



ANNUAL REPORT



CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION	
CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY 2014 ACHIEVEMENTS	4
CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY: FROM 1950 TO 2014	5
2014 DIARY OF ACTIVITIES	6
2014 CRCS MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS	8
CRCS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART	9
HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS	10
CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI FORMER HOME FOR SICK CHILDREN	13
OTHER PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES	16
MIGRATION ISSUES	21
ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS	24
BRANCHES ACTIVITIES	28
YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES	37
INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE	39
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	40
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	45
FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL INFORMATION	47
EXPRESSION OF THANKS	50

PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION

CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY 2014 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 2014 Annual Report but, most importantly, the contributors to the successes of our Society.

In 2014, the CRCS carried out its humanitarian work in full compliance with the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (hereafter referred to as the International RC/RC Movement), the legislation of the Republic of Cyprus and its own Statutes. The CRCS was supported, as always, by the commendable efforts of its Branches, the Youth Section, its members and several thousand volunteers, as well as its staff members.

An important development in 2014 was, for the first time in its history, the preparation of the 2014-2019 Strategic Plan of the CRCS. The preparation of a strategic plan was an effort by the CRCS to start fulfilling in an organized and structured way, its obligations deriving from its new status as a member of the International RC/RC Movement, as well as to promote its development and ensure its operational efficiency.

The core humanitarian activity of the CRCS in 2014 was the immediate response and provision of assistance to 345 refugees from Syria who were rescued from the sea outside Cyprus on 25 September 2014. In addition, the CRCS responded and provided assistance to the flood victims in Larnaca. Another important area of concern was the further development of the Psychosocial Support programme and the employment of a psychosocial support coordinator.

In an effort to meet the humanitarian consequences of the financial crisis, CRCS diverted all its resources towards meeting local needs. True to its principles, during 2014 the CRCS responded readily and discretely to the increased requests for humanitarian assistance and moral support on a daily basis. In addition to its traditional humanitarian activities, the most important were the Easter and Christmas Love Campaigns which helped thousands of families also in rural areas. Our main activity and concern was of course the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti, while the largest and most important fundraising activity was the annual Pan Cyprian "Door to Door" fundraising campaign. Many other activities, among others, such as blood donation, first aid training, road safety, disaster relief, psychosocial support, tracing and restoring family links services made 2014 a really productive year.

To all those praiseworthy individuals who helped the CRCS to undertake the above 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, in order to ensure that together we can all continue our humanitarian mission with even more success in providing better living conditions to the vulnerable people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "F. Papadopoulos". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Fotini Papadopoulos
President

CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY: FROM 1950 TO 2014

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 the law N.39 of 1967. Through this legislation, CRCS became an auxiliary body to the public authorities in humanitarian matters, using the Red Cross Emblem in accordance with the Geneva Conventions. The CRCS was recognized by the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) in 2012 and, in 2013, admitted in the International RC/RC Movement becoming officially 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 support to vulnerable persons, fundraising 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 which was expelled 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 and restoring family links services, blood donation, First Aid lessons and training, tree planting, road safety, participating in European programmes, organizing humanitarian and community events, assistance to migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, as well as organization of seminars and camping for the youth. 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.

In 2014, because of the urgency to address the increased demand for humanitarian assistance due to the financial crisis, CRCS had no other alternative to its decision in diverting all its resources towards meeting the increased needs of the people of Cyprus. The only exceptions, as far as international assistance was concerned, were relatively modest donations for the victims of the floods in Serbia and the conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine.

2014

DIARY OF ACTIVITIES

2014 EUROPEAN YEAR FOR RECONCILING WORK AND FAMILY LIFE CALENDAR

JANUARY

Circulation of 2014 Lucky Charms

29 Jan - 2 Feb Psychosocial Support Training, Nicosia, Cyprus

FEBRUARY

12 Dinner in honor of CRCS retiring members
25 General Assembly Nicosia Branch
26 CRCS General Assembly

MARCH

4-5 Participation in a meeting at the IFRC Europe Zone Office, Budapest, Hungary
7 Participation in a meeting at the Red Cross EU Office, Brussels, Belgium
10 CRCS Executive Committee Meeting
17-19 Hosting of two PERCO Working Group meetings in Cyprus

APRIL

CRCS Easter Love Campaign

3-4 Participation in the PERCO Meeting in Luxembourg
29 CRCS Council Meeting

MAY

8 **CELEBRATION OF THE WORLD RED CROSS RED CRESCENT DAY**
5-23 CRCS Pancyprian "Door to Door" Fundraising Campaign
20 CRCS Executive Committee Meeting

JUNE

31 May - 3 June 21st Participation in the European Youth Cooperation Meeting, Volterra, Italy
3-6 Participation in the 9th European Regional Conference, Florence, Italy
18 Delivery of aid for the flood victims of Serbia

JULY

7-10 CRCS Youth Section Camp & Seminar
14 CRCS Council Meeting

2014

DIARY OF ACTIVITIES

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

- 1 CRCS Executive Committee Meeting
 - 5 Participation in the DMC - Assessment Mission Course
 - 13 Celebration of the World First Aid Day
 - 13 1st Pancyprian Team Building Youth Section Conference
 - 16 General Assembly Larnaca Branch
 - 23 General Assembly Famagusta Branch
 - 25 Arrival of 345 refugees from Syria – CRCS response and assistance
-

OCTOBER

- 2-3 Participation in the 1st Meeting of the Red Cross Small European Countries in Luxembourg
 - 9 CRCS Council Meeting
 - 9-11 Participation in the FAEEN Meeting in Paris, France
 - 13-17 Participation in the Movement Induction Course in Geneva, Switzerland
 - 14-15 Participation in the Regional Leadership Consultation Meeting in Madrid, Spain
 - 23-25 Participation in the PERCO Meeting in Lisbon, Portugal
 - 24 Inauguration ceremony of the Special School of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the CRCS Children Therapy Centre “Stella Soulioti”
 - 24-26 Participation in the Annual ENPS in Dublin, Ireland
-

NOVEMBER

- 16 Celebration of World Remembrance Day for the victims of road accidents
- 23-29 Participation in the RCRC Exchange on Migration Programmes, Italy
- 24 Dinner in honor of CRCS donors
- 24 Participation in the DMC - Assessment Mission Course
- 30 Event by the CRCS Youth Section on World Aids Day

Ocean Basket Campaign

Exxon Mobil Campaign

DECEMBER

Circulation and sales of Christmas Cards

Issue and circulation of the 2015 Desk Calendar

CRCS Christmas Love Campaign

Larnaca floWods - CRCS response and assistance

- 3 CRCS Council Meeting
- 6-14 Organization of the CRCS Xmas Bazaars
- 8-9 Participation in the Vienna Conference “Humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons”, Austria
- 15-16 Visit of the Icelandic RC delegation to Cyprus

2014 CRCS MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

According to the new CRCS Statutes (25.01.2012) the Governing bodies of the Society are the following:

- **The General Assembly**
- **The Council**
- **The Executive Committee**

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL IN 2014

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

1. Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou, President,
2. Mrs. Leda Koursoumba, First Vice President,
3. Dr. Mustafa Hami, Second Vice President,
4. Mr. Dinos Christofides, Treasurer,
5. Mr. Andreas Artemis, Nicosia,
6. Mrs. Amalia Erotokritos, Nicosia,
7. Mrs. Evmorfia Fereos, Nicosia,
8. Mrs. Despo Frederickou, Nicosia,
9. Metropolitan of Tamassos and Orini, Isaias, Nicosia,
10. Mr. Michalis Sarris, Nicosia,
11. Mr. Nicos Gregoriou, Limassol,
12. Mr. Andreas Poetis, Famagusta,
13. Mr. Angelos Nicolaidis, Larnaca,
14. Mr. Georgios Hasapis, Paphos,
15. Mr. Costas Pandehis, Kyrenia.

Under Article 12 (1) (c)

Mrs. Marina Demades, President, Nicosia Branch,
Mrs. Evi Zarifi, Treasurer, Nicosia Branch,
Mrs. Niki Hadjitsangari, President, Limassol Branch,
Mrs. Annie Haraki, Treasurer, Limassol Branch,
Mrs. Kika Konia, President, Famagusta Branch,
Mr. Emilia Vourka, Treasurer, Famagusta Branch,
Mrs. Aliko Neokleous, President, Larnaca Branch,
Mrs. Lenia Karapataki, Treasurer, Larnaca Branch,
Mrs. Anna Christodoulidou, President, Paphos Branch,
Mrs. Christiana Atalioti, Treasurer, Paphos Branch,
Mrs. Maroulla Angelides, President, Kyrenia Branch,
Mrs. Evanthia Papasavva, Treasurer, Kyrenia Branch,
Mrs. Vanessa Kyprianou, President, Central Committee Youth Section,
Mr. Tasos Yiasemides, replaced later by Mrs Kyproulla Karantoni, Treasurer, Central Committee Youth Section.

Under Article 12 (4)

Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN 2014

President of the Society, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou,

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

MEETINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES

During the course of 2014:

The General Assembly was held on 26 February at the CRCS Headquarters. The Council met four times: 29 April, 14 July, 9 October and 3 December. The Executive Committee met four times: 28 January, 10 March, 20 May and 1 September.

COMMITTEES

Finance, Fundraising and Pancyprian "Door to Door" Collection, Disaster Management, Children Therapy Centre "Stella Soulioti", First Aid and Blood Donation, Migration, Health and Psychosocial Support, Training and Volunteers and Events Committee.

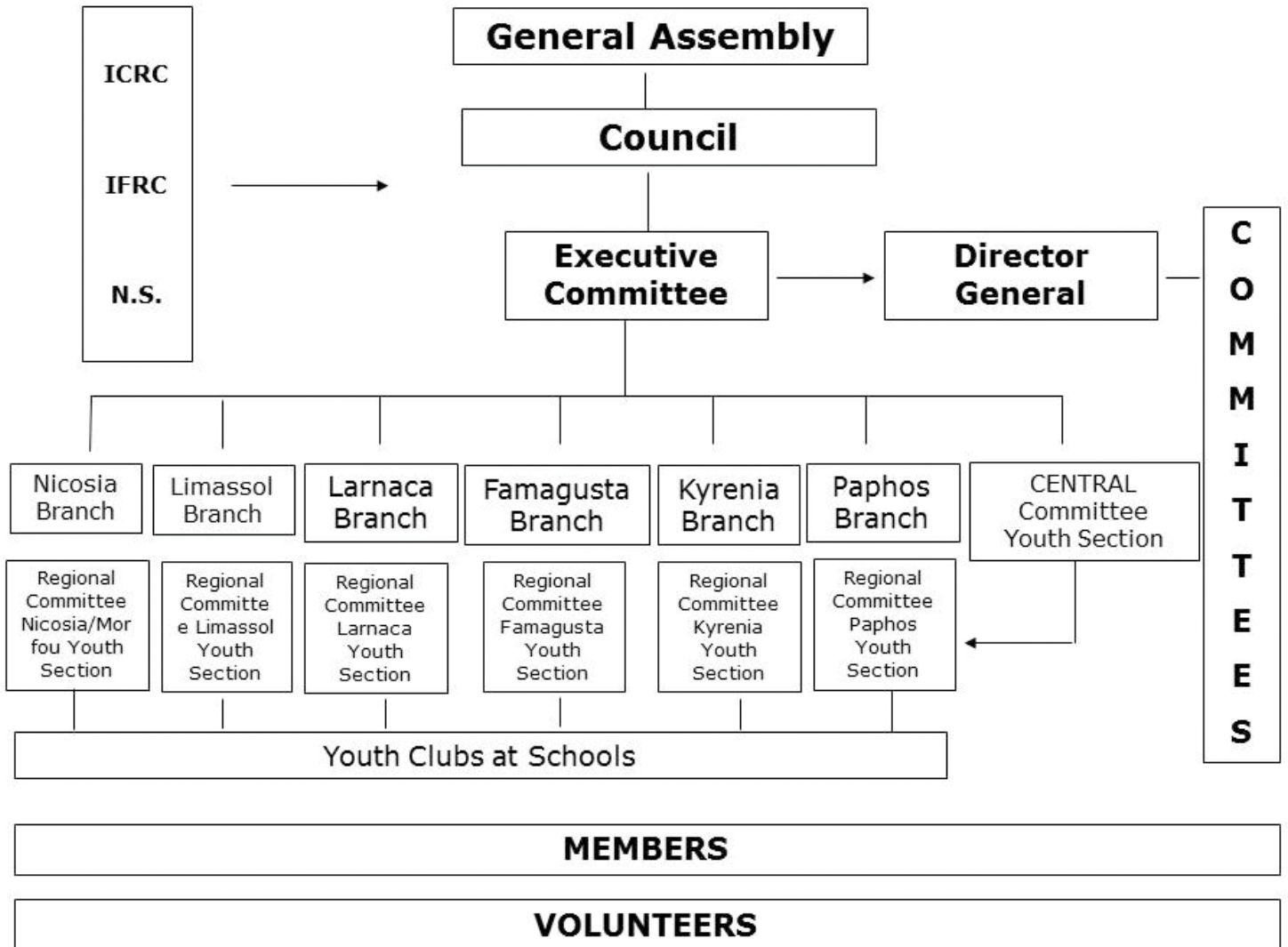
PREPARATION OF THE CRCS 2014-2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

After its recognition and admission as a member of the International RC/RC Movement, the CRCS, for the first time in its history, prepared a strategic plan for the years 2014-2019 in order to start fulfilling in an organized and structured way, its obligations deriving from its new membership status and also promote its development and secure its operational efficiency. The objectives of the CRCS for the next five years are the following:

- Volunteers and members management and training
- Psychosocial Support
- Addressing the needs and securing the rights of migrants
- Promote respect for diversity and human dignity
- Preparing and responding to disasters and crises
- Building resilience in communities
- Achieving gender and youth equality in the access to education, employment and decision making
- Climate change
- Pursuing humanitarian diplomacy to prevent and reduce vulnerability in a globalized world
- Promoting social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace
- Enabling healthy and safe living and minimizing the impact of disease

The CRCS 2014-2019 Strategic Plan was officially approved by the members of the Council on 29 April 2014.

CRCS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS

During 2014, the CRCS, as a purely humanitarian organization, continued to focus its activities on addressing the needs of those considered to be vulnerable and/or in need of assistance. Although 40 years have elapsed since the 1974 invasion of Cyprus by Turkey 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 enclaved people, 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. In addition, humanitarian assistance was also provided to the refugees from Syria (for more details, see the “MIGRATION ISSUES” Section)

The financial crisis of March 2013 with tragic consequences to Cyprus seriously affected also the CRCS with most of its financial resources being lost or frozen, with donations and income in general diminished. In 2014, however, the CRCS spared no effort to meet highly increased humanitarian assistance required locally.

ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS, HEALTH AND OTHER FORMS OF VULNERABILITY

In 2014, because of the increased humanitarian needs caused by the financial crisis, CRCS decided to divert all its resources towards meeting local needs. During 2014, true to its principles, the CRCS responded readily and discretely to the increased requests for humanitarian assistance and moral support on a daily basis. The humanitarian activities of the CRCS included, among others: the provision of food; medicine; clothing; footwear; cleaning and hygiene products; psychosocial support; financial support; supplying wheelchairs and rehabilitation equipment for those with special needs; providing companionship to the lonely; visits to hospitals; elderly peoples’ homes; prisons; schools and institutions for the disabled.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CARDS

The CRCS continued to regulate and control the distribution of humanitarian assistance, using the “**Family Assistance Card**”, which includes all the personal data of the recipient and his/her family members, as well as the dates and the kind of assistance he/she receives. Before issuing a card, CRCS volunteers visit the family at their place of residence in order to evaluate their socioeconomic conditions. The card also includes regulations for the CRCS staff and volunteers, as well as for the beneficiaries, and it is used by all the Branches all over the island.

ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΕΡΥΘΡΟΣ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ
CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY

ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΕΡΥΘΡΟΣ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ
ΟΙΚΟΓΕΝΕΙΑΚΗ ΚΑΡΤΑ
ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑΣ ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑΣ

ΟΝΟΜΑΤΕΠΩΝΥΜΟ:
ΗΜΕΡΟΜΗΝΙΑ ΕΚΔΟΣΗΣ:
ΗΜΕΡΟΜΗΝΙΑ ΛΗΞΗΣ:
ΑΝΑΝΕΩΣΗ ΜΕΧΡΙ:

Α/Α 0000

EASTER AND CHRISTMAS LOVE CAMPAIGNS

The CRCS, in an effort to meet the increasing humanitarian needs, continued the organization of the “**Love Campaigns**”, which had started in 2012. During 2014, two

HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS

campaigns were organized with success in support of the increasing number of persons affected adversely from the financial crisis. During the two campaigns the CRCS distributed nationwide **5.500 packages of love**, including more than 20 food items each. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture, additional packages were distributed to families with children attending primary schools in the Nicosia district. This assistance was in addition to the breakfast offered by the CRCS Youth Section to students of secondary schools. Although a small quantity of food items was received from individuals, companies and organizations which had responded to CRCS's appeal, most of the cost was covered by the CRCS. CRCS expressed warm thanks to them, as well as to its many members and volunteers who had worked for many days in order to prepare and ensure the timely delivery of the food packages, including deliveries in very remote and isolated villages of the district of Nicosia.



PROGRAMME "MIRAZOME/SHARING"

The programme called "SHARING" (MIRAZOME) that was initiated in 2013 by the Nicosia Branch, continued during 2014. The programme provides for the preparation and distribution of hot meals to families and individuals in need. The meals are prepared by members and volunteers from Nicosia Branch at their homes, at their own expense. During 2014, a total number of **16.100 hot meals** were prepared reaching a total number of **300 individuals and 1,750 families**. The implementation of the programme was very successful; more volunteers are expected to join.



HELP AND SERVICES REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE 1974 INVASION

Despite the fact that the population in general has 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 as to captives of the Turkish invasion, who were released and their names are listed with the CRCS.

SUPPORT FOR THE ENCLAVED

According to the records maintained by the CRCS, as of 31 December 2014, **461 persons - 345 Greek Cypriots and 116 Maronites** - lived in the Karpaz Peninsula and the Maronite villages in the Kyrenia District. These enclaved persons, both in the occupied and free areas, received support from the CRCS in various forms. With the assistance of the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), the CRCS provided weekly dispatches to the occupied areas to help meet the needs of the enclaved, including, among others, medicines and medical equipment.

HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS

In some circumstances, the CRCS also covered, among others, special needs requirements such as wheelchairs, oxygen bottles, and spectacles. In 2014, the CRCS dispatched 304 parcels, including: eight oxygen bottles; 12 pairs of eye glasses; 276 parcels of medicines, five wheelchairs and three walking frames. 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, **223 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 2014. 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. The majority of Turkish Cypriots living in the government controlled area 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.

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 2014, **six ambulances** were used. The necessary arrangements for and the cost of the insurance coverage of the ambulance vehicles were taken care of by the CRCS.



POST MORTEM TRANSFERS TO THE OCCUPIED PART

Pursuant to the decision taken in 2013, regarding the arrangements for the post mortem transfers to the occupied part of Cyprus, the Humanitarian Affairs Services of the Government undertakes the transfer, UNFICYP monitors the crossing of the hearse and accompany it to the burial site, and the CRCS covers [undertake] the expenses on a reimbursable basis.

LARNACA FLOODS – DECEMBER 2014

The CRCS has contributed the amount of 23,000.00 Euros for the needs of the flood victims in Larnaca. The amount was collected from all the Branches and the Youth Section and was delivered, in December, to the Mayor of Larnaca Mr. Andreas Louroutziatis by the President of the Larnaca Branch, Mrs. Alike Neocleous. Volunteers of the Larnaca and Famagusta Branches helped to record the damages in each household and distributed food, clothing, sheets, blankets, towels and other essentials worth 1,000.00 Euros.



CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI

FORMER HOME FOR SICK CHILDREN



FOUNDING

The CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti (former Home for Sick Children) was founded by the CRCS in 1957 to serve sick and disabled children. By far, it is the largest and oldest project of the Society. During its 57-year history, the Centre has gone through four phases. The first phase was the period of its operation in Kyrenia (1957-1974), with a permanent base serving as a home for the 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 continued in Limassol, on a residential basis. Its third phase began in 1994, providing only day care services, and the fourth phase started in 2012, when it was renamed and renovated.

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 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the new Home commenced operations in 1980, with all the necessary facilities. The Home also offered boarding facilities until 1994; currently, however, it provides only day care services.

POST 2012 OPERATIONS

Cyprus Red Cross Children Therapy Center Stella Soulioti

On December 2012, the Home for Sick Children was re-named as the **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.

Actually in 2012, the Centre made a new start through extensive renovations of its 30 years old buildings. Since then, 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 Theotocos Foundation, and the Special School for Children with Disabilities, operating under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Services Offered

The Centre, the only one of its kind in Cyprus, treats around 75 children up to 18 years old, with severe physical and

CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI

FORMER HOME FOR SICK CHILDREN



multiple disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy and other physical and developmental problems. In addition to medical and nursing care, the Centre 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 quality of life. The services offered by the Centre 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.

Collaborations

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Centre 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 Centre has collaborated with St James' University Hospital in Leeds, the United Kingdom, since 1998 to provide Botulinum Toxin treatment to children with cerebral palsy. Since the successful introduction of the treatment by the Centre, 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 - which offer hippo therapy programmes - foreign organizations, European programmes for staff training, charities and other voluntary organizations.

Operational Costs

The Centre is largely supported by the love and care of the CRCS members and volunteers who cover the major portion of the financial requirements for its operation. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus through the Ministry of Health covers approximately 30 per cent of the Centre's

CRCS CHILDREN THERAPY CENTRE STELLA SOULIOTI FORMER HOME FOR SICK CHILDREN



operational costs; the remaining amount is covered by the CRCS, through funds raised at special events, fundraisers and voluntary services offered generously by the ever-willing members of the public.

New renovation works

A new phase of repairs took place at the Stella Soulioti CRCS Children Therapy Centre for the renovation of the Special School of the Ministry of Education and Culture that is housed at the Centre. The expenses for the renovation were covered by His Beatitude Archbishop Demetrios of the Greek Orthodox Church in America, and the Cypriot Federation of America. In addition, the family of the late Christodoulos Pashardes, donated to the CRCS the funds received in his memory in order to finalize the repairs of the “Elpida” Centre that is housed at the Centre under the management of the Theotokos Foundation. The inauguration ceremony was held on the 24 October 2014. During the ceremony, blessings were offered by His Beatitude Archbishop Demetrios, who opened the School in the presence of the First Lady of Cyprus, Mrs. Andri Anastasiades, and

His Eminence Bishop Nikolaos of Amathus. The ceremony was attended by CRCS officials, parents, members and volunteers as well as friends and partners of the CRCS.

Next phase of renovations

As announced by the CRCS President on 24 October 2014, the next renovation phase will include the operation of a short stay unit where children undergoing treatment can stay for a short period with the person accompanying them. The new unit will be housed in the old Nurses Home building, a separate building next to the Children Therapy Centre, and after its renovation, it will also be used to host children with disabilities from other countries, who would like to come to Cyprus for a short visit.

Contact details

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Email: home@redcross.org.cy

OTHER PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

Other CRCS's major programmes and services included: First Aid; Disaster Management, Psychosocial Support, Tracing and Restoring Family Links (RFL). When disaster strikes, the CRCS is there to provide food, clothing and hope. When individuals, families and communities must prepare for emergencies, the CRCS is there to prepare them for action. When barriers of distance separate loved ones, the CRCS opens lines of communication. Each year, the CRCS organizes volunteers to care for their fellow human beings, trains people in life-saving skills and offers psychosocial support. In emergencies, large or small, people can count on the CRCS.

