

**GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT  
2018-2020**



Project Review Committee  
Carol Stamas, Co-Chair  
Marilyn Tzakis, Co-Chair

August 22, 2020

**FUNDED GRANTS 2018-2020**

**La Clinica Del Pueblo, Washington D.C.**, serves children and adolescents through a comprehensive health care and educational services. Their program, known as Mi Refugio focusses on youth development and education. Over 90% of the youth come from extremely low incomes, many working multiple jobs and lack the adequate resources or time to tend to health needs.

**Funded: \$5,500 2017 Children's Medical Fund**

- Funding for food assistance to High School students for youth development and education as part of the Mi Refugio Program.

**St. Mary's Hospital for Children, New York, NY**, serves children and families in the Northeast region of the United States with mobility issues due to paralysis and spinal cord injuries. Over 90% of the patients come from economically disadvantaged families.

**Funded: \$23,000 2019 Children's Medical Fund**

- Funding for assistance for children with paralysis and spinal issues for rehabilitation by the Locomotive for Training for Children with Paralysis Program.

**U.S. Autism Homes, New York, NY**, the homes will be specially designed to address the different, essential and special conditions and needs of adults on the autism spectrum. Each home houses 16 residents. There are two homes currently with more to come in the next year.

**Funded: \$30,000 Autism**

- Funds to be used for clinical research to provide housing for autistic adults via the US Autism Homes Stony Brook Research Grant.

**Cape Abilities, Hyannis, MA**, the mission is to serve individuals with disabilities on Cape Cod by educating, counseling and providing residential, therapeutic, social and employment supports that empower them to achieve meaningful and valued roles in the community. The Adopt a Home Project, which provides comprehensive therapeutic, educational, enrichment, protective gear and

recreational services to create a home life experience for residents. This program will service 130 residents in 15 homes, specialized for adults with disabilities. The residents require 24/7 medical care. The goal is to help the residents with intellectual, mental and emotional disabilities to maintain as much as possible a quality of life in which they can thrive.

**Funded: \$15,000 General Medical**

- Funds to purchase, laptops, IPADS, supplies, food and meds for 15 residential homes for adults with disabilities.

**Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), Brookline, MA**, transforms the lives of college students in the United States and Canada by guiding them along the path to Jesus Christ through His Church, cultivating a campus community of worship, witness, service, fellowship and education.

**Funded: \$25,000 Orthodox Christian Fellowship**

- Funds used to cover costs of transportation, food and materials for the 2019 Summer Institute Program.

**Funded: \$10,500 Orthodox Christian Fellowship**

- Funds used to cover costs of Summer Leadership Training Program and Home/Fall Program for 2020
- **Hellenic Women's Benevolent Association, Inc. d/b/a Hellenic Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Canton, MA**, the Center is a rehab facility and Nursing home for seniors. There are 154 residents and 74 rooms. They are badly in need of renovation. They have started a 6 million dollar campaign, of which they have raised \$600,000. Nursing home regulations require all room to be air conditioned. The cost of HVAC per room is \$11,880.00. This is the only Hellenic Nursing home in the Boston Metropolis.

**Funded: \$11,880 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund**

- Funds used to cover the cost of installation of HVAC for 1 room out of 74 at this Rehab and Assistant Living Center.

**The Treehouse, Wichita, KS**, the mission of the Treehouse is to offer mothers and babies a brighter future through sharing God's love, necessities, education, and genuine personal care. In 2018 they serviced 254 new moms: 121 returning moms and 358 new babies. The Earn While You Learn Program curriculum focuses on both the specific skills that can be easily learned and applied, as well as the heart of parenting. This program services income levels at poverty level and below. In 2017, the program moms attended 828 classes and participated in 1786 EWYL videos and studies

**Funded: \$16,500 2017 Children’s Medical Fund**

- Funds used to fund Project Earn What You Learn, a program designed for pregnant unwed mothers seeking assistance.

**Share you Care Adult Day Care Services, Inc, Albuquerque, NM,**

Their mission is to provide the highest quality of Adult Day services and caregiver respite as an alternative to In-Home and Institutional care. They are licensed to run programs in 4 Albuquerque City Senior Centers. Share Your Care maintains and improves the physical and mental health, autonomy, and quality of life of adults and seniors who are frail, elderly, developmentally or physically disable, suffering from Alzheimer’s or Dementia. They help alleviate the mental, physical, emotional, The Alivio Caregiver Support program assists the caregiver and family with mental and financial burdens.

**Funded: \$20,000 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund**

- Funds used for the Alivio Caregiver Support Program, which helps to alleviate the mental, emotional, economic, and financial and time burdens of families and full-time caregivers.

**A Center of Redemption d/b/a A Safe Place, Wrightsville Beach, NC,** is an empowerment organization for young women and girls focused on prevention, advocacy, and restoration to assist victims of commercial sex exploitation and domestic sex trafficking. The program will serve to identify over 100 new victims of sex trafficking. The Victims will be given the Emergency Bag, consisting of food, water, Wal-Mart cards and sanitizing wipes and hygiene products. The Community has donated the hygiene products. These were added due to COVID-19. They also provide emergency counseling and shelter if needed. They service the Southeastern part of North Carolina.

**Funded: \$2,500 Social Services**

- Funds used to cover costs of Emergency Bags for women and young girls focused on prevention, advocacy, and restoration to assist victims of commercial sex exploitation and domestic sex trafficking. Bags include food, water, and sanitary wipes.

**InReach, Charlotte, NC,** the organization was founded in 1974 by 3 parents who wanted a better way of life for children with developmental disabilities. They operate 17 group homes and service over 1100 people with disabilities. The project request is to fund the COVID Technology Assistance project to purchase laptops for residents and IPADS for those living independently in apartments since COVID-19 has significantly impacted their ability to communicate with those outside their residences. The cost of each laptop is \$490.00. The cost of the IPADS is \$225.00 each.

**Funded:       \$12,500 Autism**  
**\$12,500 Social Services**

\* Funds used to fund the COVID-19 Technology Assistance program which will provide laptops, IPADS and technical assistance for customization for 140 individuals/families in 17 group homes who have autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and other traumatic brain injuries.

**NourishNC, Wilmington, NC**, the mission of the organization is to provide healthy food to hungry children empowering them to succeed in the classroom and community. During a normal school schedule, they would provide food every weekend for 1200 to 1400 children thru their Backpack and Box Program. During COVID 19, they are providing food for 2 weeks; every two weeks thru Drive Up and delivery for 1600 children. They serve New Hanover County, which is a low-income district.

**Funded: \$15,000 Social Services**

- Funds used to purchase food and boxes for 1,600 children every two weeks through grocery drive-thru or pick up during COVID-19.
- **MID-SOUTH FOOD BANK, Memphis, TN**, their mission is to change lives by eliminating hunger in the Mid-South. Last year they serviced 250,000 people in 12 counties in Tennessee, 18 counties in north Mississippi and 1 county in Arkansas. Due to COVID-19, they have had to triple their distribution of food. The Hunger for Hope Program distributes food via the Mobile Pantry, Senior Grocery Bags, and the Emergency Hunger Relief kits.

**Funded:       \$12,500 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund**  
**\$12,500 Social Services**

- Funds used to purchase food and distribution for over 44,000 meals for adults, seniors, and children thru the Hunger for Hope Program.

**PROJECT MEXICO/SAINT INNOCENT ORPHANAGE, CHULA VISTA, CA (TIJUANA, MEXICO)** The Innocent Orphanage is the only boys' orphanage of the Orthodox Church. Current vehicles are from 2007 and have over 100,000 miles each. The vehicles would be used to transport the 20 orphan boys, 1 director, 1 Priest, 1 Presbyter and 6 OCMC Missionaries.

