

GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.
NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT
MAY 23, 2023



Aid to Greece and Cyprus Committee

Chair: Aphrodite Skeadas

*Members: Stella Baker, Georgia Halakos, Lily Katos, Aspasia Melis, Helen Psaras,
Kalli Tsitsipas, Chrissy Zografos*

May 17, 2023

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

The Stewards of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society are thankful for the gift of precious life, the natural environment and all God's creation. We are thankful for the opportunity to address our mission and to assist our sisters and brothers in Greece and Cyprus.

The suffering continues in Greece and Cyprus, and in many instances, has worsened with extreme social and economic hardship prevalent in the area. The situation in Greece and Cyprus continues to be critical, as natural disasters and ecological related hardships endure.

Earlier this year, building upon the work of previous footing, the Committee of the National Philoptochos Aid to Greece and Cyprus met for the 2022-2024 term via Zoom. The participants were engaged and enthusiastic. Many ideas were initiated, discussed and considered for implementation.

Our wonderful and passionate Committee members are diligent and are appreciative for the opportunity to assist our brothers and sisters in Greece and Cyprus. Our vibrant members include: Stella Baker, Georgia Halakos, Lily Katos, Aspasia Melis, Helen Psaras, Kalli Tsitsipas, Chrissy Zografos.

After an historical review of the Aid to Greece and Cyprus Committee, as a first step with Committee consensus, the Heart-to-Heart Program/Pop-Up *Kafe* was reinstated. These voluntary *kafes* are successful and generate considerable income for the mission, without financially taxing the hosts or the guests. In addition, they are very easy to schedule and hold at any location of selection. A letter was addressed in March by the National Philoptochos President to the Philoptochos Chapter Presidents and to the membership throughout the Archdiocese.

The Committee also discussed establishing a program of awareness and support concentrating on a cultural and/or historical perspective. For example, an event could focus on a spiritual and/or Hellenic holiday, e.g., Annunciation/Greek Independence Day or OXI Day.

Further to future planning, members were urged to consider a large venue event, particular to a locale or Metropolis.

May the Lord shower His blessings on our Philoptochos family serving with agape while offering hope to those in need.