

Who we are

Association “The Heart for Kids with Cancer in FBiH” was founded in April 2003 upon initiative of parents and friends of children that were treated for malignant diseases at the Paediatrics’ Clinic of Kosevo Hospital in Sarajevo.

Our Association is a member of ICCCPo since October 2003 (The International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organisations).

The Association has more than 500 members and is funded solely through donations of humanitarians and through self-organized activities.

Mission and vision

Our mission and goal is to provide help and support to ill children and their parents.

Our vision is to obtain help from professionals in various fields in educating the parents of ill children and the general public, and to increase public awareness in all segments of society about the necessity to address the problems that our members are facing.

What do we do?

- We provide psychosocial support to ill children and their parents

The parents have the opportunity to receive daily counseling, a chat over a cup of coffee, and to attend occupation workshops with a psychologist and social welfare worker hired by the Association. We organize playtime, parties, art workshops, education and many other activities for children, in order to make them happy and ease their therapy time.

- We provide accommodation for parents

The association services a 70 m² apartment for the accommodation of between 5 and 15 mothers of ill children. The apartment has a small capacity and is not suitable for the stay of children who require hospital treatment. In order to resolve this problem on a long term, the Association launched the initiative for the construction of Family House with the capacity of 10 apartments. The Family House will offer the ill children another home, a family environment, and a place where they will forget about the hospital bed, at least for a moment.

- We provide financial help to the parents of ill children

Parents are provided the financial help after the first diagnosis is established, and again when children are transferred for treatment outside of BiH, and to parents of deceased children.

- The help provided when children are transferred abroad for treatment

As much as we can, we provide material help to ill children, when they are transferred abroad for treatment. We assist the communication with the clinic where the child would be further treated, as well as with similar associations operating in the respective area. We provide help in obtaining necessary travel documents, and translation of medical documents. We maintain contact with parents and children during their treatment abroad.

- We organize rehabilitation after the hospital treatment

The Association has been successful in the organization of rehabilitation camps on mountains during summer time, and at the seaside during winter, for the purpose of improvement of physical and mental wellbeing of the treated children and their successful re-socialization in their places of residence.

- We provide equipment for Hematology-Oncology Department at the Pediatrics Clinic in Sarajevo

We take part in the creation of better and higher-quality treatment conditions at the Hematology-Oncology Department, through the purchase of medical instruments, technical equipment and toiletry kit.

Projects completed in the 2014

- Psychological counseling for children and parents
- Fun events for children in the hospital
- Celebration of International Day of Cancer Sick Children
- Fundraiser event “A big heart gives to the little heart” - Bihać
- Rehabilitation camp "Hearts adventurers“
- Equipping of Pediatric Hematooncology department
- Starting of project “Parental House”
- Fundraiser event “Eid Mubarak Greeting Cards“ – making and selling
- Giving gifts for sick children
- Financial assistance to parents of sick children
- Help to the children who's having a bone marrow transplantation abroad

Project “Parent’s House”

Current accommodation

- From The Government of the City of Sarajevo our Organization received “Apartment for Mothers” but this is only on temporary basis
- In average, we have 8 to 15 mothers in this housing unit
- Fathers of sick children also use this housing unit, and it is complicate to separate or to construct male and female sleeping quarters
- Other siblings can’t be at apartment because of limited capacity
- There is no possibility for kids who are at treatment to be at apartment between treatment due to insufficient capacity and inappropriate conditions

The project idea

The project idea is to provide a continuous accommodation for children with cancer and for their parents.

The treatment of children is a very difficult and complicated process and requires enormous physical and mental strength and significant material resources. It has been proven that keeping a family atmosphere improves the general medical condition of a child and increases the chances of being cured.

In addition to the continuous stay of the children with cancer and their parents who take care of them, the Family House also organizes multidisciplinary activities involving a social worker and a psychologist.

Parental Houses benefits

- Kids spend minimum time in the hospital
- Socializing and sharing experiences between parents and also between kids
- Different workshops and counseling
- Family atmosphere
- Psychosocial support
- The multidisciplinary work of all kind of experts with children and parents

Brief description of the project

The Project includes a BUILDING STRUCTURE with all necessary infrastructure facilities suitable for living, with 10 single-bedroom housing units and toilet, joint kitchen for the entire building, and separate room for the Association, a room for the psychologist and a separate playroom for children functioning as a living room.

The building structure should have the capacity of approximately 660 m² of usable space, and the idea is to build it in the compound of the Pediatrics Clinic in Sarajevo.

- 10 rooms - apartments
- Joint kitchen with a dining room for the entire building;
- Multifunctional playroom, which can also be used for workshops, parents' meetings, etc.
- Office of the Association
- Office of the psychologist and social worker
- Laundry-room, storage...

Value of the project

The project is valued at EUR 647.000,00 (based on the preliminary design analysis).

The Association "Hearth for Children with Cancer in FBiH" is obliged to use the donor money responsibly, transparently and for the specifically defined purpose.

“WHEN YOU SAVE ONE LIFE, YOU SAVE ALL”

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FINAL BENEFICIARY:

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