KOSOVA VISIT REPORT | MAY 7-13, 2022
Message from our CEO

At the time when we started our journey in Kosova, we soon became aware of the crisis surrounding the care of children with heart disease. Approximately 500 Kosovar children are born each year with a congenital heart defect with 50% needing some type of intervention. Unfortunately, less than 50 children were being treated on a yearly basis. The majority of these children were treated outside of Kosova.

For over a decade, we sponsored screening visits annually. While we examined over 100 children each visit, we were only able to treat 25 to 30 children per year. In 2019, we changed our strategy and began to send surgical teams to Kosova. During our visits, we were able to help 10 to 28 children depending on whether we included catheterization procedures. We have now conducted 5 visits and treated nearly 100 children during them.

This past May, we were able to treat 28 children on our waiting list thanks to the financial support of the Rotary Clubs of Prishtina Dardania (Host Club), Verrazano (International Partner), Niagara-on-the-Lake, Gift of Life, Inc., The Rotary Foundation and an anonymous donor. Additional sponsors of this visit also include Chain of Hope UK, The Croatian American Charitable Foundation, Gift of Life Italy of New York, Ambac Financial Group, Medtronic, Abbott and the donors of the Gift of Life International Great Gatsby Fundraiser.

We were also blessed to have health care volunteers from the United States and Italy provide care to the children we served. This report is presented as a tribute to the global network we have developed and the care we have been able to provide Kosovar children for the past 13 years.

Rob Raylman
CEO, GOLI
11 Little Hearts Healed with Surgery

During this visit, we were able to treat 40% of the children on our waiting list.
11 Little Hearts Healed with Surgery

- ERIA, Age: 2 Years
- ENSAR, Age: 6 Months
- ERGIN, Age: 1 Year
- ART, Age: 4 Months
- RON, Age: 2 Years

*Diagnostic Cath
17 Little Hearts Healed with Catheterization

ALBULENA
Age: 8 Years

ASELA
Age: 2 Months

ALP
Age: 5 Months

DION
Age: 10 Years

EDONIS
Age: 15 Years

DIONAR
Age: 3 Years

2 Months

3 Years

15 Years
17 Little Hearts Healed with Catheterization

- Age: 13 Years
- Age: 16 Years
- Age: 10 Months
- Age: 13 Years
- Age: 7 Years
- Age: 3.5 Years
17 Little Hearts Healed with Catheterization
We are blessed to have committed and talented healthcare professionals who volunteer to participate in our visits to Kosovo and work at our partner hospital, the University Clinical Center of Kosovo.

Thank You to the Medical Teams:
Thank You to the Medical Teams
Thank you to our Partners & Sponsors

This work we do takes a global network of donors, like-minded partners, volunteers and healthcare professionals to develop sustainable pediatric cardiac programs.
Gift of Life International is a Rotarian-based program that provides cardiac care to children throughout the world. Gift of Life International was started by the Rotary Club of Manhasset in Rotary District 7255 USA and is currently sponsored by Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts around the world. Gift of Life International is a non-profit organization which is tax exempt according to IRS Code 501c3. Tax ID#56-2322626

Whatever it takes to heal the heart of the next child since 1975 ... nearly 44,000 hearts healed to date!