress and coping
- Loss and grief
- Community-based psychosocial support
- Supportive communication
- Children and psychosocial support
- Supporting the CRCS staff and volunteers

ANDREAS CHARALAMBIDES PAINTING



The famous Cypriot artist Andreas Charalambides from Paphos, as a token of his appreciation for the humanitarian work done by CRCS, donated one of his paintings to be auctioned for the benefit of the CRCS. The painting was finally sold at the amount of 10.000 Euros.

A CHARITY EVENT BY THE KYRENIA SEA SCOUTS

On the occasion of the World Thinking Day (22 February) the Kyrenia Sea Scouts organized on Saturday, 18 February 2012, a fund raising event at The Mall of Cyprus, in Nicosia. Each year the Scouts, honoring the memory of their founder, Lord Baden Powel, organize a charity event. For 2012, the Scouts decided to donate the collected amount to CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti because the very first Centre was founded and operated in Kyrenia from 1957 until 1974. The event

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was attended, among others, by the CRCS Director General Takis Neophytou and the Kyrenia Branch President Maroulla Angellides.

CHARITY FASHION SHOW



On June 13, 2012, the Youth Section organized an Afternoon Tea with Fashion Show in the gardens of the residence of Mrs Maro Efstathiadou, member of the Central Committee of YS. The fashion designer was the President of the YS Kyrenia Regional Committee, Sandy Antoniou, who presented her collection "Spring and Summer 2012". The event aimed at raising funds, which in turn would be used to help families in need. The total amount raised was 5.000 Euros.

FASHION IN RED - MADAME FIGARO AND CRCS

For the second year in a row, a photo shoot was organized by Madame Figaro, the well known women's magazine, and CRCS. The objective was to photograph ten eminent ladies of the Cyprus society, modeling clothes and accessories from various boutiques, jewelers and other companies of the island and publishing them in the magazine. The proceeds were used for the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti. The project was very successful and 3.200 Euros (donations of the participating boutiques and jewellery shops) were collected. CRCS expresses sincere thanks to all who contributed to the success of the activity, particularly to those that contributed financially.

TRACING SERVICES – RESTORING FAMILY LINKS

Every year, thousands of family members are separated by conflicts, disasters or migration. People suffer terribly

when they lose contact with their loved ones and don't know where they are or whether they are safe. The ICRC and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies work together around the world to locate people and put them back into contact with their relatives. Tracing activities may extend well beyond the end of a conflict or a natural disaster. As members of the Family Links Network of the Movement, National Societies, including the CRCS, cooperated with the Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC in Geneva in order to restore contact between family members. The CRCS offered its tracing services to several refugees and asylum seekers living in Cyprus and also was very successful in reuniting a Turkish lady who was finally located in the occupied part of Cyprus, with her sister in Germany.

COOKBOOK "DIPLOMATIC SERVICE"



The British High Commission for a second time in 2012, expressed its support to the humanitarian work of the CRCS, by preparing a "diplomatic service" cookbook. The cookbook was presented during a special event in the gardens of the residence of H.E High Commissioner, Mr. Matthew Kidd, on 18 October 2012. The cookbook contains recipes for canapes, excellent culinary created by Mrs Christina Auxentiou, a member of the BHC staff. Proceeds amounted to 1.335 Euros and were donated to the CRCS for the implementation of its humanitarian work.

ART EXHIBITION AND AUCTION "CROSS THE RED"

Fundraising for charitable purposes is increasingly becoming more and more difficult because many charity organizations have been addressing their appeals for

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

funding to the same potential donors. The Nicosia Branch took yet again a new initiative for fund raising



with the Art Exhibition and Auction «Cross the Red», organized in cooperation with Alpha Gallery and Alpha Zmart Auctions, which took place on June 6, 2012. The exhibition was inaugurated by the Mayor of Nicosia, H.E. Mr. Constantine Yiorkadjis. Hundreds of Cypriot artists have created and donated 105 works of art created specifically for the Red Cross, which were sold at a silent auction. The President of the Nicosia Branch, Mr. Marina Demades, in the introduction of the exhibition catalogue, thanked everyone who participated and contributed to the great success of the event: the E.KA.TE., the Alpha Zmart Auctions, DIAS and the magazine Time Out, the Bubbles Design, Vassos Stylianou Photographs, Cube Productions, Reset Films, Exclusive Catering and all the artists. The proceeds which amounted to 28.000 Euros were given to the Nicosia Branch of the CRCS for its humanitarian work.

CHARITY FASHION SHOW

On 10 October 2012 a fashion show was organized by Splash Boutique in cooperation with the CRCS Nicosia Branch at the residence of the Ambassador of Italy in Cyprus, H.E. Mr. Alfredo Bastianelli and Mrs. Bastianelli. The event was attended by many CRCS officials, Ambassadors and many others. CRCS thanked everyone who participated and contributed to the great success of the event: the Melford Services Ltd, John Frieda, Varnavas Hadjipanayis Ltd, Hadjihannas Corporate Services Ltd, Coca Cola light, MGI Gregoriou & Sia,

Savero Trading Ltd, Landas Colour, Minimal Flower, Champagne & Strawberries, Bubbles Design, Cube Productions, Cyprus Airways, Mega Tv, Fileleftheros, Omikron magazine, Michalis Orfanides - Senior Make-up artist of Beauty Line shops and Stratos Demetriou. The total proceeds of 15.000 Euros were given to the CRCS Nicosia Branch for the implementation of its humanitarian work.

