

GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.
METROPOLIS PRESIDENT'S REPORT
2022-2024



Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos Society

Eleni Constantinides, Metropolis President

May 2023

Your Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America,
Your Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Nazianzos,
Esteemed National Philoptochos President, Mrs. Arlene Siavelis Kehl,

On behalf of all the Philoptochos chapters, in the Holy Metropolis of New Jersey, I greet you with love in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A lot has happened in our Metropolis since our last National Philoptochos Convention in July 2022. The year 2022 was an exciting year for all of us. In July we gathered in NYC to celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of our beloved Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Philoptochos, the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Church, also reached an important milestone and celebrated its 90th Anniversary. Forty-six women represented our Metropolis at this epic event. Our chapters gladly responded to a call to assist our sisters in the Direct Archdiocesan District, the host of last year's Convention, with their time, talent, and treasures. It was an unforgettable experience.

All our chapters continued to honor our Mission and responded generously to all requests for assistance whether those came from our parishes and communities, from our Holy Archdiocese or from our National Philoptochos.

- We collected funds to further assist the Ukrainian Relief Fund.
- We supported the rebuilding of the Baliki Nursing Home and Hospital in Constantinople.
- We collected funds for the Turkey and Syria Earthquake Fund.
- We continue to support our beloved Saint Basil's Academy.
- Saint Michael's Home, where our elderly is being well cared for.
- Our students and seminarians at Hellenic College Holy Cross have been the recipients of generous grants.
- High School seniors applied for and received scholarships from our newly established Anastasia K Michals Scholarship Fund.
- We know the importance of assisting His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew and our beloved Patriarchate with the many challenges that our Holy Church is facing in Turkey. We recently donated over \$10,000 to the operation and maintenance of the schools of the Patriarchate.

All this was made possible with the help of our chapters who met all their National and Metropolis commitments.

This does not include the money, services, goods, love, and compassion that our chapters gave to individuals and organizations in their own communities to feed the hungry, offer shelter to the homeless and protect children and women from abuse and exploitation.

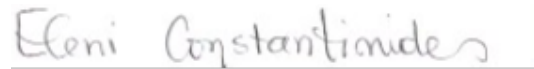
- We finally got our 501c(3) Federal Tax Exempt ID Number.
- We upgraded our accounting system.
- We had our Clergy Laity and Philoptochos Conference on May 15, 2023, and we elected our new Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos Board of Directors. The Conference was very well attended, and our delegates were engaged and eager to hear and learn what Philoptochos is accomplishing locally, nationally and throughout the world.

We are excited and ready to continue to work hard to honor the Philoptochos Mission, which is nothing other than to help those who need our help.

Our Hierarchs, Bishop Apostolos of Medeia and our Chancellor, the Very Reverend Father Christoforos Oikonomidis, are always by our side, offering their blessings, their support, their advice, and their prayers. We owe them a great deal and we pray that God will give them strength and wisdom as they continue to do His Work.

Philoptochos women are faithful, decisive, empowered, creative, resourceful, and tireless. I feel blessed and honored to be part of this group of amazing women.

With Love and Respect,



Eleni Constantinides, President
Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos