

NURDOR

National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer

A Parents' Home Opened in Novi Sad

A villa on the Tartar hill in Sremska Kamenica was converted into a parents' home in which ill children will be placed during treatment. In the days following the official opening of the home, in a villa of 970 square meters where five families can stay and filled with furniture and silverware thanks to donors, residents are slowly arriving.

Director of the Institute for Health Protection of Children and Youth of Novi Sad, Prof. Dr. Georgios Konstantinidis, thanks to the Government of Vojvodina for its free of charge courtesy of the villa and the Association of Parents or Children with Cancer, on whose initiative the parents' home was opened, showed that in Novi Sad 200 children are being treated while 30 new cases have appeared.

-Treatment takes a long time, and the parents' home will mean much to the families from distant cities from Novi Sad for they will not have to worry about housing- said Dr. Konstantinidis.



The President of the Association of Children with Cancer Jolanda Koror could not hide her excitement and happiness, for the families of sick children are able to survive the difficult moments in a more humane way.



In September last year in the Belgrade suburb Bežanijska Kosa, from a house seized from associate Darko Šarić, another parents' home for children with cancer was opened where three families are currently residing.

In Cooperation with all Three Mobile Operators in Serbia, NURDOR's SMS Charity Number 1150 was Opened



With the project, Doctor's Tower, NURDOR, in cooperation with Telekom, Telenor and Vip Mobile, activated a charity SMS to raise funds for the reconstruction of a home for children who are treated daily in Belgrade oncology wards. All three Serbian mobile operators and citizens with big hearts were happy to respond to the call; by sending a message to the number 1150 from all the networks, donations of 50 dinars are made (excluding VAT). Join the cause, and help complete the house as soon as possible to help brave children and their families in their difficult struggle.

March/April 2011

Important Information :

- Every day a child is diagnosed with cancer in Serbia ;
- Every week one child dies from cancer in Serbia ;
- Over 400 children are cured annually from cancer in Serbia ;
- Luckily, the percent cured is high, with 60% successfully cured;
- The most common malignant illness in children is acute leukemia, where the percent cured is the highest and therapy lasts 105 weeks.

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Skating for a Healthier Tomorrow—Action for a Healthy Life and Psychosocial Support

After a wonderful day on Saturday in the company of many friends, among who were the head of the delectable specialties Saša Mišić, Snežana Dakić, the handsome young cast of the movie “Montevideo”, members of the skating group “Helena Pajović” and the magazine “Parent and Child”, we collected donations for the psychosocial support of our kids and their families. All who responded to our invitation and came to the ice-rink “Fortress” at Kalemegdan were able to relax in skating, hot chocolate, exotic fruit and salty snacks along with great music by DJ Neš. Thank you all for a nice get-together. With your help we have collected 27,370 dinars.



The Twin Program of Parent Associations: NURDOR-AGEOP

Our cooperation with AGEOP, the association of parents in Bologna, was crowned in 2008 with the signing of the “Twin Program”. Great friends and great mentors since then, not only do they financially support and follow the work of NURDOR, but thanks to the program they help our children continue treatment in Italy where it is not possible in Serbia. From 2010 the program was extended to the education of our medical staff at the pediatric clinic in Bologna. With an invitation from our kind host to the professional development conference in Bologna, Dr. Vesna Ilić from the Institute for Oncology and Radiology and Branislava Penov from our association went. Branislava in a few days collected a large amount of information related to the functioning of AGEOP and developed ideas for the further development of our association. Friends from AGEOP filed a report on the activities of NURDOR in the past year and we received a commendable rating for both the work and for the operation of the association, which resulted in the signing of further cooperation for this year. Our representation to AGEOP lasted four days, while Dr. Ilić remained for a month, completely at the expense of the host. This year thanks to the “Twin Program”, three children were admitted for treatment at a clinic in Bologna, and two of our young doctors were at the professional development conference with one psychologist.



Professional Development Dr. Vesna Ilić at the Pediatric Clinic in Bologna

Our dear Dr. Vesna Ilić from the Institute of Oncology and Radiology of Serbia paid a visit to the oncology department at the Children’s Hospital Polyclinic S. Orsola Malpighi in Bologna. Below you can read some of her impressions:

Prof. Pession and his team received me very warmly. Every day I followed the work of doctors in the infirmary. I learned the protocols of treatment and indications for the implementation of said protocols, as well as the principles of the department for therapy and bone marrow transplants. I also followed the principles of treatment of febrile neutropenia. I had access to the AIEOP database, a thing that was very important because I had insight into the strategies of treatment of certain solid tumors in Italy. I also received information about which doctors are coordinators in Italy for a specific area in pediatric oncology, which is very important in case of a need for consultation, especially for rare tumors in children.

My stay at the department for bone marrow transplants was also significant to me because there is no such department in my hospital. I was also familiarized with the work of the laboratory of Molecular Genetics, whose staff was very friendly and helped me in the first days of my stay to orient myself.