CHRISTMAS LOVE CAMPAIGN



The CRCS followed with concern the escalating deterioration of the financial situation of Cyprus during the second half of 2012. Because of this, and the consequent increase of the humanitarian needs, a “Christmas Love Campaign” was organized, in order

to meet the humanitarian needs of the increasing number of persons affected adversely from the financial crisis. During the Campaign the CRCS distributed nationwide approximately 2,000 packages of love, including more than 20 food items each, for a total cost of € 150,000. During 2012, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture, additional 896 packages were distributed to all needy children attending the 126 elementary schools of Nicosia district. This assistance was in addition to the breakfasts which are offered by the CRCS Youth Section to needy students of Secondary Schools. Although a large amount of food items were received from the hundreds of people, companies and organizations who responded to CRCS's appeal, most of the cost was covered by the CRCS. CRCS expressed warm thanks to them and its dozens of members and volunteers who worked for many days and hours in order to prepare and deliver the food packets in time, sometimes in very remote isolated villages of the district of Nicosia.

BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

NICOSIA BRANCH



Throughout 2012, the CRCS Nicosia Branch continued the implementation of its humanitarian activities despite the economic recession. Volunteers have been the backbone of the Nicosia Branch since its establishment. Today, they are the driving force for the Branch's activities, contributing to the implementation of its programme and assisting thousands of vulnerable people during this time of need. In 2012, a considerable number of the members of the Nicosia Branch were actively involved in the programme of activities of the Branch and CRCS Headquarters.

ENCLAVED PEOPLE

The Branch assisted the enclaved people visiting the free areas of Cyprus by facilitating their access to public services and by providing food to those visiting the CRCS premises in Nicosia.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Branch provided humanitarian assistance to individuals and families, such as food, clothing, footwear, food and diapers for children, refurbished furniture and more. This effort was particularly intensified over the Christmas and Easter periods. More than 770 families were assisted by the Branch at a total cost of 42.500,00 Euros for the period 2012. In addition, the Nicosia Branch also contributed 7.130,74 Euros for several causes. At a local level, students, individuals and families were the beneficiaries, whereas internationally, victims of various disasters received such support through the Branch's positive response to the calls of IFRC.

AID ON SITE

During 2012, the Branch organized visits to aid applicants at hospitals and homes. During home visits, humanitarian assistance, including food, clothing and footwear, was given. Those with most need also received psychosocial support. Moreover, the Branch arranged visits to prisons where such support was required.

MEDICAL AID

The Branch covered the travelling and part of the medical expenses of individuals requiring emergency travel for medical treatment abroad. In addition, the Branch provided financial assistance to individuals in need during their recovery period.

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

Wheelchairs and mobility equipment were provided to the poor and disabled individuals, free of charge. Wheelchairs were also offered for rental to the public at a very low cost and for limited periods of time. During 2012, a total of 280 wheelchairs were offered.

SUPPORT SCHEME TO MIGRANTS

A group of volunteers visited the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers at Kofinou on a monthly basis, offering humanitarian assistance such as food and clothing and psychosocial support, as needed. In addition, a group of volunteers was recruited to pay home visits to migrants and provide similar services. The Branch continued with its successful "humanitarian support scheme" during which, a large numbers of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers visited the Branch, twice a week, receiving food and clothing. Medical support was also provided for emergency cases.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

During 2012, the major annual fundraising activities of the Branch were successful and generated considerable income. Those included a big concert by well-known artists

BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

Alkistis Protopsalti and Evanthia Reboutsika, a fashion show, two large bazaars, tea and bingo night, exhibition and auction night and a door-to-door fundraising campaign.

BLOOD DONATION

In May of 2012, the Branch assisted with the implementation of the opening ceremony of the Pancyprian Fundraising Campaign "Door to Door" in relation to the blood donation campaign. The Branch also participated at blood donation activities hosted by other organizations.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch participated in the Seminar on Psychosocial Support that was organized from the CRCS Headquarters, on 21 April 2012, in Nicosia, and was attended by 18 members of the Nicosia and Kyrenia Branches.

LIMASSOL BRANCH



During 2012 the Limassol Branch continued to provide humanitarian assistance to individuals and families of Limassol and the district. The Branch had 350 members and volunteers during 2012. The Branch assisted and participated

in several activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarters Committees, always in full compliance with the policies of the Movement.