FIRST AID

First Aid is a traditional Red Cross activity, which is of vital importance because of its most valuable and essential assistance provided to the survivors of accidents and other emergency situations, and even save lives on many other occasions. Accordingly, the CRCS's goal has always been to raise public awareness and encourage participation in the First Aid courses and training offered by the CRCS. In order to promote further First Aid activities, the First Aid Committee organized a considerable number of activities for the CRCS members and volunteers, as well as for the general public.



Courses & Training

The most important activity of the Committee is the organization of First Aid courses, which are being regularly

updated and upgraded 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 to strengthen the First Aid courses. **CRCS is an official First Aid Training at Work provider, certified** 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 (six hour course), and
- First Aid at Work (18hour course)

Embracing the slogan “**First Aid save lives**”, CRCS organized **16 First Aid courses**, in Greek and in English, for Cypriots and foreigners, including migrants. In 2014, the total number of individuals trained was **157** (86 men and 71 women) and the total income received by the Society from organizing the courses was **5,052.00 Euros**.

Cooperation with the Cyprus National Guard

During 2014, the CRCS First Aid Committee had several meetings with the Cyprus National Guard in order to examine the possibility of organizing training for their staff and people serving in the army. The training will be on the following two topics:

- Personal skills
- Technical training

The discussions and meetings will be continued during 2015 in order to finalize an agreement with the National Guard.

OTHER PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

World First Aid Day

On the occasion of the World First Aid Day which was celebrated on **Saturday, 13 September 2014**, (every second Saturday of September each year), CRCS circulated a dedicated poster. The poster 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 **"Be a hero. Save lives"**.



DISASTER MANAGEMENT (DM)

The CRCS has its own Disaster Management Action Plan (DMAP) involving all its District Branches. The DMAP is managed and coordinated by the Red Cross Disaster Management Committee. In its role as "auxiliary body to the public authorities on humanitarian issues", the CRCS works in close cooperation with the Government. This cooperation allows the CRCS, without losing its independence, to take part in the planning and the implementation of all the DM related activities. Depending on the nature of the disaster, the CRCS cooperates with one or more of the following Government Departments and Services:

- Ministry of the Interior: Civil Defence, Police, Fire Brigade

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs: For emergencies involving foreigners
- Ministry of Health: For pandemics and other health related emergencies.

The main Governmental Department the CRCS works with is the Civil Defence.

Activities & Response

Activities

During 2014, the CRCS DM Committee participated in all the meetings and drills of the **ESTIA** and **Argonaftis** disaster management plans. In doing so, it took every measure in checking the required equipment, reorganizing the CRCS stores, and alerting its teams for emergency intervention throughout Cyprus. The DM 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:

"Argonaftis" 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 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including the CRCS. The first preparations for the 2014 exercise started in January when details were discussed and roles assigned among the participants. The exercise took place from 14 to 19 May 2014, at the port of Larnaca. It was observed by representatives from different countries, embassies, 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 utilized in case of an emergency. Members and volunteers from the DM Committee, the HQs, the Larnaca Branch and officers responsible for psychosocial support, tracing and first aid, participated in the exercise. Particularly impressive was the banner of the CRCS presenting all the humanitarian activities of its Disaster Management Committee through relevant texts and photos.

OTHER PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

Assessment Mission Courses

CRCS continued its participation in the exercises organized by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus within the framework of the Assessment Mission Courses of the European Union. These exercises take place three to four times a year. 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 has been 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 **5 September and 24 November 2014**, members of the Assessment Mission Course from various EU countries, consisting of four trainees and one leader, came to the CRCS Headquarters, where members of the CRCS DM Committee presented them a virtual scenario of an earthquake which occurred in the island and elaborated on the measures taken and also the 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) continued its efforts to equip further and improve the operational effectiveness of the new large Disaster Management warehouse that was built in 2011.

Shelter facilities

In 2014, CRCS continued the effort to have the capacity to provide shelter for up to 1000 persons in case of an emergency. The CRCS Disaster Management Committee is working on a study and is in close contact and consultation with the German Red Cross in order to secure know-how, equipment and materials.

Response

During recent years, the CRCS was involved in the following disasters and emergency situations:

- Lebanon Crisis, Summer 2006
- Fires in Saita, Cyprus 2007
- Fires in Peloponissos, Greece, Summer 2007
- Vast mobilization and preparedness for a probable crisis in Lebanon – 2008
- Participation in the Argonaftis and Estia exercises organized annually by the Government
- Participation in the annual European Assessment Mission Course Educational Programme
- Assistance to third country nationals and refugees from Egypt – February 2011
- Explosion at the Nautical Base “Evaggelos Florakis”, Summer 2011
- Mobilization and assistance during mass arrival of third country nationals and/or refugees from Syria – Summer 2012
- Assistance to 345 refugees from Syria - Sept 2014, on going

Arrival of 345 refugees from Syria

In 2014, the CRCS was on alert and continued the activation of its Disaster Management Action Plan in preparedness of possible massive arrivals of third-country nationals and refugees from Syria to Cyprus. The Branches and the Youth Section were continuously kept informed on the developments and were asked to increase their level of readiness, and to inform their members and volunteers to be on the alert. CRCS held a number of meetings with all the relevant governmental bodies and the Civil Defense; all the relevant emergency procedures were checked and activated.

OTHER PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

On 25 September 2014, a Cypriot cruise ship rescued 345 refugees from Syria, while sailing about 50 nautical miles from Paphos because their vessel had been caught in rough seas and they were in danger. The refugees disembarked at the port of Limassol and were transferred to the newly established Government Reception Camp, at Kokkinotrimithia village. CRCS provided humanitarian assistance to the refugees. (for more details, see the section on the “MIGRATION ISSUES”).

MANAGEMENT OF BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS

As an auxiliary body to the Government, the CRCS participates in the Ministry of Health’s Plan of Action for the management of emergencies, such as the case of pandemics. Among others, CRCS, in cooperation with the Archbishopric of Cyprus, is responsible for the management of arrangements to handle the burial of dead persons. The CRCS will have the responsibility to contact the hospitals and make arrangements with the Church, police authorities, inform the family, make the funeral arrangements and inform the relevant foreign Embassy and Red Cross Society in case the dead person is a foreigner.

TRACING SERVICES – RESTORING FAMILY LINKS (RFL)



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 do not know where they are or whether they are safe and alive.

The ICRC and the 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 and the National Societies, the CRCS cooperated with the Central Tracing Agency of the ICRC in Geneva in order to restore contact between family members. In 2014 the CRCS considered **11 requests for tracing**.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (PSS)

The Psychosocial Framework of 2005-2007 of the International Federation of the Red Cross defines Psychosocial Support as “a process of facilitating resilience within individuals, families and communities” (International Federation Reference Centre (2011)). Psychosocial Support enables people to recover after a crisis has disrupted their lives. It is based on the belief that, if people are empowered to care for themselves and each other, their individual and communal self-confidence and resources will improve.



PSS in Cyprus

The effects of the Global Financial Crisis and subsequent Recession of the Cyprus economy have spread to all sectors - Governmental, Non-Governmental and Private - condemning the disillusioned general public to a vicious cycle of stress and helplessness. Often enough, basic needs were threatened and/or were unmet, while Unemployment, Poverty and Homelessness had become an everyday reality for a growing number of adversely affected citizens. The CRCS has observed how economic woes translated to

OTHER PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

higher stress levels had given rise to a host of social ills - mental illnesses, a rise in domestic violence, unemployment, the breakdown of family bonds, children suffering neglect, and outbreaks of antisocial and criminal behavior. The Psychosocial Support Programme, since its formal launch, has managed to develop and is currently implementing programs on a pilot basis, based on identified gaps through the needs assessment process.



Training

Recognizing that psychosocial problems faced by many individuals in Cyprus were one of the serious consequences of the financial crisis, the CRCS decided to proceed with specialized training of its members and volunteers in psychosocial support. In cooperation with the IFRC, the CRCS organized a Psychosocial Support Training from 29 January to 2 February 2014 at its Headquarters in Nicosia. The trainer was Ms Sirry Thormar who also had trained CRCS

PSS trainers and volunteers four years ago. CRCS staff members and volunteers of all the Branches and the Youth Section participated in the training. Ms Thormar recommended various ways for further developing the CRCS Psychosocial Support services, the PSS team and activities, and emphasized the importance of employing a PSS Coordinator.

PSS Coordinator

Since March 2014, the CRCS has employed a Psychosocial Support (PSS) Coordinator, Ms Melissa Tsimon, to work once a week at its Headquarters. Her main tasks and responsibilities are to organize the CRCS Psychosocial Support Team, train CRCS members and volunteers, and develop cooperation with the University of Cyprus, the Civil Defence, the Police, the Fire Department, as well as other Governmental Departments and other organizations.

Activities

- Cooperation with the Menogia Detention Centre, supported by a project concerning the development and provision of PSS services to the Menogia Detention Centre for migrants (for more details, see below the section on the "MIGRATION ISSUES").
- Cooperation with the Administration of the Central Prisons in Nicosia, including organization of regular visits and two bingo afternoons for the detainees.

Crisis Situations

In 2014, in addition to the ongoing consequences of the financial crisis, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus had to deal with two major crisis, and the CRCS, not only as the main humanitarian organization on the island, but also in its capacity as an auxiliary body to the public authorities, was called to supplement the services of the Government in dealing with:

- The arrival of 345 refugees from Syria in September 2014 (for more details, see below the section on the "MIGRATION ISSUES/ ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES FROM SYRIA"), and
- Floods in Larnaca in December 2014

MIGRATION ISSUES

The CRCS, in collaboration with the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and all relevant Government Departments, has developed a policy on Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers and has been working towards the acceptance and integration of the migrants who live in Cyprus, as well as addressing their humanitarian needs as efficiently as possible. In 2014, the major activities of the CRCS in the field of migration were the assistance provided to the 345 refugees from Syria who were rescued from the sea outside Cyprus and the development and provision of psychosocial support services at the Menogia Detention Centre, a project funded by the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism Grants. In addition, the CRCS continued to participate in the meetings of the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO) and continued the operation of its Migration Committee. 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 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 in kind humanitarian assistance such as food, clothing, footwear, 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 and increased the daily provision of humanitarian assistance, consisting of food and clothing to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. In order to meet the increasing demand and urgency for humanitarian assistance and support, mainly caused by the very high level of unemployment and other consequences of the financial crisis, the CRCS decided to explore the possibility of cooperating with other humanitarian organizations under the coordination of the Commissioner for Volunteerism and Non-Governmental Organizations.

MEDICAL SERVICES

In an effort to try to meet the medical needs of 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 was a desperately needed service, especially for irregular migrants who for obvious reasons were reluctant to visit Government Hospitals for examinations and treatment.

MIGRATION ISSUES

OTHER SERVICES

Additional personal services were offered to many migrants, such as tracing and connecting them with their families back home, 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 AND DETENTION CENTRES FOR MIGRANTS

CRCS members and volunteers continued their monthly visits to the Reception Centres for Asylum Seekers and the Menogia Detention Centre. Pursuant to an agreement with the authorities concerned, the CRCS provided in kind humanitarian assistance and organized recreational activities. Currently discussions are underway in an effort to extend the co-operation with the authorities concerned, in order to cover additional kinds of humanitarian assistance and support.

CRCS MIGRATION COMMITTEE

The Migration Committee of the Cyprus Red Cross Society was reactivated and reorganized in September 2013 with the overall objective to assist all vulnerable groups of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. Throughout 2014, the Migration Committee ensured well-formulated multidisciplinary actions in detention centers and managed successfully to strengthen linkages with the civil society and refugee advocacy alliances. Furthermore, members of the Migration Committee represented the CRCS in several International RC/RC Movement and European Platforms such as PERCO, the Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants (PERCO), and the International RC/RC Movement Mediterranean Platform on Migration.

ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES FROM SYRIA

Situation

On Thursday, 25 September 2014, a Cypriot cruise ship rescued 345 refugees from Syria, while sailing about 50 nautical miles from Paphos, because their vessel had been caught in

rough seas and they were in danger. The refugees had been travelling for three days and they were heading for Italy. After their rescue, they finally disembarked at the port of Limassol and were transferred to the newly established Government Reception Camp, at Kokkinotrimithia village, near Nicosia.



Response

The CRCS, in its capacity as an auxiliary body to the Government and member of the Government Emergency Plan "ESTIA", responded immediately to the call for assistance, activated its Emergency Action Plan and started mobilizing its Disaster Management Team, its staff, members and volunteers. The Limassol Branch members helped with the disembarkation of the refugees at the port of Limassol, and the CRCS members and volunteers, especially from the Headquarters and the Nicosia and Kyrenia Branches, established an "Assistance Distribution Centre" in the camp.

CRCS services provided upon arrival of the migrants:

- Assistance to the Civil Defense in putting up the tents of the camp.
- Distribution of clothes, shoes, hygiene kits, personal care items, toys etc.
- First aid
- Psychosocial Support (PSS) including art therapy for children.
- Tracing services requested by family members of the migrants from Syria and other European countries. CRCS identified the relatives amongst the migrants and informed their families accordingly.

MIGRATION ISSUES

- Telephone calls to the refugee's families and relatives in Syria and Europe.
- Restoring Family Links (RFL).

CRCS services provided during the official operation of the camp:

[26 September, 2014 – 17 January, 2015]:

- Distributed shoes, clothes, personal care items, first aid, PSS, tracing services.
- Organized recreation and educational activities for adults and children to improve the quality of their daily lives (including projection of films in Arabic, music, and tasting Cypriot cuisine).
- Operated a school for the children and offered English language lessons to adults.
- Limited legal advice.
- Mobilized 50-60 volunteers and trained them to provide PSS.

CRCS services provided after the authorities withdrew from the camp:

- Handling emergencies.
- Took care of the wellbeing of the children by providing baby food, pampers, baby wipes, washing powder etc., as needed.
- Provided a large quantity of medicine and first aid material to the migrants to be administered by a migrant nurse and pharmacist in the camp.
- Arranged for a CRCS volunteer doctor to visit the migrants twice a week.
- CRCS established contact with two local hospitals and made arrangements with them to accept patients from the camp.
- Provided transfer to the hospitals.
- Individual PSS services.
- Leisure activities for the children.
- Provided information to the migrants, related to their protection from smugglers and others who could take advantage of them.
- Established contact with the local community nearby and organized garbage collection at the camp.

The CRCS expresses congratulations and thanks to its members, volunteers and staff for their valuable assistance and their excellent work during those four months. Special thanks are expressed to Ms Alexandra Verniers

(intern from Belgium) for her commitment and valuable assistance provided at the refugee camp.

PROJECT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROVISION OF PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES TO THE MENOGIA DETENTION CENTRE

The CRCS has managed to secure funding by the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism Grants for NGO's in order to examine the existing structures of psychological and social services in the Menogia Detention Centre (MDC) and, based on the findings, to proceed with the development and provision of psychosocial support services to the detainees and the staff. The main objective of the project was to secure the human rights of the detainees and promote their welfare. The duration of the project will be one year, from July 2014 to July 2015, with an approved budget of 31,617.00 Euros.

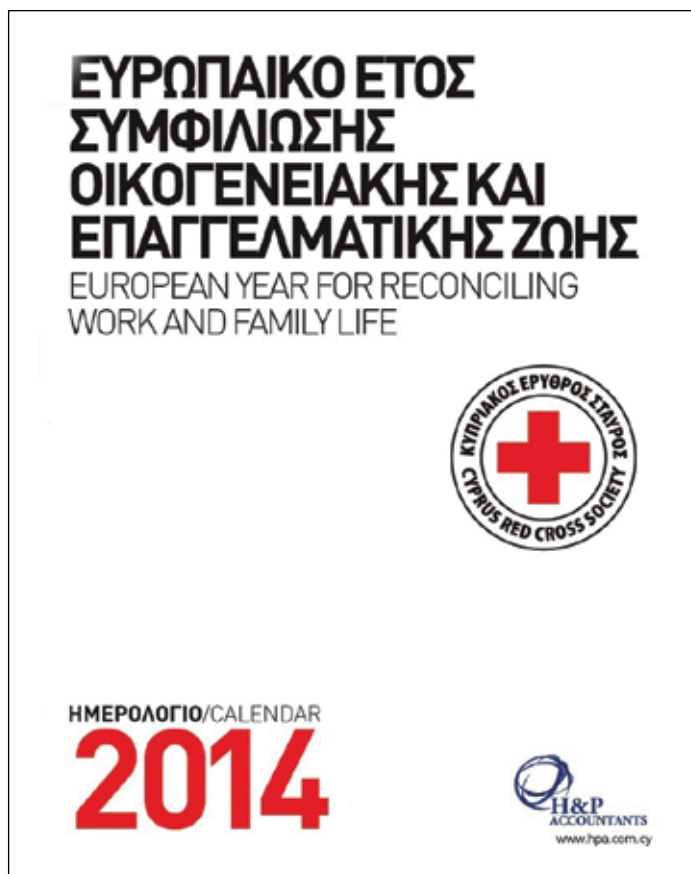
For the implementation of the project, two psychologists and two social workers were employed who, based on a large number of interviews and specialized tests, collected and evaluated a substantial amount of information on the existing services and operation of the Centre, and would submit their recommendations to the CRCS. Although the project will be completed in July 2015, a preliminary evaluation during December 2014, had reached the conclusion that the government services concerned did not have the adequate resources and staff to provide social and psychological services to the detainees. It was also indicated that the CRCS, utilizing humanitarian diplomacy skills, had managed to establish trust with the detainees, as well as with the management and staff of the MDC, which surely promised a successful achievement of the project's objectives.



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 2014 was expressed through a large variety of activities, campaigns and events. A significant number of the CRCS's activities were of a long duration. 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 which increased considerably after the financial crisis, and to raise social awareness on a number of important topics. Other activities, in addition to those covered under the "Other Programmes and Services" Section above, included: training of volunteers, promoting relationships and cooperation at the international level, as well as administrative and organizational issues.

2014 EUROPEAN YEAR FOR RECONCILING WORK AND FAMILY LIFE CALENDAR



2014 was designated by the European Union as the European Year for reconciling work and family life, with four core themes which aimed at ensuring work family life balance, improving social integration, addressing child and family poverty, and providing quality employment.

Through the publication of the above calendar, CRCS, one of the largest and more active voluntary organizations in Cyprus, aimed to promote the four abovementioned objectives through various photos and slogans that were nicely presented on the calendar.

"DOOR TO DOOR" PANCYPRIAN FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The annual "Door to Door" fundraising campaign took place from 5 to 23 May 2014 in all cities. The sponsor of the 2014 fundraising campaign was Piraeus Bank and the Ambassador was actor and singer Erodotos Miltiadous. The Campaign was launched on 5 May 2014 during a Press Conference at the CRCS Headquarters in Nicosia. The opening ceremony by H.E. Dr. Filippos Patsalis, the Minister of Health, took place at the CRCS Headquarters, on 9 May 2014, in the presence of CRCS President, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou. The total amount raised was **254,820.00 Euros**, much higher compared to that of previous years. Proceeds from the Campaign were allocated towards meeting the increased humanitarian needs which were caused by the financial crisis, 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 publicize and promote its aims and activities, as well as to offer Cypriots the opportunity to be part of a humanitarian society. On 2 July 2014, the CRCS President hosted in the gardens of her residence the closing ceremony of the fundraising campaign to thank and honour the sponsor for their valuable assistance and promotion of the

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

campaign, the Ambassador of the campaign, as well as the CRCS members and volunteers who had contributed to the success of the campaign.



ADDITIONAL EVENTS BY THE KYRENIA BRANCH

On the occasion of the “Door to Door” fundraising campaign, the Kyrenia Branch organized an event on **Saturday, 10 May 2014**, at The Mall of Engomi in Nicosia. The event was launched by the CRCS President Fotini Papadopoulou and was attended, amongst others, by Government officials, the Mayor of Engomi, Mr. Zacharias Kyriakou, the Director General of the CRCS, Takis Neophytou, the President of the CRCS Kyrenia Branch, Maroulla Angelides, CRCS members and volunteers. The event included a programme with dancing demonstrations by the Avge Varianou and Annita Hadjieftychiou Dance Studios, songs by two Kyrenian friends of the Branch, Christina Shamounki and Stella Valianti and music by DeeJay Tryfonas Anastasiades, which offered an excellent entertainment to the participants.



EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE - DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATIVE LEAFLET

CRCS within the framework of its policy to promote the health of the population of Cyprus, issued a brochure on “How to protect yourself from the Ebola virus disease”, to inform and protect the public from this serious infectious disease. The brochure was prepared in Greek, English and Turkish languages in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, and especially with the valuable assistance of the epidemiologist Dr. Michalis Voniatis. The brochure, which was sponsored by the pharmaceutical company Remedica, included useful material, such as information for the Ebola virus disease, modes of transmission, symptoms and basic protective measures. The CRCS distributed the brochure nationwide and placed it at various places such as airports, ports, hospitals and clinics, universities, schools, shopping centers and other places visited by many people.



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 and has intensified its efforts to achieve the objective of the 2010-2020 World Road Safety campaign to reduce the number of road accident victims by 50 per cent. In collaboration with the Police and other NGOs, and under its slogan “**YOU’VE ONLY GOT ONE LIFE! TAKE CARE**”, the CRCS has organized many activities, especially in schools.

ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

WORLD REMEMBRANCE DAY FOR THE VICTIMS OF ROAD ACCIDENTS

In addition to the above road safety activities, on **Sunday, 16 November 2014**, CRCS observed the World Remembrance Day for the victims of road accidents (every third Sunday of November) by publishing and distributing a poster, among others, to all schools and governmental buildings throughout the island. A relevant press release was also circulated to the media.



CLIMATE CHANGE

Among other priorities, CRCS is very sensitive for and concerned with environmental issues and the threatening consequences of climate change. Accordingly, during 2014, CRCS focused, among others, on the following environmental priorities and activities:

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

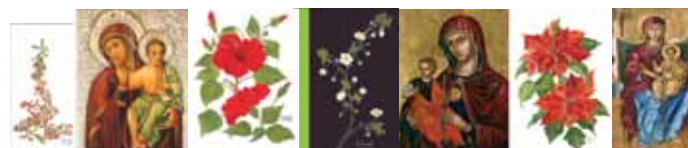
2014 LUCKY CHARMS

Michalakis Aloupas Jewellers Ltd specially designed, produced and donated to CRCS, 1500 silver 2014 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 Aloupas Jewellers Ltd for their very generous donation. The total net revenue from the sale was **17,731.65 Euros**.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Taking into consideration the economic crisis, as well as the fact that demand for printed cards had been reduced to 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 **1,050.00 Euros**.



ACTIVITIES, CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

DINNER IN HONOR OF CRCS RETIRING COUNCIL MEMBERS

On 12 February 2014, in Nicosia, the CRCS organized an event to express its gratitude and thanks to the following members of the Council who retired:

- Andreas Karagiorgis, Nicosia
- Nicos Lakoufis, Nicosia
- Bedros Shammajian, Nicosia
- Stelios Sykalides, Nicosia
- Ino Zachariades, Limassol
- Andreas Mouskos, Larnaca
- Stathoula Sykopetriti, Limassol
- Chrystalla Pantelidou, Larnaca
- Dina Kakoyianni, Paphos

The above members were recognized and honored with the presentation of plaques. The dinner was attended by CRCS officials, Council members and members of the district Branches and Youth Section Committees.

