Healing Little Hearts in Kosova

September 18-26, 2021

Celebrating Our 40,000th Child!

23 Children Treated

University Clinical Center of Kosova
Prishtina, Kosova

Gift of Life International Report
Lighting the World with Hope for Kosovar Children and their Families during a Global Pandemic

This September 2021 training visit to Prishtina, Kosovo was the second Gift of Life International trip during the global pandemic providing hope to Kosovar children and their families – something they never thought would not be possible. A total of 23 children were treated during this surgical and catheterization visit.

This visit was co-sponsored through Rotary Global Grant GG2098135. Our heartfelt thanks to all grant contributors for their partnership: Rotary Clubs of Prishtina Dardania (Host Partner), Verrazano (International Partner), Niagara-on-the-Lake, Gift of Life Inc., The Rotary Foundation and an anonymous donor (funds raised by Albana Krasniqi).


Our sincere thanks to Professor Mazllum Belegu, Rotarian and Chair of Gift of Life Kosova for logistical support. We are forever grateful to the visiting and local healthcare professionals for their dedication to healing the hearts of these precious children. Thank you to the team members from Instituto Giannina Gaslini in Italy, Albany Medical Center in New York and University Clinical Center of Kosovo. This visit was also made possible through product donations from our generous medical supply vendors including Abbott, Medtronic and Piccoli Cuori.
GOLI Medical Volunteers Have Big Hearts which Heal Little Hearts
Thank you to the Gift of Life Visiting Medical Team
(From Instituto Giannina Gaslini in Italy and Albany Medical Center in New York)

Dr. Francesco Santoro  
Dr. Elena Ribera  
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeons

Dr. Roberto Tumbarello  
Interventional Cardiologist

Dr. Riccardo Moschetti  
Dr. Elisa Barberi  
Anesthesiologists

Dario Fichera  
Perfusionist

Stefania Poggi  
Scrub Nurse

Dr. Adnan Bakar  
James Roth  
Intensivists

John Albers  
Calyn Austin  
Kristina Ippolito  
Aleisha Jackson  
ICU Nurses

Giada Boggi  
Cath Lab Nurse

Rob Raylman  
GOLI CEO

Albana Krasniqi  
GOLI Director
Introducing the Kosova Team
University Clinical Center of Kosova (UCCK)

Physicians
Prof. Assoc. Ramush Bejiqi
Head of Team
Prof. Asst. Ragip Retkoceri
Asst. Dr. Arlinda Maloku
Dr. Aferdita Mustafa
Dr. Haki Jashari
Interventional Cardiology
Dr. Rinor Bejiqi
Interventional Cardiology

Nurses
Meireme Bislimi
Head of Team
Pashke Krasniqi
Echo Lab
Merita Vitija
Zejnepe Gerguri
Aferdita Saraqi
Elhame Krasniqi
Suzana Salihu
Rifete Curri

Perfusionists
Vlora Abazi
Bernard Berisha
Begisha Aliu
Teuta Bajramaj
Working Together To Heal The Heart of the Next Child...
Providing Hope to Kosovar Children with Heart Disease and to their Families
23 Children Treated

24 Procedures Completed
10 Surgeries
9 Interventional Catheterizations
5 Diagnostic Catheterizations
Providing Hope to the Next Child…

Asya
5 Years Old
Diagnosis: TOF
Tetralogy of Fallot (Surgery)

Artea
7 Years Old
Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosus (Interventional Cath & Surgery)

Rea
3 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect (Surgery)

Spreading love throughout the world…
And the Next Child…

Lloric
2 Years Old
Diagnosis: VSD
Ventricular Septal Defect (Surgery)

Mona
6 Years Old
Diagnosis: PS
Pulmonary Stenosis (Surgery)

Fatjieta
6 Years Old
Diagnosis: COARC
Coarctation of the Aorta (Surgery)

Working together to provide hope to children with heart disease…
Andi
4 Years Old
Diagnosis: CVPAP
(Surgery)

Ermal
6 Years Old
Diagnosis: Supravalvularis Ao
(Surgery)

Muhamet
5 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD Atrial Septal Defect
(Surgery)

And the Next Child…

Providing children with heart disease a second chance at life...
Ezgon
14 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect
(Surgery)

Almir
4 Years Old
Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosus
(Interventional Cath)

Artin
8 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect
(Interventional Cath)

Every 3 hours a child with heart disease is cared for through our Global Network…

And the Next Child…
And the Next Child…

Dion
4 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect
(Interventional Cath)

Edonis
8 Years Old
Diagnosis: VSD
Ventricular Septal Defect
(Diagnostic Cath)

Elife
14 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect
(Interventional Cath)

Global partnerships help to heal more little hearts…
And the Next Child…

Medina
2 Years Old
Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosus
(Interventional Cath)

Rea
9 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect
(Interventional Cath)

Festine
15 Years Old
Diagnosis: DIV-PHT
(IDiagnostic Cath)

More than 40,000 little hearts healed since 1975…
Anita
14 Years Old
Diagnosis: PDA–PHT
Patent Ductus Arteriosus (Diagnostic Cath)

Rigert
3 Years Old
Diagnosis: ST AP
(Interventional Cath)

Ditjon
1.5 Years Old
Diagnosis: St Ao Valvaris
(Interventional Cath)

Healing the hearts of 3,000 children annually…
Vanessa
3 Years Old
Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect
(Diagnostic Cath)

Imer
21 Years Old
Diagnosis: TAPVR
Total Anomalous Pulmonary Venous Return
(Diagnostic Cath)

93% of children born with a heart defect have no access to care...
Answering the Prayers of Parents Each and Every Day…
Gift of Life International (GOLI) is a Rotarian based program that provides cardiac care to children throughout the world. GOL was started by the Rotary Club of Manhasset in Rotary District 7255 USA and is currently sponsored by Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts around the world. Gift of Life International is a non-profit organization which is tax exempt according to IRS Code 501c3. Tax ID#56-2322626

Thank you! Faleminderit!

Rotary Clubs of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Verrazano, Prishtina Dardania

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