BLOOD DONATION

Initiated in 1969, the blood donation scheme of the Limassol Branch continued throughout the year 2012 with great success, with a total of 2.658 bags of blood collected

in Limassol and Limassol District Schools, which were offered to the Blood Bank of the General Limassol Hospital. Members and volunteers of the Branch offered to all blood donors a sandwich with a bottle of water after their donation. Also, certificates and ID cards were issued to each donor. Once a year a prize is given to the school which offered the most blood units.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

On a daily basis the Limassol Branch continued to offer all kinds of help to individuals, families, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in need. Also, financial aid for medical reasons was been offered in special cases. For Christmas and Easter, special festive food parcels were prepared and offered, 560 in total. During Easter 2012 the Limassol Branch offered to the enclaved children of Rizokarpasso the sum of 1.050,00 Euros. The Branch offered breakfast to 105 students during the school period and provided food parcels, bedding, clothing and toys to their families during Easter and Christmas. The Branch also sent humanitarian aid in kind to Greece, such as 150 boxes containing food, blankets, quilts, clothing, as well as Euros 4.400. On 4 August 2012, the representatives of the Limassol Branch during a visit to the Oncological section of the General Limassol Hospital noticed that certain parts needed restoration and refurbishment, especially the Chemotherapy department. Accordingly, 10.392 Euros was made available to cover the expenses for the required restoration and refurbishment.

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

Throughout 2012 the Limassol Branch provided wheelchairs and mobility equipment to poor and disabled people. Wheelchairs were also made available for rental for a very low fee for a limited period of time. During 2012 the Branch offered 62 wheelchairs and 19 items of mobility equipment.

HOME VISIT SCHEME

The main target of this scheme was to visit who had commuting problems because of disability. Their needs were noted and the individuals concerned were provide as

BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

much assistance as possible. Visits included hospitals, old people's homes, families and individuals, covering Limassol and the District.

FUNDRAISING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

The main fundraising event was our Pancyprian Door To Door Collection. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations received at funerals in memoriam, as well as donations given by individuals. Our pre- Christmas Collection at My Mall Limassol was successful raising a significant amount for the school children's breakfast scheme.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

In October 2012, the official opening of the new premises of the Limassol Branch took place with great attendance by community officials. The Branch has since been fully operational from its new premises.

FAMAGUSTA BRANCH



After its displacement from Famagusta in 1974, the Branch moved its quarters to Larnaca. In 2012, the Branch had more than 325 members and volunteers who, despite the unfavorable conditions, continued to provide humanitarian assistance to people from Famagusta who were dispersed all over the island, as well as to individuals, families and organizations in Larnaca and unoccupied Famagusta. In

addition to providing assistance, the Branch participated in several activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarter Committees in an effort to comply with the policies and the trends of the Movement.

HOME VISIT SCHEME

The Branch has a home visiting programme which includes kindergartens, special schools, homes for the elderly, shelters and other institutions. The Branch Committee responsible for the home visits, implemented monthly visits to poor families. The visits intensified during the Christmas and Easter periods when baskets of food, clothing and toys were provided to 900 individuals and families in Larnaca and unoccupied Famagusta district. The total amount spent for the said purposes amounted to 20.316 Euros.

WHEELCHAIR SCHEME

Provision of wheelchairs to poor and disabled individuals was free of charge. Through this scheme, wheelchairs were also offered for rental to the public at a very low cost for a limited period of time. The Branch offered 25 wheelchairs.

MEDICAL AID

The Branch offered, among others, therapies such as speech therapy, physiotherapy hydrotherapy and psychology services for several children with special needs. Furthermore, in some cases, the Branch covered the cost for medical equipment.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Branch provided baskets to individuals and families in Larnaca and unoccupied Famagusta district. This effort was intensified during the Christmas and Easter periods when baskets of food and clothing were offered to 200 individuals and families. The Branch also covered the

BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

expenses for providing breakfast to several poor students at schools. Additionally, at its premises the Branch continued supporting vulnerable migrants, asylum seekers and refugees by providing food, clothing and footwear. In many cases, financial assistance was also provided to students and other individuals in need. The Branch also contributed to the appeals of the Movement to alleviate the suffering of victims of various disasters. The total amount spent for the said purposes amounted to 18.495 Euros.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2012, the major annual fundraising activities of the Branch were successful and generated considerable income to the Branch - specifically, the organization of a fundraising Tea Party, as well as the major fundraising campaign of the CRCS, the Pan Cyprian "Door to Door " Collection. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations received from individuals and companies, as well as the donations received in memory of deceased persons.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch participated in the Seminar on Psychosocial Support that was organized by the CRCS Headquarters, on 17 March 2012, in Larnaca, and was attended by 24 members of the Larnaca and Famagusta Branches. The Branch together with the Larnaca Branch offered dinner on 6 November 2012 to all the participants of the PERCO meeting at a traditional tavern in Larnaca.

To the people affected by the crisis in Greece the Branch offered financial assistance in the amount of 1.400 Euros, as well as humanitarian assistance in kind, such as parcels containing food. In addition, the Branch organized a charity lunch, the income from which amounting €525 was donated to a needy Greek family.



SYLVIA POETIS

Our dear Sylvia Poetis, President of the CRCS Famagusta Branch, and a distinguished person in the community, passed away on 29 November 2012, after a short illness. Since her young age, Sylvia was a member of the Youth Section of the Cyprus Red Cross Society, and in 2004 she succeeded her mother as President of the Famagusta Branch. Sylvia was a woman of exemplary character and integrity. Her guiding force in life was to serve fellow citizens. Her death was a great loss not only to her family but also to the members and supporters of the CRCS, who were her great source of joy. The CRCS Council expressed its deepest sorrow for her death and conveyed its heartfelt condolences to her family.

BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

LARNACA BRANCH



In 2012, the Larnaca Branch had 300 members and volunteers who were always committed to their humanitarian work and continued to support the vulnerable people trying to alleviate their human suffering. In addition to providing assistance, the Branch participated in several activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarter Committees in an effort to comply with the policies and the trends of the Movement.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

In addition, the Branch organized humanitarian activities, including help for underprivileged families, children with special needs and provision of monthly meals for 11 poor students in secondary schools. In many cases the Branch provided financial assistance to vulnerable families and individuals. Furthermore, at its premises the Branch continued supporting vulnerable migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, providing food, clothing and footwear. The Branch arranged visits to the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers in Onisilos Centre in Larnaca in an effort to provide humanitarian assistance. The Branch also contributed to the appeals of the Movement to alleviate the suffering of victims of various disasters. The total amount spent for the said purposes amounted to 17,483.00 Euros.

HOME VISIT SCHEME

During the year, the Branch members and volunteers arranged visits to kindergartens and schools, homes for the elderly, children's homes and homes for people with special needs, shelters and other institutions. The visits intensified during the Christmas and Easter periods when baskets of food, clothing and toys were provided to 302 families and individuals in Larnaca and surrounding areas.

MEDICAL AID

Financial assistance was provided to individuals with financial difficulties to cover part of their expenses for medical equipment during their recovery period.

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

Provision of wheelchairs and mobility equipment as well as other special mobility equipment to poor and disabled people was free of charge. Through this scheme, wheelchairs were also offered for rental to the public, at a very low cost, for a limited period of time. The Branch offered 35 wheelchairs and mobility equipment.

BLOOD DONATION

During 2012, the Branch in cooperation with the American Academy school in Larnaca, organized blood donation events, with 29 student participants. The Branch issued certificates and awards to all blood donors.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PREPAREDNESS

Due to the proximity of the Branch to the Larnaca Port and Airport, the Branch participated in several exercises in collaboration with the CRCS Disaster Management Committee and Civil Defense. These exercises were aimed at coping with emergency situations; the one called "Engelados" was an exercise concerning rescue and

BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

support efforts in the event of an earthquake, and the other, "Argonaftis", was a military exercise.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

During 2012, the major annual fundraising activities of the Branch were successful and generated considerable income to the Branch, specifically, the organization of a fundraising Christmas tea party, as well as the major fundraising campaign of the CRCS, the Pan Cyprian "Door to Door" Collection. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations received from individuals and companies, as well as the donations received in memory of deceased persons.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch participated in the Seminar on Psychosocial Support that was organized by the CRCS Headquarters, on 17 March 2012, in Larnaca, and was attended by 24 members of the Larnaca and Famagusta Branches. The Branch also participated in a Seminar on "Developing a Micro-regional Strategy in Mediterranean", which was held on 26 September 2012. The Branch, together with the Famagusta Branch, offered dinner on 6 November 2012 to all the participants of the PERCO meeting at a traditional tavern in Larnaca.

Utilizing the donations received in memory of the husband of the President of the Branch, the Branch continued offering three year scholarships (2010 – 2012) to three African [African] students at the Orthodox Church School of the Archbishopric of Kenya.

To the people affected by the crisis in Greece the Branch offered financial assistance in the amount of 1.600 Euros, as well as humanitarian assistance in kind such as parcels containing food.

The greatest achievement of the Branch was the donation

of a sonographically colour ultrasound machine worth 35.000 Euros to the Urology Department of the Larnaca Hospital, which will help hundreds of our fellow citizens to receive treatment in Larnaca.

PAPHOS BRANCH



In 2012, the Branch had 100 members and volunteers. Despite its relatively small size, the Branch continued to provide humanitarian assistance in Paphos and its district. In addition to providing assistance, the Branch participated in several activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarters Committees in an effort to comply with the policies and the trends of the Movement.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

In many cases, financial assistance was also provided to students, other individuals and families in need. Additionally, at its premises the Branch continued supporting vulnerable migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, providing food, clothing and footwear. Furthermore, due to the prevailing economic crisis, financial assistance and food was also provided to Cypriot families in need. The Branch also contributed to the appeals of the Movement to alleviate the suffering of victims of various disasters. The total amount spent for the said purposes amounted to 32.296,00 Euros.

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HOME VISIT SCHEME

The Branch has a home visiting programme, which includes kindergartens and schools, children's homes, homes for the elderly, homes for people with special needs, shelters and other institutions. The visits intensified during the Christmas and Easter periods when baskets of food, clothing and toys were provided to 250 families and individuals in Paphos and surrounding areas.

WHEELCHAIR SCHEME

Provision of wheelchairs to poor and disabled individuals was free of charge. Through this scheme, wheelchairs were also offered for rental to the public, at a very low cost, for a limited period of time. The Branch offered 15 wheelchairs.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

During 2012 the major annual fundraising activities of the Branch were successful and generated considerable income to the Branch, like the major fundraising campaign of the CRCS, the Pan Cyprian "Door to Door" Collection. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations received from individuals and companies as well as the donations received in memory of deceased persons.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch participated in the Anglican Church Bazar that was organized on 5 December 2012. On

24 December 2012 the Branch organized an event to honor and thank the donors who had contributed financially in order to enable the Branch to build its new premises.