DINNER IN HONOR OF CRCS DONORS

CRCS has made it a tradition to express its gratitude and thanks to all the individuals and companies that support its humanitarian work by organizing special honorary events. The last event was a dinner hosted by the CRCS President, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulou, at her residence, on 24 November 2014, during which the following major donors were recognized and honored with the presentation of plaques:

- AlphaMega
- Unilever Tseriotis Cyprus
- IKEA Cyprus
- Drakos Lighting Ltd

OCEAN BASKET CAMPAIGN

The Ocean Basket organized a fundraising campaign in aid of the CRCS, named "Good manners". The customers visiting the Ocean Basket restaurants all over Cyprus were asked to indicate their readiness to offer one Euro to the CRCS by making a cross with their knife and fork after they finished their meal.

The campaign was launched on 24 November 2014 through a press conference and will end in the first quarter of 2015.



EXXON MOBIL CAMPAIGN

The Exxon Mobil Esso Company launched a campaign, named "Breathe energy into our community", for the benefit of four charity organizations in Cyprus. The company decided to donate 100,000.00 Euros worth of fuel vouchers to the CRCS and three other Cypriot charities. By voting at the Company's service stations, the public decided the amount that each charity would receive. The campaign started in November 2014 and will end in the first quarter of 2015.



CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

NICOSIA BRANCH



Throughout 2014, the Nicosia Branch was very active in promoting the CRCS's policy, aims and priorities, which have been increased because of the financial crisis. In 2014, **1030 members and volunteers** of the Nicosia Branch were actively involved in the successful implementation of its programmes, assisting thousands of vulnerable people. In order to meet the increased demands, the Branch had to reorganize its programmes, develop further its volunteer workforce, introduce new methodologies and approaches and reach out for new synergies.

SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMME

Since September 2014, the Nicosia Branch has been implementing, on a 'pilot' basis a social welfare programme with a series of actions (food aid, clothing, home visits, psychotherapy, language lessons, counseling sessions, advocacy) with the aim for holistic approaches and methodologies. New procedures have been put forward, promoting holistic approaches and enhancing mechanisms that observe and verify the socioeconomic status of aid applicants. Interviews and home visits conducted by professionals and trained volunteers allow for the better understanding of the needs of the beneficiaries and the formulation of sustainable solutions to resolve the difficulties encountered. The programme has been running with considerable success. Further measures are currently under consideration in order to strengthen the programme financially, as well as with additional staff.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Branch provided humanitarian assistance to individuals and families, such as, among others, food, clothing, footwear, food and diapers for children, refurbished furniture and more. This effort was particularly intensified over the Christmas and Easter periods. During 2014, more than **7109 beneficiaries** were assisted by the Branch at a total cost of **355.148,63 Euros**. In addition, the Branch also contributed **12.718 Euros** for several causes. Furthermore, through the programme "**Mirazome/Sharing**", 300 beneficiaries received 16,100 cooked meals.

The Branch donated 2,700.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, the Branch offered financial assistance totaling 5,000.00 Euros. The Branch contributed to the Headquarters appeal for the Greek people of Ukraine by sending in kind humanitarian assistance.

AID ON SITE

During 2014, the Branch organized visits to aid applicants at hospitals and homes. During home visits humanitarian assistance in kind was offered, including food, clothing and footwear. Moreover, the Branch arranged visits to prisons where such support was required.

ACCESS TO HEALTH

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.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

After an agreement of the CRCS Headquarters with the Systemic Institute of Cyprus, beneficiaries of the Branch, upon referral, can receive psychotherapeutic support from professionals of the Institute. Moreover, staff and volunteers of the Branch received training on psychosocial support, organized by the Headquarters Psychosocial Support Coordinator.

CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

LANGUAGE LESSONS

The Branch has concluded an agreement with the European University of Cyprus where under aged beneficiaries can receive free English language classes. The programme is being run with considerable success and will be continued with the new semester.

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

Wheelchairs and mobility equipment were provided to poor and disabled individuals, free of charge. Wheelchairs were also offered for short term rental to the public at a very low cost. During 2014, a total of **325 wheelchairs** were offered.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNIT

The Branch participated in the CRCS emergency response exercises, which are organized in cooperation with the Government, by deploying its volunteers. Members of the Branch also participated in the Assessment Mission Courses which are funded by the European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) and coordinated by the Cyprus Civil Defense.

ENCLAVED PEOPLE

Since 1974, the CRCS has been offering assistance and support to the enclaved people who visit the free areas of Cyprus. Among others, CRCS facilitates their access to public services, hospitals and relatives, and provides food to those visiting the CRCS premises in Nicosia. Staff and volunteers of the Branch are actively involved in the provision of these services.

REFUGEES, ASYLUM SEEKERS AND MINORITY GROUPS

During 2014, the Branch, being the largest and housed in the Headquarters building, has contributed substantially in the implementation of the CRCS's services to refugees, asylum seekers and minority groups. A large number of staff and volunteers have participated in numerous activities focusing on the assistance to migrants. Members of the Branch participated in the operation of the Migration

Committee of CRCS. The Secretary of the Branch represents CRCS at the PERCO Platform of the IFRC.

Additionally, members of the Branch played a pivotal role in the CRCS's huge efforts to receive, provide emergency, early recovery and humanitarian assistance to the 345 refugees from Syria who had been residing in the Kokkinotrimithia Camp from September till the end of December 2014 after their rescue from the sea outside Paphos.

Moreover, members of the Branch have been actively involved in the coordination and implementation of the CRCS's project for the provision of psychosocial support services to the Menogia Detention Centre for Migrants, which was financed by the NGO Fund. The project aimed at the amelioration of the well-being of the detainees and to ensure the protection of their basic rights.

Volunteers conducted visits to the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers at Kofinou, paid home visits to migrants, provided humanitarian assistance to large numbers of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers who visited the Branch, twice a week, as well as medical support for emergency cases.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

During 2014, the Branch organized a large number of fundraising activities, including a music concert, a bazaar, a charity lunch, a tea party, and a bingo night, art exhibitions, auction nights, book sales, the "Door to Door" fundraising campaign, as well as several other fundraising campaigns in supermarkets, parks, stadiums and schools.



CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

LIMASSOL BRANCH



In 2014, the CRCS Limassol Branch with its **350 volunteers and members** assisted and participated in several activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarter Committees, in full compliance with the policies of the Movement.

HOME VISIT SCHEME

The main target of this scheme was to visit individuals who had mobility problems because of a disability. Their needs were evaluated, and the individuals and families concerned were provided with as much assistance as possible. Additionally, visits were made to hospitals, old people's homes, kindergartens, families and individuals, from all over the city of Limassol and the district.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

At the Branch premises in Limassol, two rooms were converted into adult and children's clothing boutiques, in order to

facilitate the selection of clothing by those in need. Christmas and Easter special food parcels were distributed to Cypriot families and individuals for the festive seasons. Financial aid was offered to individuals in special cases for medical reasons. Furthermore, the Branch continued to offer breakfast to 100 students during the school period. During 2014, the Branch offered humanitarian assistance to **1,320 families and individuals** at a total cost of **91,245.96 Euros**.

The Branch donated 2,200.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, the Branch offered financial assistance totaling 5,000.00 Euros. The Branch contributed to the Headquarters appeal for the Greek people of Ukraine by sending in kind humanitarian assistance.

REFUGEES, ASYLUM SEEKERS AND MINORITY GROUPS

Twice a week the Branch offered food parcels and clothing to individuals and families of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in need.

On 25th of September 2014, **345 Syrian refugees** were rescued from their sinking ship drifting off the coast of Paphos. A passenger cruiser heading for Limassol Port. They were met by local authorities concerned and representatives of the Branch, who stayed with the refugees throughout the duration (approximately 15 hours) of the disembarkation process. All assistance required was offered to them until their departure for Nicosia.



CRCs BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

Throughout 2014, the Limassol Branch provided wheelchairs and mobility equipment to poor and disabled people free of charge – in total, **68 wheelchairs, 15 walkers** and 10 crutches were distributed. Also, wheelchairs were available for short term rental for a very low fee.

BLOOD DONATION

The 55 year old Blood Donation Scheme of the Branch continued with success with the collection of almost 4,000 bags of blood for the Limassol General Hospital. The scheme was carried out in cooperation with the Hospital Blood Bank Team, Secondary Schools of Limassol and Limassol district as well as the help of the Blood Donation Committee members of the Branch.

FUNDRAISING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

The main fundraising event of 2014 was again the “Door to Door” fundraising campaign. In addition, collections were made at a summer party held at the house of a member of the Branch Committee, a Fashion Show at the Four Seasons Hotel, and a music concert dedicated to Mimis Plesas. Other sources of income included the collection of membership fees, donations received at funerals in memoriam, as well as donations given by individuals and companies. Twice, during 2014, collection of food items took place at supermarkets by volunteers of the Branch. Food collection baskets were placed at eight major supermarkets in Limassol.



FAMAGUSTA BRANCH



After its displacement from Famagusta in 1974, the Branch continued to operate from its refugee quarters in Larnaca. In 2014, the Branch had more than **250 members and volunteers** who, despite the unfavorable conditions, continued to provide humanitarian assistance to the 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 Society and the Movement.

CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

HOME VISIT SCHEME

The Branch has a home visiting programme which includes kindergartens, special schools, homes for the elderly and other institutions. The Branch Committee responsible for the home visits, paid monthly visits in support of those in need. The visits were intensified during the Christmas and Easter periods, when baskets of food and clothing were provided to **950 individuals** and families in Larnaca and free Famagusta district. The total amount spent for the humanitarian assistance scheme amounted to **17,000.00 Euros**.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Branch also offered breakfast to a number of poor students at schools. Additionally, at its premises, the Branch continued to support 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 total amount spent for the said purposes amounted to **12,947.00 Euros**.

The Branch donated 700.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, the Branch offered financial assistance totaling 2,000.00 Euros and distributed in kind humanitarian assistance such as blankets, sheets and quilts. The Branch contributed to the Headquarters appeal for the Greek people of Ukraine by sending in kind humanitarian assistance.



WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

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

MEDICAL AID

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

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES AND OTHER EVENTS

In 2014, the main annual fundraising activity of the Branch was the organization of a fundraising Tea Party, in addition to the annual "Door to Door" fundraising campaign of the CRCS. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations received from individuals and companies, as well as donations received in memory of deceased persons. On 5 February 2014, the Branch organized an honorary event for its members who retired.

CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

LARNACA BRANCH



During 2014, the Larnaca Branch numbered **250 members and volunteers** who were fully committed to the humanitarian work of the CRCS, which is to support in every way all categories of vulnerable people - old, sick, disabled, children - and to do their utmost to alleviate human suffering of any kind. Additionally, the Branch's members and volunteers supported all functions, activities and campaigns organized by the CRCS Headquarters' Committees, complying with the policies and trends of the Society and the Movement.

HOME VISITS SCHEME

All through 2014, members and volunteers of the Branch paid regular visits to the three local Special Schools for children with disabilities and distributed parcels with food, cakes, sweets and toys. Similar visits were paid to all the homes for the elderly in Larnaca and the district, where recreational programs were organized as well.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Due to the 2013 financial crisis, which is still affecting adversely a large number of vulnerable people in Cyprus, the need to provide food, clothing and basic essentials is still the major concern of the Branch. The

number of people depending on support from philanthropic organizations is still high and will continue to be so if these people remain unemployed, with no means to support themselves and their families.