**Funded:       \$25,000 ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSIONS**  
**\$22,000 SOCIAL SERVICES**

- Funds used to purchase 2 used vehicles to transport the children Mission workers; a 15-passenger van and a 7 passenger SUV.

**PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING INC., SANTA ANA, CA**, the mission is to dedicate its services for the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing activities and associated activities including education and outings. Weekly PHWFF holds casting, rod, etc. training along with open discussion with veterans and military personnel suffering from PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injuries. Many veterans credit this program for saving their lives. Current research shows that over 400,000 service members are suffering from PTSD.

**Funded: \$22,160 GENERAL MEDICAL**

- Funds used for the Long Beach Healing Retreats Program for Veterans and Military personnel with PTSD and other brain injuries.

**EMPOWER SPORTS, CLEVELAND, OH**, the mission is to enrich the lives of athletes of diverse challenges through sports and exercise by promoting kindness, character, and tolerance. With COVID 19, the board of directors thought ahead and were able to formulate plans for CDC regulated softball and basketball programs. Since so many programs available for children of special needs have been cancelled, Empower Sports was able to continue a revised format.

**Funded: \$4,000 2017 CHILDREN'S MEDICAL FUND**

- Funds used for COVID-19 adapted program for softball and basketball for children with special needs.

**STEPS PTO, Parma, OH**, is an Academy of Willow Farms that services children with Autism throughout North Eastern Ohio. The program was created 5 years ago to provide and aide the students and families of the Academy. They created a project called Educational Greenhouse for Students with Autism. The students grow vegetables and distribute them back to the Community. In 2017 they served 120 students and their families.

**Funded: \$4,400 Autism**

- Funds used to cover remaining costs for project Educational Greenhouse.

**YWCA GREATER CLEVELAND, CLEVELAND, OH**, The Educational Recovery from COVID-19 Trauma Program at YWCA's Early Learning Center for Children in Homelessness assists children with various behavioral issues, including COVID-19. The Learning center is the only preschool in Cuyahoga County that provides specialized programming to assist children experiencing homelessness sand other trauma. They currently service 50 children in the program. With COVID-19 adding to additional trauma, an interim interventionist is needed to help the children. This program will provide the necessary services to ready the children for kindergarten.

**Funded: \$10,000 SOCIAL SERVICES**

- Funds used for a Classroom Interventionist to address trauma behaviors such as COVID-19, in children starting kindergarten. This is part of the Educational Recovery for COVID-19 Trauma Program at the YWCA's Early Learning Center for Children with Homelessness.

**CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY CENTRAL NEW JERSEY, Bedminster, NJ,** CSCCNJ's mission is to ensure that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community so that no one faces cancer alone. CSCCNJ supports all those affected by cancer, including patients, family members, caregivers, and survivors. CSCCNJ services six counties in New Jersey, consisting of low to moderate residents. In 2017, there were 231 people who attended, 1,457 participant visits and 2,151 hours of direct service for free.

**FUNDED: \$5,000 CANCER FUND**

- Funds used to provide assistance for the Oncology Support Group Program in the form of licensed Mental Health facilitators, marketing program materials.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND MEDICAL FOUNDATION, INC, Baltimore, MD,** the mission of the University of Maryland Medical System Foundation (UMMC) is to achieve healthcare excellence through philanthropic investment and stewardship of private resources. University of Maryland Children's Hospital (UMCH) is a hospital within the UMMC located at the Downtown campus. The UMMC services the Medical Center and Children's Hospital. They admit nearly 4,500 children a year many needing specialized care in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NCIU) and Pediatric Units of the hospital.

**FUNDED: \$26,000 GENERAL MEDICAL**

- Funds used to purchase equipment for UMCH Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Pediatric Units of UM Downtown and Midtown. Equipment: Eye Tacking Hardware, Sweat Chloride Analyzer, Gloko Diabetes Management Platform, Transcutaneous Bili Meter, Teaching Otoscope, and Breast Pump for home use.