KYRENIA BRANCH



Despite its displaced status, the Kyrenia Branch of the CRCS was very active and had 330 volunteers and members in 2012, whose enthusiasm, initiatives and efforts responded successfully to the humanitarian needs of the displaced Kyrenians who live all over the island, as well as to other individuals in need. Members of the Branch also participated in all CRCS activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarters in compliance with the policies and trends of the Movement.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Branch provided in kind assistance to hundreds of individuals and paid for medical expenses for individuals requiring medical treatment. Financial

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assistance was also provided to students, as well as to other individuals who were adversely affected by the financial crisis and were unable to pay their electricity and other bills. At its premises, the Branch continued to support individuals in need, offering them clothing and footwear. The Branch also responded to appeals of the Movement, and contributed for the alleviation of human suffering of victims of various disasters and crises all over the world. The Branch contributed actively in sending foodstuffs to Greece because of the prevailing financial crisis; the Branch participated also in the effort to provide primary school children and their families in Nicosia district, with everything necessary for a fulsome Christmas dinner. Furthermore, it provided assistance to more than 1100 individuals and families throughout the island. The total amount spent for the said purposes was 27,392.00 Euros.

HOME VISITS

The Branch has a home visiting scheme which includes children's homes and homes for the elderly and, especially, visits to individuals and families coming from Kyrenia district. The visits intensified during the Christmas and Easter seasons when baskets of food, clothing and toys were offered.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The annual fundraising activities of the Branch were successful in 2012 in spite of the financial crisis. They generated considerable income to the Branch and consisted of the annual Tea Party, the Pancyprian

'Door to Door' collection and the Christmas Bazaar at 'Eleftheria' Square in Nicosia. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations by individuals and companies as well as donations received in memory of deceased persons.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PREPAREDNESS

Members of the Branch are actively involved in the Disaster Management Committee and took an active part in the organisation of the new disaster warehouse.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch participated in the Seminar on Psychosocial Support that was organized by the CRCS Headquarters, on 21 April 2012, in Nicosia, and was attended by 18 members of the Kyrenia and Nicosia Branches.

The Branch organized an excursion for the elderly and people living alone on 10 November 2012 to the Saint Kyprianos church in Menico. Tree planting was organized on 24 November 2012 and 200 plants were used to create a park near a newly built school in Engomi Nicosia.

The Elli Sotiropoulou award which is annually given to the best athlete of the third class of the gymnasium of Aglantzia, who is also a volunteer, was also given in 2012, jointly with the CRCS Youth Section.

YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES

The year 2012 was very significant for the Youth Section of the CRCS, which was involved in a variety of actions and activities. Despite the fact that it was affected adversely by the prevailing special situations such as the economic crisis in the country, the Youth Section mobilized, among others, all the departments of CRCS, for undertaking actions within the context of our objective, which is to provide assistance to those who are in need, wherever and whenever needed.



In 2012, the Youth Section numbered 3000 volunteers whose occupation was that of students of elementary and high schools, students of universities and, last but not the least, that of young volunteers. Youth Section's activities have been separated in the following fields:

- Assistance to the people in need
- Events for financial support of the Youth sections
- Training of new volunteers
- Within the purpose of raising the awareness and knowledge of the youth, the Youth Section organized special events concerning several contemporary issues

A. Events for providing assistance

- Expenses for providing breakfast for the secondary

school students who were in need. In 2012, breakfast was provided to 268 students of secondary education, on a daily basis, during the school year, at a total cost of 25.000 Euros.

- Providing assistance by supplying food parcels to families of students of elementary and secondary education who were in need. In a whole perspective, during Easter, 318 packages were offered to certain families, while during Christmas, the number of packages was increased to 1286 packages, for the whole Cyprus.
- In many cases, financial assistance was also provided to students and other individuals in need (travelling expenses for treatment abroad, purchase of books etc).
- Visit to charitable institutions such as the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti and the Christos Stelios Ioannou Foundation. Secondary school students from Agros and Tsireio Gymnasiums visited the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti on 12 December 2012 and offered Christmas gifts to children. Also on 10 December 2012, students from Anthoupolis, Dianellou & Theodotou, Stavros Gymnasiums, Ap. Marcos and Ag. Georgiou Lakatamias Lyceums visited Christos Stelios Ioannou Foundation and offered gifts to the residents.

YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES

B. Events for promoting financial support

- “Door to Door” Pancyprian fundraising campaign. The revenue from the fundraising campaign for 2012 amounted to 70.000 Euros.
- Christmas charity bazaar, tea and fashion show, event at George Theophanous’s music studio.
- Pancyprian Christmas lottery. The lottery tickets were sold by students, members of the Youth Section. The gift of the lottery was a scholarship offered by the Frederick University for the first year of study, in the amount of 3000 Euros.
- Campaign to collect food from supermarkets. The campaign took place on 3 November 2012; the food was collected in order to prepare the Christmas packets for needy families. The supermarkets which supported our effort were Alphamega, Carrefour, Lidl, Athienitis and Metro.
- Campaign in order to collect clothing. The Youth Section, in collaboration with Miele and primary schools in Nicosia, organized a campaign to collect children’s clothing. The Youth Section received a great number of clothes from schools and delivered them to Miele. The laundry service “Hollywood” washed and ironed the clothes with the professional equipment “Miele WetCare”. The handover ceremony of the children’s clothing took place on 4 May 2012 during the official opening ceremony of the “Door to Door” Pancyprian fundraising campaign.