During the year under review the Branch provided 10,071 food parcels to families of all categories in Larnaca and the district and offered monthly breakfasts to poor students from 16 high schools. A total of **530 families and individuals** were assisted by the Branch, at a total cost of **18,756.00 Euros**. Additionally, there was a steady flow of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees who received assistance from the Branch on a regular basis. During 2014, the Branch responded to a number of requests by vulnerable people for financial assistance such as the payment of outstanding utility bills, school fees and medical treatment and equipment, at a total cost of **1,800.00 Euros**.

The Branch donated 800.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, the Branch offered financial assistance totaling 5,000.00 Euros. Volunteers of the Branch helped to record the damages in each household and distributed food, clothing, sheets, blankets, towels and other essentials worth 1,000.00 Euros. The Branch contributed to the Headquarters appeal for the Greek people of Ukraine by sending in kind humanitarian assistance.

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

The Branch provides wheelchairs and mobility equipment to poor, disabled or sick people, free of charge. This equipment is also offered for short term rental to the public at very low cost. During 2014, the Branch offered **21 wheelchairs** to authorized recipients.

BLOOD DONATION

The American Academy of Larnaca has been organizing in coordination with the Branch, Blood Donation events among the students of the higher classes for many years. The Branch issues certificates and awards to all Blood Donors. During 2014, the Branch had **70 blood donors**.

CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PREPAREDNESS

Due to the proximity of the Branch to the Larnaca Port and Airport, the Branch participated in two save and rescue exercises in collaboration with the CRCS Disaster Management Committee and the Civil Defense. The first one, called "Engelados" was an exercise concerning rescue and support efforts in the event of an earthquake and the second one, called "Argonaftis", was a military exercise.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The main fundraising events were the annual Christmas Tea Party and Bazaar in December, in addition to the annual "Door to Door" fundraising campaign in May. Other fundraising events which were also very successful were the proceeds from the sale of the entire content of the late Pierides house, donated to the CRCS, and an exhibition by a group of 82 Artists, which was jointly organized with the Branch. Other sources of income were the collection of membership fees, donations received from individuals and companies, as well as donations received in memory of deceased persons.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch participated in a two-day CRCS Seminar for psychosocial support. It also organized educational excursions to visit galleries and ancient churches, for its members. The Branch continued to offer full year scholarships to two African students of the Orthodox Church School of Kenya for the fourth year running.

PAPHOS BRANCH



In 2014, the Branch had **47 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 Society and the Movement.

HOME VISIT SCHEME

The Branch has a home visiting programme, which during 2014, included provision of assistance to kindergartens, schools, children's homes, homes for the elderly, special schools for people with special needs, shelters and other institutions. The visits intensified during the Christmas and Easter periods. Clothing, food vouchers, educational items and toys were distributed to 50 families and individuals in Paphos and the surrounding areas.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

In response to the increased demands which were caused by the financial crisis, the Branch intensified its efforts for the provision of humanitarian assistance. In some cases, financial assistance was also offered,

CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

especially to students and individuals, as well as to families facing special difficulties. Additionally, at its premises the Branch continued supporting vulnerable migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, providing food, clothing and footwear. The total amount spent for the above, amounted to **4,500.00 Euros**.

The Branch donated 200.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, the Branch offered financial assistance totaling 500.00 Euros. The Branch also contributed to the Headquarters appeal for the Greek people of Ukraine by sending in kind humanitarian assistance.

WHEELCHAIR AND MOBILITY EQUIPMENT SCHEME

Provision of wheelchairs to poor and disabled individuals was free of charge. Through this scheme, wheelchairs were also offered for short term rental to the public, at a very low cost. The Branch offered **28 wheelchairs**.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

During 2014, all annual fundraising activities organized by the Branch were successful and generated considerable income. The main one was the “Door to Door” fundraising campaign. 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 in December and sold Christmas cards. The Branch organized a Bingo – Tea night in October.

KYRENIA BRANCH



Despite its displaced status, the Kyrenia Branch of the CRCS has been very active and had **280 volunteers and members** in 2014, whose enthusiasm and initiative responded successfully to the humanitarian needs of people displaced from Kyrenia and who live around the island. Members of the Branch also participated in all CRCS activities and campaigns organized by the Headquarters, such as the Ebola campaign, in compliance with the policies and trends of the Movement.

HOME VISIT SCHEME

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

CRCS BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

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 assistance was also provided to students and other individuals who, due to the financial crisis, were unable to pay their utility bills and the fees for the education of their children. At its premises, the Branch continued to support individuals in need, offering clothing and footwear.

The Branch donated 800.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, the Branch offered financial assistance totalling 3,500.00 Euros. The Branch contributed to the Headquarters appeal for the Greek people of Ukraine by sending in kind humanitarian assistance.

The Branch participated in the "Love Campaigns" to provide primary school children in the Nicosia district with everything necessary for a fulsome Christmas and Easter dinners. Additionally, it provided assistance to more than 1400 individuals and families throughout the island. The total amount spent for the said purposes amounted to 46,627.00 Euros.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT PREPAREDNESS

Members of the Branch are actively involved in the Disaster Management Committee. Its members and volunteers were involved in assisting the evacuees from Syria that were rescued when their boat capsized near Cyprus.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The annual fundraising activities of the Branch were quite successful in 2014 despite the financial crisis. They generated considerable income for the Branch and consisted of the annual Tea Party, the "Door to Door" fundraising campaign, the Christmas Bazaar at "Eleftheria" Square in Nicosia and a book presentation by Dr. Nicos Angelides. 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.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Branch organized an excursion for the elderly and individuals living alone to the Monastery and the Thalassa Museum in Ayia Napa.

The Elli Soteropoulou 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 2014, jointly with the Youth Section of the CRCS.

YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES

In 2014 the Youth Section continued its reorganization which had started after the approval of the new CRCS Statutes in 2012, which provided for a lower age limit for the members of the Youth Section. Fortunately, the financial crisis of 2013 and its many serious consequences, instead of affecting adversely the Youth Section's operations, provided incentives to upgrade very significantly the Section's operation, as highlighted by a variety of actions and activities, especially in the humanitarian section and the provision of assistance to those who were in need. In 2014, the Youth Section had 3156 volunteers who were mainly students of primary and secondary schools, and university students, as well as many other young volunteers.

The Youth Section's activities in 2014 fell under the following fields:

- **Provision of humanitarian and financial assistance**
- **Fundraising**
- **Training**
- **Organization of special events for raising awareness and information**

PROVISION OF HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Provision of breakfast to 509 primary and secondary school students, on a daily basis, at a total cost of 86,765.00 Euros.
- Distribution of 3000 food parcels to families of students of primary and secondary schools during Easter and Christmas in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Nicosia and Kyrenia Branches.
- Financial assistance to students and other individuals in need (travelling expenses for treatment abroad, purchase of books etc).
- The Youth Section donated 2,600.00 Euros in response to an appeal by the CRCS Headquarters to help the victims of the war in Gaza. In December, following the floods in Larnaca, it also offered financial assistance, totalling 2,000.00 Euros.
- Visits to charitable institutions: Secondary school students from Tsirio Gymnasium visited the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti, on 8 December 2014, and offered Christmas gifts to the children. Also, on 10 December 2014, students from five Gymnasiums (Anthoupoli, Engomi, Geri, Makedonitissa and Stavrou) and three Lyceums (Apostolos Markos, "Ethnomartira

Kyprianou" in Strovolos and Kykkos B), visited the Christos Stelios Ioannou Foundation for adults with disabilities and offered gifts to the residents.

- Two volunteer teachers assisted 50 students with their homework from the following primary schools: Lakatamia B, Makedonitissa C, Palouriotissa B and Lycavitos.

FUNDRAISING

- Annual "Door to Door" fundraising campaign. The revenue from the fundraising campaign for 2014 amounted to 68,061.00 Euros.
- Organization of events: Christmas charity bazaar, tea and fashion show at the residence of Mrs. Maro Efstathiadou, art and photography exhibition, the "Toy drive" Pancyprian campaign at Early Learning Centres.



YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES

TRAINING

- **“Saturday Children Programme”:**

This programme involves young people aged 12-18 year old, who gather every Saturday at the offices of the Red Cross in Nicosia with the objective to organize and participate in various events. The total number of children attending this weekly programme was 40.

- **Annual Pancyprian Conference:**

In 2014, the conference was attended by 120 students, aged 12-17 years old, from all cities of Cyprus. The theme of the conference was “The Red Cross in 1974 and the Red Cross today”.

- **Summer Seminar and Camp in Kakopetria village:**

In 2014, the summer seminar and camp in Kakopetria village was attended by 71 children, aged 12-15 years old, from all cities of Cyprus. The camp and seminar lasted a week from 7 to 10 July 2014. The main objective was to give the children the opportunity to participate in an entertaining and at the same time educational programme for young leaders, which would allow them to learn more about the Red Cross, the promotion of the principles, ideals and spirit of the Red Cross, and teach them leadership skills which they could use in their schools. A special closing event was organized by the children on the last day, which was attended by many CRCS officials and parents.

- **Informative lectures for the Red Cross in primary and secondary schools:**

The aim and objectives of these lectures which are organized by the Youth Section in primary and secondary schools are to inform students and teachers about the humanitarian work of the CRCS and its structure, the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and the organisation and activities of the CRCS Youth Section. In 2014, the Youth Section organised 40 such lectures.

- **1st Pancyprian Team Building Conference:**

The Youth Section organized for the first time a Pancyprian Team Building Conference, on 13 September 2014. The Conference was attended by 45 members from the District Youth Sections. The main topic of the conference was the presentation of the Youth Engagement Strategy of the IFRC. The

participants had the opportunity to meet with the members of the other district Youth Sections, get to know each other, exchange experiences and discuss topics of mutual interest and build collaboration and relationships.

ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL EVENT FOR RAISING AWARENESS AND INFORMATION

Event for raising awareness against sexually transmitted diseases with the Motto “Zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS related deaths”:

This Youth Section raising awareness event, concerning sexually transmitted diseases, and specifically AIDS-HIV, took place at Ledras Street in Nicosia on 1 December 2014, on the occasion of the World Day against AIDS-HIV. During the very successful event, the Youth Section set up a promotion kiosk from which free condoms and informative material were distributed to the public for the protection against sexually transmitted diseases. The Youth Section organized also, with the collaboration of the dance school “Caliente”, a Flash Mob at the Ledras Street.

OTHER EVENTS

- On 28 March 2014, the Youth Section organized an event in Limassol to honour its retiring members and volunteers.
- The Youth Section participated in the “Let’s do it Cyprus” campaign. The campaign was held on 6 April 2014 and the main objective was the cleaning of an area in Limassol.



INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

The financial crisis obliged the CRCS to divert its diminished resources towards the increasing local humanitarian needs. Nevertheless, the CRCS did its best to respond to appeals for assistance to vulnerable groups and victims of human and/or natural disasters worldwide. Accordingly, in 2014, the CRCS participated in programmes of international humanitarian assistance and to the people of Ukraine, Gaza and Serbia, by making donations to the best of its ability.

HUMANITARIAN AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

CRCS assistance to Ukraine

The CRCS, in response to an appeal from the Ambassador of Ukraine in Cyprus and the Greek Minorities Association of Eastern Ukraine, delivered in kind humanitarian assistance to the Greek people who had been affected by the fighting in Donetsk and Lugansk regions in Ukraine. Specifically, **70 boxes and 64 bags**, including baby and adults clothing, blankets, sheets, towels, shoes etc.

CRCS assistance to Gaza, Palestine

The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) launched an Emergency Appeal in order to enable them respond to the urgent needs they were confronted with following the war on the Gaza Strip and the clashes in the West Bank. The CRCS responded by offering a financial assistance of **10.000 Euros**.