I attended daily check-ups at the hospital, varying between cycles of chemotherapy, follow-up periods of patients who completed treatment, and especially children who developed complications after therapy and bone marrow transplants. I hope for this kind of good cooperation in the future.



“Lara’s Race” - the Story of a Pure Heart and the Spirit of Sport



On Saturday, April 9th, on the streets of Smeder-evska Palanka, the 6th memorial orienteering “Lara’s race” was held, in memory of the little Lara Radovanović who had to prematurely quit the orienteering track due to a malignant disease.

Our hosts and organizers were enthusiasts from SD “Jasenica”. In attendance were 250 participants competing in several categories. “NURDOR” was represented by four three-member teams and participated in the category “Sport for All”.

Our team “Aztecs” won the **bronze medal**, and we jointly celebrated the success around basins that are good hosts Baća donated to all participants.

The windy day did not prevent the people of Palanka from walking to the finish line of the race and making charitable contributions.

Together with the attachment “Jasenice”, 12,200 dinars were collected. Friends from the Sports Association donated Easter gifts for a few of our kids who are being treated.

We warmly thank our hosts from SD “Jasenice” as well as all citizens of Smeder-evska Palanka, not only for the contributions, but also for the warm welcome.



NIS Donated to NURDOR a Tab for Gas, Worth 250,000 Dinars

To Žana Korolija, representative of the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer (NURDOR), was presented a donation in the form of NIS fuel cards, in the value of 250,000 dinars. This donation is part of NIS’s social responsibility program that the company is focused on support and assistance to the social categories which need it the most.



We are grateful to the hairdresser’s ID Academy Belgrade, for their friendship and always open invitations for a free haircut and blow dry for our mothers of the clinic. The mothers of the children, who are treated, need to take time for themselves, and what is a more ideal way than visiting a professional hairdresser to beautify their hair. We invite all mothers to take advantage of this great offer from our friends from the ID Academy. Thanks to them once more!



Rotary Club Belgrade Dedinje, Host of the Charity Concert in Madlenianum

Thanks to our friends from the “Rotary Club Belgrade Dedinje”, always welcome guests in our actions, a charity concert was organized on March 18th for the sake of promoting action and raising money for the reconstruction of “Doctor’s Tower” – a parents’ home on the territory of the capital.

The necessity of opening another parents’ home was recognized also by the mayor of Savski Venac Tomislav Đorđević, who actively with his partners participated in the aforementioned action. Mr. Đorđević, together with our Žana Korolija, a member of the board of NURDOR, presented the project “Doctor’s Tower” to all present.

The program was attended by Merima Njegomir, Suzana Šuvaković – prima donna of the Belgrade Opera, opera singer Oliver Njego, Duo Moderato, actress Vjera Mujović as Program Manager, CAS “Gradimir”, the young performers of folk music Aleksandra Lojanica, Tatjana Vasiljev and Vukašin Vujović, Milana Drobac – laureate of international competitions “Davorin Jenko”. All together we have done significant humanitarian work for the children of Serbia suffering from malignant diseases and their parents. We hope that this event is one in a series of actions of other clubs, institutions and individuals for this project to be completed as soon and successfully as possible.



Belgrade Marathon—Race of Satisfaction



NURDOR is an association which through its work promotes a healthy and sporty lifestyle, and is happy to respond to invites to sport events like those which popularize healthy life. Belgrade Marathon is an event that is one of the defensive and recognizable symbols of our city. Team NURDOR with its 16 members gave its contribution.

While one part of the team ran the “Race of Satisfaction”, others were at NURDOR’s stand informing citizens of the work of the Association and about current projects, as well as collecting donations for the extension project of psychosocial support. During the marathon, 37,680.00 dinars were collected.

The “Race of Satisfaction” was also run by a number of teams composed of employees of pharmaceutical company “ROCH” who defended NURDOR’s colors.

This nice friendship and cooperation was also crowned with “ROCH’s” donation of 750,000.00 dinars intended for kids with cancer.



“With the Easter Egg, the Smile Lasts Longer”



In a cheerful atmosphere with great music and smiling children’s faces on Saturday, April 16th, the grand opening event called “With the Easter Egg, the Smile Lasts Longer” was held.

The action was designed in the form of art workshops organized by the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer, organization “Friends of Children of New Belgrade”, and the UŠĆE Shopping Center, with support from the municipality of New Belgrade.

The humanitarian action aims to collect funds for the reconstruction of the building “Doctor’s Tower”, which will be adapted into a parents’ home designed for children who are treated for cancer in Belgrade oncology clinics as well as from all over Serbia.

The idea is that children, who come with their parents in the shopping center, spend some time in a specially decorated room in the spirit of the Easter holiday, intended to maintain a creative—fun workshop, where they will have the opportunity to have fun and give their imaginative contributions in the form of making drawings of the Easter holidays. All collected drawings participate equally in the competition, where winning entries will be selected and rewarded on the last day of the event and be on sale every day during the event.