C. Training of new volunteers

Pancyprian Conference 2012

The Pancyprian Youth Section Conference “Enabling the Elderly people and the Role of the Red Cross Youth”

took place on 18 March 2012 at the Laiki Sporting Club in Nicosia. The Conference was addressed by the Minister of Education and Culture, H.E. Dr. George Demosthenous, and the President of the CRCS, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou. Furthermore, the President of the Central Committee of the Youth Section, Mrs. Despo Friderickou, welcomed the participants. Students, who are members of the Red Cross Groups



that the Youth Section had created in gymnasiums and high schools all over Cyprus, participated in the conference. A total number of 350 students from all high schools formed the groups of the conference. The main speakers of the conference were Mrs. Thea Angeli Anayiotou, Operator in subjects of Corporate Social Responsibility, and Mrs. Solomi Christou, Director and Social Operator of “ESTIA” elderly home. Undoubtedly, both of the speeches delivered, had promoted an essential and constructive discussion among the groups, that in a further step were useful in extracting specific and important resolutions, as conclusions for the main issues discussed at the Conference.

“Saturday Children Programme”

This programme is addressed to young people aged 12-18 year old, who gather every Saturday at the

YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES

offices of the Red Cross with the objective to organizing and participating in various events. By 2012, the total number of children had reached 30.

Camp in Lemythou village

Within the context of the camping in Lemythou, 70 children aged 12-15 years old from all cities of Cyprus, had participated in the camping which lasted a week from 3 to 10 July 2012. The main objective of the camp was to give the children the opportunity through an entertaining and simultaneously educational programme to learn more about the Red Cross, by taking a leadership role in their schools, by promoting the spirit of the Red Cross. In addition, the special closing ceremony of the camp was the final day that had been organized by the children. Many CRCS officials attended the special ceremony.

Educational Seminars

The educational seminars of the Youth Section were held on 22 November 2012 at the Lyceum of Archangelos "Apostolos Markos", in Nicosia, and on 23 November 2012 at the Lyceum of Linopetra, in Limassol. The subject of the seminars was "The moral crisis of values nowadays and the role of the Red Cross". Many teachers from secondary schools participated in the seminars. The speakers at the seminars were Mr. Spyros Vliamos, Professor at the University of Athens and University of Neapolis in Paphos, and Mrs. Baitzar Galerian, Professor of Social Work at the University of Frederick.

Informative lectures for the Red Cross in primary and elementary schools.

The aims and objectives of the lectures organized by the Youth Section in primary and secondary schools are to inform students and teachers about the humanitarian work and activities of the Youth Section. In 2012, the Youth Section organized 20 lectures.

D.Events of raising awareness and information for Youth concerning certain contemporary issues

Road Safety

The Youth Section participated in a special event for the road safety campaign that concerned the distribution of mini car's fresheners to students of schools all over Cyprus.

Event for raising awareness of the Youth against sexually transmitted diseases. Our motto: "AIDS DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE, DO YOU?"

The Youth Section event for raising awareness of the Youth concerning sexually transmitted diseases, and specifically against AIDS-HIV, that took place in Faneromeni Square on 1 December 2012, was marked with great success. During the event, the Youth Section created a special kiosk with the aim of the promotion of informative leaflets that had been distributed to the public, with condoms free of charge provided for their protection against sexually transmitted diseases. Furthermore, the programme included, amongst others, performances by various dancing groups. The event was attended by the Honorable Mayor of Nicosia, Mr. Constantinos Yiorkadjis, the CRCS President, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou, the CRCS Vice President, Mrs. Leda Koursoumba, and the CRCS Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

In 2012, the CRCS website, the quarterly Newsletter “Our World” (O Kosmos mas) and the Society’s Facebook page, remained the three basic communication tools, through which the CRCS remained in contact with thousands of members, volunteers and friends in Cyprus and abroad. Furthermore, several other communication activities were used by the CRCS, including media relations activities, radio and TV interviews, press releases, public speeches, TV advertising, print ads and other promotional materials, such as a Power Point presentations in Greek and English on the work of CRCS, the 2012 desk calendar etc.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER “OUR WORLD” (O KOSMOS MAS)



In 2012, the CRCS continued to issue the CRCS Newsletter “Our World” (O Kosmos mas), which constitutes a milestone in its communication policy. It opens up a window of communication with CRCS executives, members, volunteers, friends and collaborators. At the same time it constitutes another step and link in the chain which binds together all those espousing the Red Cross principles and values.

The Newsletter is published every three months in Greek and in English. The Newsletter which is both in print and electronic form, in spite of its limited number of pages, contains a lot of interesting material, with a large number of photographs and articles, which are all very informative on the work and activities of CRCS. It is mailed free of charge to CRCS executives, members, volunteers, friends and CRCS collaborators. It is sent by mail and in electronic form, and is also posted on the CRCS website (www.redcross.org.cy) which makes it accessible overseas as well.