CRCS assistance to Serbia

The CRCS, in collaboration with the pharmaceutical company Remedica, sent two tons of food and two **tons of medical supplies worth 55,000.00 Euros**, for the flood victims in Serbia. The aid was delivered during a ceremony at the Headquarters of the CRCS by its Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou, and the Marketing Manager of Remedica, Mr. Andreas Hadjipanayis, to the Deputy Chief of mission of the Embassy, Ms. Ivana Golubovic Duboka. The aid was delivered to the Red Cross of Serbia and distributed to the flood victims.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In a globalized world of inter-dependency, and as a full member of the largest humanitarian organization in the world, it is clear that the CRCS cannot operate in isolation. After the CRCS's recognition by the ICRC and its official admission as a member of the International RC/RC Movement, the CRCS strengthened its contacts and enhanced cooperation with various sister National Societies. Officials, members and volunteers of the Society participated in various International and European Meetings that dealt with several subjects, including: first aid; psychosocial support; migration; measures to strengthening further sister National Societies; and the humanitarian impact of the use of nuclear weapons. The CRCS representatives also held bilateral meetings with the representatives of other organizations, exchanging views regarding how to further improve and strengthen the operation of their respective organizations.

MEETINGS IN CYPRUS

VISIT OF THE EDITOR OF THE RC/RC MAGAZINE

3-7 February 2014, Nicosia, Cyprus

The November 2013 admission of the CRCS as a member of the International RC/RC Movement, among others, attracted the interest of Mr. Malcolm Lucard, Editor of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Magazine, who expressed the wish to write an article on the new 188th member of the Movement. After a provisional agreement during the Sydney Statutory Meetings, Mr Lucard visited Cyprus from 3 to 7 February 2014. During his visit, he was briefed on the work of the CRCS by the Director General. Mr. Lucard interviewed a number of officials of the CRCS Headquarters, as well as of the Branches; he visited the CRCS Stella Soulioti Children Therapy Centre, as well as the occupied part of Cyprus, in order to observe the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the enclaved by the Red Cross. The article is expected to be published in the first term of 2015.

VISIT OF THE ICELANDIC RED CROSS DELEGATION

15-16 December 2014, Nicosia, Cyprus

Following contacts and discussions during the first meeting of the Red Cross Small European Countries that was held in Luxembourg in October 2014, the Icelandic RC expressed interest to establish cooperation with the CRCS. On December 15 and 16

2014, two members of the Icelandic RC, Mr. Thorir Gudmundsson and Mr. Atli Thorstensen visited Cyprus and had meetings with the CRCS Director General, who briefed them on the work of the CRCS and especially the Psychosocial Support and Migration programmes. The visitors from Iceland had also the opportunity to visit the refugee camp in Kokkinotrimithia, Nicosia, where they were briefed on the CRCS work and the assistance provided to the refugees from Syria. During the meetings, it was provisionally agreed that the Icelandic RC will help the CRCS to develop and improve further its services in Psychosocial Support and Legal Assistance to migrants.

INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

MEETINGS OF THE CRCS DIRECTOR GENERAL

MEETING AT THE IFRC EUROPE ZONE OFFICE

4-5 March 2014, Budapest, Hungary

MEETING AT THE RED CROSS EU OFFICE

7 March 2014, Brussels, Belgium

CRCS received an invitation to visit the RC EU Office in Brussels and the IFRC Europe Zone in Budapest from 4 to 7 of March 2014. The invitation was addressed to the Presidents/Secretaries/Directors General of newly elected leaders of National

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Societies. The CRCS was represented by its Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou. The CRCS Director General met with Mrs. Anitta Underlin, Head of the IFRC Europe Zone Office (EZO), and the staff members. The purpose of the meeting was to be informed about the mission, the activities and priorities of the EZO and the priorities of the Governing Board of the IFRC, as well as to discuss topics of common interest of the participating National Societies. In addition, the CRCS Director General of the Society had a meeting with the Director of the Red Cross EU Office, Mr. Leon Prop, and his staff. The purpose of the visit was to be informed about the major strategic objectives of the RC EU Office. Mr. Neophytou made a brief presentation about the CRCS's work and activities.

PERCO MEETINGS

HOSTING OF TWO PERCO WORKING GROUP MEETINGS IN CYPRUS

17-19 March, Nicosia, Cyprus

Two PERCO (Platform for European Red Cross Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants) Working Group meetings were hosted by the CRCS from 17 to 19 March 2014. The CRCS provided the venue for the meetings and offered administrative assistance. During the working groups a new group called "Lack of legal status" was established. Members of the CRCS Migration Committee (MC) participated in the working groups and Mr. George Frantzis, an officer of the Nicosia Branch and secretary of the CRCS Migration Committee, made a presentation about the activities and goals of the CRCS MC.

3-4 April 2014, Luxembourg

23-25 October 2014, Lisbon, Portugal

Since 2007, the CRCS has been participating at the PERCO meetings. In April 2013 during the Budapest PERCO meeting, CRCS was fully recognized as a member of PERCO. In 2014, for both PERCO meetings, CRCS was represented by Mrs. Andri Agrotis, Secretary of the Nicosia Branch. During the PERCO meetings,

according to the internal procedures and agenda, a short round table presentation is given by the participating National Societies. The CRCS representative provided a short presentation of the National Society's programmes and targets related to irregular migrants and asylum seekers in Cyprus and gave an overall description of the current situation in the country. During the last two meetings, a special report prepared by the National Society, was distributed to the participants, focusing on the emergency response actions taken by the CRCS for the unexpected arrival of 350 Syrians refugees rescued at sea close to Cyprus, who were on board a boat in danger. Furthermore, PERCO was briefed on the actions being taken by the CRCS in the sole detention center in Cyprus for migrants, focusing on psychosocial support and the reestablishment and the smooth functioning of the CRCS Migration Committee. Through its participation in PERCO, the CRCS tries to strengthen its links and cooperation with other National Societies in order to benefit from their knowhow and experience and secure technical advice in the field of migration, on issues where the NS needs reinforcement and accurate feedback.

9TH EUROPEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

3-6 June 2014, Florence, Italy

After its recognition and admission to the RC/RC Movement, the CRCS was officially invited for the first time to participate in the 9th European Regional Conference. The Conference, hosted by the Italian Red Cross, was held in Florence, Italy, from June 3- 6, 2014. The CRCS was represented by its Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou and its Council Member, Ms Amalia Erotokritos. The title of the Conference was: "The humanitarian impact of the economic crisis in Europe and the role of the Red Cross Red Crescent in the response". The two main topics were: (a) How vulnerability has changed; and (b), Crisis as an opportunity. The Conference approved the "Florence Call for Action", which, among others, called on Governments, the Corporate Sector, Partners and other Organizations to work together with the Red Cross and invest in innovative and long term solutions to turn the tide of the crisis and bring hope to those most affected.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

21ST EUROPEAN YOUTH COOPERATION MEETING

31 May – 3 June 2014, Volterra, Italy

The CRCS Youth Section participated in the 21st European Youth Cooperation Meeting (EYCM), which was held in Volterra, Italy, from 31 May to 3 June 2014. The President of the Nicosia-Morfou-Kyrenia Youth Section, Mrs. Agathi Hadjoulli, and two other volunteers, Mrs Marianna Taliadorou and Mrs Ourania Michaelidou, represented our Society. During the meeting, the new European Youth Council Committee was elected. The next European Youth Leadership meeting will be held in Ireland, in October 2015.

THE FIRST MEETING

OF THE RED CROSS SMALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

2-3 October, Luxembourg

The Red Cross Society of Luxemburg took the responsibility to organize the first meeting of the Small European Countries (SEC) Red Cross Societies Group. The Meeting was held in Luxemburg from 2 to 3 October 2014. The CRCS was represented by the President, Mrs. Fotini Papadopoulos, the A' Vice President, Mrs. Leda Kouroumba, and the Director General, Mr. Takis Neophytou. The objectives of the meeting were the following:

- Develop relations of friendship and mutual support between SEC National Societies
- Establish collaborations in national and international activities
- Put in place a dialogue regarding the role of SEC NS within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Most of the time of the meeting was used for presentations by the participating National Societies. The CRCS gave an overview of its work through a presentation which generated a lot of questions and interest by some NS to establish cooperation with the CRCS.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST AID EDUCATION EUROPEAN NETWORK (FAEEN)

9-11 October 2014, Paris, France

The annual meeting of the First Aid Education European Network (FAEEN) was held in Paris, France,

from 9 to 11 October 2014. The meeting was attended by representatives from 38 National Societies. The CRCS was represented by Mr. Mimis Theodotou, a member of the First Aid Committee and one of the first aid trainers of the Society. The theme of the meeting was "Strengthening National Societies programmes through networking". Networking was explored from the following angles:

- Operational networks (e.g. Project Partnerships)
- Networks within the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (like FAEEN)
- External professional networking (e.g. with other educational organizations)

MOVEMENT INDUCTION COURSE (MIC)

13-17 October 2014, Geneva, Switzerland

The ICRC and the IFRC organized a course for newly elected leaders of National Societies called "Movement Induction Course (MIC)", held in Geneva, from 13 to 17 October 2014. The meeting was attended by 20 representatives from National Societies of the following countries: Azerbaijan, Barbados, Botswana, Cape Verde, Croatia, Cyprus, Haiti, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Pakistan, Sao Tome and Principe, South Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tanzania, and Turkey. The CRCS was represented by its Secretary, Ms Thalia Vourkidou. The meetings took place at the ICRC Headquarters, at the Federation Secretariat and the ICRC training centre in Ecogia. In the fulfillment of the participation requirements, the CRCS representative was duly prepared on several topics, including the following: World of Red Cross - WORC (20hrs); Strategy 2020; Introduction to Governance and Management; Code of Conduct; Statutes of the International RC/RC Movement; Statutes of the ICRC; Constitution of the International Federation of RC/RC Societies; Statutes of the International RC/RC Movement; Statutes of the ICRC; ICRC strategy 2015-2018; ICRC organizational chart; IFRC organizational chart;

The objectives of the course included, among others, the following:

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- understanding of the international responsibilities that National Societies have within the Movement and the role of senior leaders;
- promotion of active participation;
- improvement of the co-operation mechanisms and support to the development of National Societies; and,
- clarification of the responsibilities of National Societies.

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP CONSULTATION MEETING

14 – 15 October 2014, Madrid, Spain

The Regional Leadership Consultation meeting was the third organized by the Europe Zone Office and was held from 14 to 15 October 2015 in Madrid, Spain. The meeting was hosted by the Spanish Red Cross in cooperation with the ICRC and IFRC. It was attended by 16 representatives from 11 National Societies, 8 ICRC officials and 9 IFRC officials. The main speaker was the Secretary General of the IFRC, Mr. Elhadj As Sy. The other speakers were: the President of the Spanish Red Cross, Mr. Juan Manuel Suárez, the Vice President of the ICRC, Ms Christine Beerli, and the Vice President of the IFRC, Mr. Francesco Rocca. The topics of the meeting were the following:

- IFRC Governance and Constitutional Review
- Movement Branding Initiative
- Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC)
- Next steps for the promotion of the “Florence Call for Action”.

ANNUAL EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (ENPS) FORUM

24-26 October 2014, Dublin, Ireland

The ENPS Forum, hosted by the Irish Red Cross, was held from 24 to 26 October 2014, at the Emmaus Centre, Dublin, Ireland. The theme was “Vulnerabilities and challenges in a changing world – Do no harm”. It was attended by representatives from the following National Societies: Armenian, Austrian, Belgian, British, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Finnish,

French, Hellenic, Georgian, Hungarian, Italian, Palestinian, Romanian, Turkish, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Irish, as well as by IFRC representatives. The CRCS was represented by Ms Melissa Tsimon, Psychosocial Support Officer. Although the theme was heavily focused on the principle “Do no harm” and representatives tailored their presentations on their work around it, the organization of the Forum, provided also the opportunity for mutual exchange on experiences and the establishment of working relations between the representatives. The Forum begun with a presentation from the IFRC representatives, emphasizing the necessity of carrying out a “Needs Assessment” when working with vulnerable populations. It suggested that through a proper assessment, mistakes could be avoided and efficient preparedness, design and correct psychosocial activities and interventions could be secured. The Forum continued with presentations on stress, volunteer development, capacity building and training of staff and volunteers. Thereafter, National Societies reflected on their ongoing projects in their countries and abroad and spoke about their approach to the crisis situation. Overall, CRCS’s participation in the conference enabled the formulation of relationships with other National Societies, the exchange of know-how and experiences, which proved very useful during the crisis event in Cyprus of the arrival of the 345 Syrian Refugees.