“Children’s Charity Concert and an Exhibition of Easter Eggs”

On Saturday, April 23rd, at Belgrade City Hall, the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer organized a gala charity concert and exhibition of Easter eggs, which were, especially for this occasion, painted by famous Serbian painters, art academy students, and school and pre-school children of New Belgrade and Savski Venac, as well as children in hospitals with cancer.

At the initiative of the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer, the National Health Insurance Institute, the Clinical Center of Serbia and Municipality of Savski Venac, with donor support, worked together in the project to raise money for reconstructing and equipping the building “Doctor’s Tower”, intended for children to stay in who are being treated for cancer at the Institute of Oncology and Radiology of Serbia, and the University Children’s Hospital in Tirsova. Like last year, Serbian DexyCo donated 200 Easter gifts to kids who are treated for cancer in all 5 children’s oncology clinics in Serbia. On this occasion, 133,970.00 dinars were collected.



“Humanitarian Soccer Match Between Serbia Open Team and Celebrities”

During the ATP Serbia Open tournament on Saturday, April 23rd starting from 14h, a soccer match was held of humanitarian character to measure the strength of the tennis stars of the Serbia Open team and of celebrities from Serbia.



It was a match where victory was not important; instead it was the hearts and desires of the participants to help those in need.

This time Novak Đoković, Viktor Troicki, Janko Tipsarević and Nenad Zimonjić from the Serbia Open team and Savo Milošević, Vlade Divac, Dragan Jovanović, Bata Mirković, Ivan Tomić and Nenad Jestrović from the Celebrity team gathered people of good will and helped the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer.

On this occasion, 85,228 dinars were collected.

“Sales Exhibition at the Singidunum Gallery”



Serbian painters help children with cancer.

In the Singidunum Gallery, on number 40 Knez Mihailova street from April 29th to May 12th, Easter eggs painted by famous Serbian painters for Easter activities were on sale organized by NURDOR. In the humanitarian effort, titled “With the Easter Egg, the Smile Lasts Longer”, Slobodanka Rakić Šefer, Mića Trnavac, Biljana Prvulj, Gordana Petronjev, Mirjana Marić Krstevska, naive painters from the Gallery Babka from Kovačice, along with many other academic painters showed and donated their work. Specially painted wooden eggs, with stand size 12cm, made by different techniques, were sold at prices from 3,000 to 5,000 dinars.

On this occasion, Singidunum Gallery renounced its sales commission in favor of NURDOR.

The Project “Time for a Cup of Conversation” Reaches its Halfway Mark



After three months from the start of “Time for a Cup of Conversation”, which NURDOR started in January, the impressions and results seem excellent. “We hoped that this first round of our “Cups”, which runs until July, would provide the parents whose kids are treated in oncology wards with the opportunity to get answers to any questions which interest them about the disease or the treatment of their child. The response of the parents to the workshops

with doctors, psychologists, parents, medical staff, social workers and nutritionists shows that we are learned from the experiences of parents from our association, but also encouraged by psychologists and doctors with whom we cooperate closely, that we found the right way to provide psychosocial support for the families of our little friends. It is especially of great interest for medical, psychological, and social workers. The workshop “Parent-Parent”, which parents from our association lead, helps through a casual conversation trade experiences with other parents so that their current situations are viewed with more optimism.

In the children’s creative workshop, the team of volunteers from NURDOR, Smile on the Gift, and Sors was joined by Mr. Timothy Byford, legendary author of children’s shows such as “Poletarac”, “Neven” and “Baba’s Grandson”.

As a friend of our friends from the Children’s Cultural Center “Majdan”, Mr. Timothy won the hearts of our children bit-by-bit with a story displaying the most beautiful passages from his shows, and with skills such as making origami helicopters.

Kids and parents in the two oncology wards in Belgrade now with joy, and sometimes impatience, expect the team from “Cups” in the early afternoon. “Sometimes it happens that both parental and children’s workshops go on, it is simply hard for us to part, but we have to respect the clinic’s house rules,” says the project coordinator, who is already planning for a continuation of “Cups” in September. “These three months have shown us that we are on the right track, but we are aware that with all the information we receive through the project, we must do much more for our families.”



National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer

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NURDOR, the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer, www.nurdor.org.rs, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nongovernmental organization founded by parents of cured or deceased children, the medical staff of oncology departments, and volunteers who recognized the need for systematic and effective support for parents of children with cancer. The National Association began its work in 2004, and it brings together parents and friends of children from all over Serbia. The main objective of the organization is to support families of children with cancer by providing high quality treatment, rehabilitation and socialization of children, infected or healed. NURDOR is a member of the International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organizations (ICCCPO), www.icccpo.org and works closely with the International Society of Oncology Pediatrics (SIOP), www.siop.nl.

NURDOR’s bank account, where you can send your donations at Unicredit Bank, is 170003001071500082.