MONTHLY DIARY OF EVENTS

In 2012 the CRCS continued its initiative to prepare a monthly diary of events. The diary is a powerful tool that provides information on the planned activities for each month. It is distributed to the members of the Executive Committee, to all the Branches and Youth Section and the Home for Disabled Children, informing them on the upcoming events of the month.

WEBSITE

A major accomplishment of the CRCS in the field of information and communication was the creation of

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

the Society's website www.redcross.org.cy in 2007. The website, which was originally prepared in two languages, Greek and English, is a gateway through which a visitor can obtain information and facts, become aware of CRCS activities and have access to considerable amount of photographic and other material. It is well known that the most difficult task, after setting up a website, is to keep it up to date, something we have been able to manage regularly. The second important achievement (May 2008) was that, the information on the website was also made available in Turkish, enabling our Turkish Cypriot compatriots to receive information on the CRCS in their own language.

DESK CALENDARS



In December 2012, a large number of 2013 Desk Calendars were printed both in Greek and English languages, promoting the European Year of Citizens

2013. The calendars were distributed free of charge to CRCS members and associates and a small number of copies were sent to the Red Cross Headquarters in Geneva, as well as Brussels, Budapest and other RC/RC National Societies.

CONTINUATION OF THE CRCS

MARKETWAY/PUBLICIS COLLABORATION

The CRCS continued its collaboration with Marketway/Publicis. Since 2009, the agency has acted as the communication and publicity consultant for all CRCS activities, free of charge. The CRCS expresses its warm thanks to Mrs. Barbara Petropoulou - Lillikas, Managing Director of Marketway/Publicis and all the members of the staff for their generous and valuable assistance and support in promoting with great success the CRCS programmes and humanitarian work.

FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL INFORMATION

The overall financial position of the CRCS for 2012 can be considered as satisfactory though as it was expected it was affected by the adverse economic conditions that prevailed in the country during the year. The CRCS activities were funded exclusively from donations and fundraising events and the year closed with a surplus of income over expenditure. The CRCS Headquarters, which used to be financed in the past almost entirely by the financial assistance received from the United Nations agencies and programmes, in 2012 had to rely almost exclusively on their own financial resources as the financial assistance from the UN agencies and programmes had been reduced to a token amount. In 2012, the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti (former Home for Sick Children) was supported again by the annual subvention from the Cyprus Government, which together with funds from other donations covered its total expenditure. The financial results of the Branches and the Youth Section varied from unit to unit. In total, however, all the units together had a comfortable surplus for the year.

CRCS PERSONNEL

Although CRCS is a purely voluntary organization and its extensive activities are carried out by several thousands of members and volunteers, its mission could not be accomplished without the significant administrative support, coordination and contribution of CRCS Staff. As with prior years, in 2012 CRCS employed a relatively small number of staff as follows:

Head Offices:

Director General - Takis Neophytou
Secretary - Thalia Vourkidou
Head of Accounts Department - Christiana Eliades
Administration Officer - Androulla Angelidou
Administration Officer - Neophyta Christodoulou
Messenger/ Driver - Sofoklis Sofokleous
Cleaner - Vasiliki Michael

Nicosia Branch:

Administration Officer - Eleni Panayiotou
Messenger/Driver - Andreas Paraskeva (until February 2012)
General officer/ messenger - Michalis Neophytou (from September 2012)

Limassol Branch:

Administration Officer - Stella Philippou

Famagusta Branch:

Administration Officer - Cornilia Zografou

Larnaca Branch:

Administration Officer - Maria Lambrou

Paphos Branch:

Administration Officer - Elli Sokratous

Youth Section:

Administration Officer - Lenia Michaelidou (until April 2012)
Administration Officer - Andrea Loizou

Children Therapy Centre:

Matron - Katerina Christodoulou
Assistant Matron - Constantina Prapa Savoulla
Physiotherapists: Dena Palazi, Eleni Savva and Pantelis Constantinou
Speech Therapist: Elena Ioannou
Occupational Therapists: Andreas Nikola and Stavroulla Charalambous
Cleaner - Margarita Constantinou
Cleaner - Isabella Rozou Constantinou

FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL INFORMATION

Retiring members of CRCS staff



Mr. Andreas Paraskeva had offered humanitarian help to his fellow citizens and CRCS for the past 17 years. Mrs. Lenia Michaelidou had provided huge services for many years to CRCS, especially the Youth Section.

The CRCS President and the members of the Council expressed their sincere thanks for their very long and dedicated services and contribution to the CRCS. The two CRCS retiring staff members, Lenia Michaelidou and Andreas Paraskeva, were honoured on 9 July 2012 and were presented with commemorative plaques during the closing ceremony of the "Door to Door" fundraising campaign.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

The CRCS's annual membership fee is 10 Euros.

CRCS VICE PRESIDENT ACTING AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC TO THE UNDP-ACT

Since 2009, Mrs. Leda Koursoumba, Vice President of the Society, has been representing the President of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations Development Programme – Action for Cooperation and Trust (UNDP-ACT), a position previously held by the late Stella Soulioti, Honorary President of the Society. Mrs. Koursoumba continued during 2012 to sign on behalf of the President of the Republic of Cyprus all the UNDP-ACT bi-communal programmes that concerned the Government and chaired the UNDP-ACT meetings which were hosted by the CRCS at the premises of its Headquarters in Nicosia.