RCRC EXCHANGE ON MIGRATION PROGRAMMES

23-29 November 2014, Italy

The Red Cross/Red Crescent Exchange Programme on migration was coordinated by the Red Cross Center for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean, was held from 23 to 29 November 2014, in Catania, Rome and Turin, in Italy. The CRCS was represented by Mr Giorgos Frantzis, Nicosia Branch officer and Secretary of the CRCS Migration Committee, and Mr Achilleas Kontos, volunteer and member of the CRCS Migration Committee. The other participating National Societies were the Hellenic RC, the Italian RC and the Malta RC. Meetings and visits were held with management staff and volunteers of the Italian Red Cross and its Branches. The CRCS representatives had also the opportunity to meet with

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



UNHCR officers at the field and several key officers of various local authorities. Most importantly, the delegation experienced actions being implemented in the field at the harbour, at two asylum reception centers in Sicily and Torino, and refugee hosting buildings at Rome. Each delegation had the opportunity to present its work focusing on migration related issues and share experiences and views on the methodologies being followed by each national society. The CRCS gave presentations on the current asylum system in Cyprus and the migration inflows, the project in Menogia Detention Centre focusing on the psychosocial support of irregular migrants and the actions taken in the Kokkinotrimithia Refugee Camp. The CRCS also held discussions about the prospects of developing further migration related actions.

VIENNA CONFERENCE ON THE HUMANITARIAN IMPACT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS 8-9 December 2014, Vienna, Austria

The Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons was held in Vienna, Austria, from 8 to

9 December 2014. The main objective of the conference was to examine the humanitarian impact from the use of nuclear weapons. The Conference was attended, among others, by representatives from 158 countries, the United Nations, the ICRC, the IFRC, RC/RC National Societies, civil society, academics and scientists. The CRCS was represented by its General Director, Mr. Takis Neophytou. The Conference included the following sessions:

- Impact of Nuclear Weapons Explosions
- Impact of Nuclear Testing
- Risk Drivers for deliberate or inadvertent Nuclear Weapons Use
- Scenarios, Challenges and Capabilities regarding Nuclear Weapons Use and other events
- A “bird’s-eye view” on International Norms and the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons
- Discussion / General Debate

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

In 2014, the CRCS website and its Facebook page and various groups remained the basic communication tools, through which the CRCS remained in contact with thousands of members, volunteers and friends in Cyprus and abroad. Furthermore, the CRCS carried out its information and communication activities, among others, through media relations activities, radio and TV interviews, press releases and conferences, public speeches, TV advertising, print ads and other promotional materials, such as PowerPoint presentations in Greek and English on the work of CRCS, and the 2014 desk calendar.

MONTHLY DIARY OF EVENTS

In 2014 the CRCS continued preparing 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 the Youth Section, as well as the Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti, 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 upgrade of its website www.redcross.org.cy in 2013. The website was prepared in three languages - Greek, English and Turkish - and 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. During 2014, the CRCS was able to manage and continuously update its website.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media serve the social interaction among people through which they create, share or exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks. CRCS, in an effort to update members and volunteers about its events and programmes and attract new friends and supporters, created a group on Facebook in April 2009, named Cyprus Red Cross Society. During the years that followed, the CRCS's Subsidiary Units started creating their own groups and pages on Facebook. Currently, the CRCS has in total nine groups and pages on Facebook (www.facebook.com), as follows:

- Cyprus Red Cross Society
- Cyprus Red Cross Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti
- Cyprus Red Cross Society Nicosia Branch
- Cyprus Red Cross Society Limassol Branch
- Cyprus Red Cross Larnaca
- Cyprus Red Cross Youth Section
- Saturday Red Cross Kids
- Cyprus Red Cross Youth Section Limassol
- Cyprus Red Cross Youth Section Paphos

CRCS has also a YouTube and Twitter account.



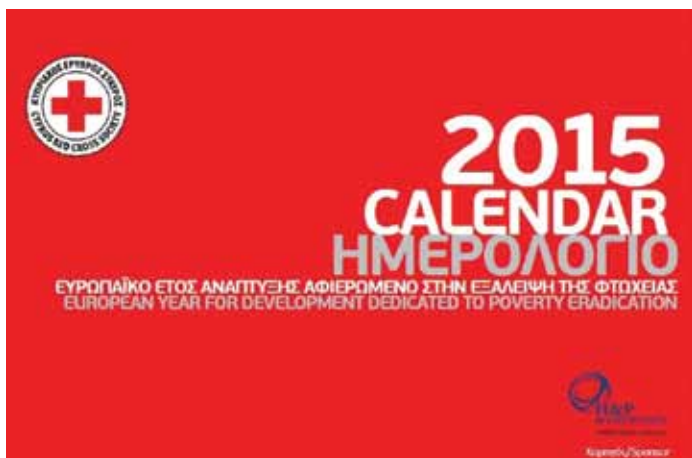
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

DESK CALENDARS

In December 2014, following an already established tradition, CRCS printed both in Greek and English languages a large number of 2015 Desk Calendars, promoting the European Year for Development, dedicated to poverty eradication. The calendars were distributed free of charge to CRCS members and associates, while a small number of copies were also sent to the Red Cross Headquarters in Geneva, as well as Brussels, Budapest and other RC/RC National Societies. The production of the calendars was sponsored by H&P Accountants to whom CRCS expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation.

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 to all the members of the staff for their generous and valuable assistance and support in promoting with great success the CRCS activities, programmes and humanitarian work.



FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL INFORMATION

The overall financial position of the CRCS for 2014 can be considered as satisfactory bearing in mind the continuing adverse economic conditions that prevailed in the country during the year. In general, the level of the Income was satisfactory and comparable to that of the previous year. The level of Expenses however was much higher due to the pressure for providing assistance to needy people resulting from the adverse economic conditions. In particular, the expenses for food packages donated to needy people on a regular basis had reached very high levels.

More specifically:

- The HQs ended the year with a small excess of Expenditure over Income that was equivalent to the Depreciation Charge for the year. So in effect the HQs had a balanced Income and Expenditure in cash terms.
- The Therapy Centre ended the year with a significant excess of Expenditure over Income that reflects the reduced Government Subvention and the reduced amount of Donations channeled to the Centre.
- The results of the other Units are comparable with those of the previous year that show mostly increased Expenditure reflecting the continuing adverse economic conditions of the country.

CRCS PERSONNEL

Although CRCS is basically a 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 2014 CRCS employed a relatively small number of staff as follows:

Headquarters:

Director General - Takis Neophytou
Secretary - Thalia Vourkidou
Head of Accounts Department - Christiana Eliades
Administration Officer - Androulla Angelidou
Psychosocial Support Coordinator - Melissa Tsimon (since March 2014)
Officer - Giorgos Hadjistasi (since October 2014)
Cleaner - Vasiliki Michael

Nicosia Branch:

Field Officer - Giorgos Frantzis
Administration Officer - Eleni Panayiotou
Officer/ Messenger - Michalis Neophytou
Officer - Myroula Mouza

Limassol Branch:

Administration Officer - Stella Philippou
Administration Officer - Polina Savva

Famagusta Branch:

Administration Officer - Cornilia Zografou

Larnaca Branch:

Administration Officer - Maria Lambrou

Paphos Branch:

Administration Officer - Elli Sokratous

Youth Section:

Administration Officer - Andrea Loizou

CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti:

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

EMPLOYMENT OF STAFF MEMBERS

Psychosocial Support Coordinator

As of March 2014, the CRCS employed Ms Melissa Tsimon to work, once a week, as a Psychosocial Support (PSS) Coordinator at its Headquarters in Nicosia. Her main tasks and responsibilities are to organize the CRCS Psychosocial Support Team, educate CRCS members and volunteers and develop cooperation with the University of Cyprus, the Civil Defense, the Police, the Fire Department as well as other Governmental Departments and other Organizations.

HQs Officer

As of October 2014, the CRCS has employed Mr Giorgos Hadjistasi to work at its Headquarters in Nicosia as an officer on a full time basis. Prior to his appointment, Mr Hadjistasi worked at the CRCS for six months on secondment from the Human Resource Development Authority. His main tasks and responsibilities are the development, promotion and management of the First Aid programme, provision of services to the enclaved people, the maintenance of buildings, vehicles and machinery, provisions and supplies and participation in the organization of events.

INTERNSHIP

From Sept 2014 until March 2015 Ms Alexandra Verniers from Belgium, was placed at the Headquarters of the Cyprus Red Cross Society, as an intern through the Leonardo Da Vinci European Programme. For a period of six months, she participated in a variety of activities, campaigns and other programmes of the CRCS. For four months she undertook the coordination of the Red Cross Unit in the camp for the Syrian and Palestinian refugees, who were rescued from the sea, outside Cyprus on 25 September 2014. Her duties included the management of the CRCS humanitarian assistance distribution centre of the camp and the coordination of all the services which were offered by the CRCS in cooperation with other partners, including the training of volunteers, the organization of entertainment, psychosocial support, educational and other activities. The CRCS expresses its

most sincere appreciation and thanks to Ms Verniers for her valuable contribution to its humanitarian work.



EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

In May 2013, the Human Resource Development Authority (HRDA) in Cyprus, in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance, with the objective of minimizing the adverse effects of the financial crisis, initiated a "Special Prevention Action Plan". The HRDA plan which provided for "Job placement and training of unemployed tertiary education young graduates", continued in 2014. In response to applications submitted, the CRCS secured the recruitment of two university graduates and one high school graduate, who worked at the CRCS Nicosia Branch and the Youth Section for a period of six months. The salaries of the three employees were covered by the HRDA.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

The CRCS's annual membership fee remained 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

FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL INFORMATION

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. During 2014, Mrs. Koursoumba continued 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 cooperation of the CRCS with several UN agencies goes back to the first years after the invasion. The goal of the UNDP-ACT programme is to contribute towards a strengthened culture of cooperation and trust amongst all segments of the Cypriot society. In return to the accommodation provided to the programme's meetings and other facilities by the CRCS, in 2014 the UNDP-ACT continued its assistance to the CRCS (Project November 2013 – June 2015) through a project with a budget of 26.000,00 Euros. This amount will be used to provide support towards the cost of staff, maintenance of office equipment, furniture and supplies.

PIERIDES BEQUEST

Regarding the house which was bestowed to the CRCS, by the Ioanna's and Argyro's Pierides bequest, the Larnaca Municipality was no longer interested in using the house as a Community Medical Centre. Accordingly, the CRCS's Council decided to provisionally make available the house to the Youth Section, to be used as office and storage premises. The Youth Section will undertake the expenses for the immediate repairs of the house.

DONATION OF A VEHICLE

Mrs Rea Benfield donated to the CRCS a vehicle that has a lift and can carry wheelchairs and therefore people with disabilities. The CRCS expresses warm thanks and appreciation to the Benfield family.

WHEELCHAIR – BOUND PEOPLE TRANSFERS

After a donation by Mrs Rea Benfield of a minibus equipped with a lift, the CRCS has initiated a service for the transfer of wheelchair bound people.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE CYPRUS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

On 20 March 2014, a memorandum of agreement was signed between the Cyprus University of Technology and the CRCS.

The agreement includes the following areas of cooperation:

- Joint participation in research and development programmes
- Internship of students at the CRCS Children Therapy Centre Stella Soulioti
- Exchange of information and expertise on issues of common interest
- Common cultural, scientific, educational and humanitarian events and activities



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