**CHESAPEAKE THERAPEUTIC RIDING, INC, Street, MD,**

Founded in 2003 by Cathy Schmidt, the mission is to connect people with specially trained healing horses. The funding request is for a cooperative program with the University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Medical Center Kaufman Cancer Center. The program is known as Cancer LifeNet Hoofprints. The program is designed for children dealing with family members with Cancer. Horse therapy and counseling sessions create an increase in self-awareness and empathy through interaction with and care for horses. It builds trust skills to enhance family relationships.

**FUNDED: \$6,000 2017 Children's Medical Fund**

- Funds used for the Cancer Lifenet Hoofprints program for 20 Children with Cancer. The program helps the children to deal with different way of coping with the disease. Part of their therapy is their relationship with horses. Each session costs \$1,000 with a total of 6 sessions. Part of the funding includes equipment for the horses, activity materials, program instructors and equine specialists.

**AMITA HEALTHCARE ADVENTISTMEDICAL CENTER, HINSDALE,**

**IL**, the Medical Center is a 264-bed facility for acute care, servicing the Western suburbs of Chicago. The funding request is for the Child Life/NICU Needs for Assistance for Opioid-Affected Families program. The hospital has a Level 3 NICU which continues life support and comprehensive care by neonatologists, neonatal nurses, respiratory and physical therapists.

**FUNDED: \$25,000 2017 Children's Medical Fund**

- Funds used for a Child Life Specialist for the NICU Needs for Assistance for Opioid Affected Families program.

**MARKLUND CHILDREN'S HOME D/B/A MARKLUND, GENEVA,**

- **IL**, this 24/7 skilled nursing care facility for children with disabilities was part of the first established in Illinois in 1957. The history begins with 2 nurses who cared for children with special needs. The facility is comprised of the Philip Center in Bloomingdale and the Marklund Hyde Center in Geneva, IL. The Philip Center needs to replace 21 Volker beds which are now outdated, and no replacement parts exist.

**Funded:        \$1,799 2017 Children's Medical Fund**  
**\$21,103 2019 Children's Medical Fund**

- Funds used for purchase of balance of 21 specialty beds for special needs children who have limited mobility. This completes the replacement bed project for the Phillip Center.

**AGIA ELPIDA, PATRAS-RIO, ACHAIA, GREECE,**

The St. Sophia Autistic School in Patras is a center for autistic children in Patras Greece. Father Massaras, who is the priest for church and the school is a graduate of Hellenic College/Holy Cross Seminary. There are no other schools in the area for children with this disability. It is a 24-hour Center for families with autistic children.

**FUNDED: \$3,000 Autism**

- Funds used for salary for teacher and speech therapist for the St. Sophia Autistic School.

**IOCC, INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES, FOR ETHIOPIA AND SYRIA, BALTIMORE, MD,** is the Orthodox First Responder organization. The Podocniosis problem in Ethiopia has been supported by Philoptochos for many years. Progress has been made, but it still exists. The UN reports for 5 million Syrian refugees registered across the region and another 6 million are displaced in Syria. IOCC has been working with the Orthodox Church Patriarch of Antioch and All the East since 2002 and further assisted Syrian and Iraqi refugees in 2012. There are still families being internally displaced. The Dream Centers supply psychosocial support, problem solving, and coping skills. In addition, with COVID-19, essential items such as hygiene, cleaning and disinfectant supplies, and masks are needed to help prevent the spread of the disease.

**FUNDED: \$60,000 IOCC**

- Funds of **\$35,000** for the salary for one staff member to continue the Podocomiosis Program during COVID-19 for treatment and prevention. **\$25,000** for the Dream Center Program in Syria for supplemental funding to address existing and emerging needs of children and their families.