UNDP-ACT project

The goal of the programme is to contribute towards a strengthened culture of cooperation and trust amongst all segments of the Cypriot society. In 2012, the UNDP-ACT continued its assistance to the CRCS and provided 35.000 Euros for the period October 2011- September 2012, which was utilized by the CRCS in offering goods and equipment such as wheel chairs, walking aids, pharmaceutical and other medical supplies for the needy, the sick and handicapped persons.

EMAIL ADDRESSES OF THE BRANCHES AND YOUTH SECTION

On 16 February 2012 the CRCS Council decided that every Branch and the Youth Section should secure the necessary technical equipment and facilities (a computer, connection to the internet as well as an email address) for their communication with the Headquarters and among themselves.

CRCS Branches and the Youth Section can be contacted at the following email addresses:

Nicosia Branch: nicosia@redcross.org.cy
Limassol Branch: limassol@redcross.org.cy
Famagusta Branch: famagusta@redcross.org.cy
Larnaca Branch: larnaca@redcross.org.cy
Paphos Branch: paphos@redcross.org.cy
Kyrenia Branch: kyrenia@redcross.org.cy
Youth Section: youth@redcross.org.cy

LIMASSOL BRANCH NEW PREMISES INAGURATION CEREMONY



FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL INFORMATION

On 20 October 2012, the Limassol Branch of the CRCS inaugurated its new premises situated at 119 Ayias Filaxeos street. Present at the ceremony was the Mayor of Limassol, the Honourable Mr. Andreas Christou, the Bishop of Amathus, His Eminence Nikolaos and many other representatives of the local authorities, as well as members and friends of the CRCS and the Limassol Branch. In a brief speech, the President of the Branch, Mrs. Stathoula Sykopetritis, stated, inter alia, that this major project was made possible thanks to the donation of Maximos and Alkistis Michaelides, members of the Branch, who had offered €10.000 (17.000 Euros) 32 years ago.

FENCING OF THE CRCS HEADQUARTERS'S BUILDING

Towards the end of 2012 CRCS started the fencing of its Headquarters building. After the preparation of the technical drawings and instructions by the CRCS's volunteer Mr. Solon Socratous, and the invitation for tenders, the bid was awarded to Mr. Christakis Pantelis for a total cost of €20.931. The project is expected to be completed during the beginning of 2013.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

The present Annual Report has set out to present the efforts and achievements of the CRCS in 2012. Everything accomplished was the result of the collective work and efforts of thousands of individuals. We express our warm and sincere thanks to all the individuals and the organizations concerned whose commitment, efforts, enthusiasm and generosity contributed in making 2012 a very successful year.

TO MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

We wish to convey our respect, appreciation and thanks to all members and volunteers who joined forces with millions of Red Cross members and volunteers around the world to help alleviate the suffering inflicted on their fellow human beings; it is thanks to them and their commitment to the principles and ideals of the Red Cross that our message, "from one human being to another" became a tangible reality. Thanks are also due to the CRCS staff members for the dedication they have shown for their tasks and their support to the members and volunteers of the organization.

TO DONORS AND SPONSORS

Equally warm thanks and gratitude are due to all public and private companies and individuals that generously expressed their support of the CRCS through financial donations, the provision of goods and services, as well as other forms of assistance. Special thanks also to all sponsors, both large and small: Anastasios G. Leventis Foundation; UNDP-ACT, Alphamega Supermarkets; A.Panayides Contracting Ltd; Pharmakas Quarries Ltd; Radiomarathonios Foundation for Children with Special Needs, GCC-Iacovou JV, P.C. Splash Water Ltd; Marketway/ Publicis; Lanitis Bros Ltd; Four Seasons Hotel; Grecian Hotel Enterprises Ltd; Remedica; CYTA; MTN; Marfin Popular Bank; Bank of Cyprus; Alpha Bank; Songa Management Ltd; Cyprus Airways and all the Media.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to all other donors who made contributions, often anonymously and at great cost to themselves.

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

We consider it appropriate to express our thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Cyprus for the support of and cooperation with the CRCS. Special thanks in particular to: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of the Interior; the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Education and Culture; the Ministry of Labor and Social Insurance; the Ministry of Communications & Works, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources & Environment. We are also indebted to the Service for Humanitarian Affairs, the Cyprus Police and Civil Defense, whose assistance in emergency situations, cooperation in meeting the needs of vulnerable social groups and their general support of the CRCS' humanitarian efforts have proven to be invaluable.

Thank you.

CRCS VISION AND MISSION

VISION

To establish the Cyprus Red Cross Society as the leading humanitarian organization in Cyprus to which people will want to contribute and which will attract persons of all ages and backgrounds for volunteer service.

MISSION

The Cyprus Red Cross Society, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and its own Statutes, is fully committed to prevent and alleviate human suffering and supports individuals and communities to be prepared for and respond to emergencies globally, in times of peace and war, without any discrimination as to race, gender, age, language, social status, religion and/ or politics.

7 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE RC/RC MOVEMENT

- > **Humanity**
- > **Impartiality**
- > **Neutrality**
- > **Independence**
- > **Universality**
- > **Unity**
- > **Voluntary Service**

TOGETHER FOR HUMANITY!



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