

## Improving Children's Respiratory Health: The Kozle Institute for Respiratory Diseases in Children

Skopje, Macedonia

### Fondation PH Suisse –About Us

“...because health is a human right”, Fondation PH Suisse-*Partnerships in Health* supports the sustainable improvement of health systems in low and middle income countries through health education and training. In partnerships with ministries of health, and local and international agencies and experts, we provide local health care professionals and the public with training, education, and modern health care equipment to improve the quality of health services for women, children, families and communities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



### Child and Family-Centered Care – About the Programme



*Prof. Dr. Schöni of the Inselspital, Bern, discussing with colleagues of the IRDC*

The Kozle Institute for Respiratory Diseases in Children in Skopje (IRDC) is mandated by the Ministry of Health to provide secondary health care for young patients with respiratory problems. Included are ambulatory assessment and treatment for patients referred from primary care physicians, as well as specialized inpatient care.

*Partnerships in Health* has assisted the IRDC since 1999. Past activities have included equipment donations and training of medical professionals. Outpatient and inpatient services in pulmonology were improved with the assistance of pediatric specialists from the Inselspital in

Bern, Prof. M. Schöni and Prof. R. Kraemer and their staff. Most recent activities, with partners from The Johns Hopkins University Children's Hospital have provided developmentally-based training in child and family-centered care to hospital pediatric staff in line with the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.

### Programme Achievements

- Developmental and rights-based training for 30 pediatric workers in rights-based, child and family-centered care by staff of the Child Life Programme of The Johns Hopkins University Children's Hospital
- The physical layout and procedures for the ambulatory clinic have been updated to improve outpatient services

- The diagnostic capabilities have been increased with the introduction of a new body plethysmograph and training in its use
- Patients and caretakers are benefitting from easy-to-read health brochures
- An appointment system has been created
- Growth charts have been introduced and are used for every patient
- The clinic director and two head doctors were trained at the Inselspital in management skills, PH measurement, adequate sedation and supervision of patients during bronchoscopy, ant in body plethismography. They also were exposed to specialized outpatient services (asthma, allergy, CF, infection and gastroenterology)
- Donated equipment including computers, printers, air-driven compressors and nebulizers for inhalation, as well as various other instruments have been installed and staff trained in their use

## Next Steps

- Continue support and mentoring to the implementation of child and family centered care
- Provide training fellowships in the region to strengthen clinical skills

## How You Can Help

Funding is needed for:

Additional Activities	Equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish a laboratory tract for centralizing all lab activities of the Institute, separately from the patients' waiting area and patient examination rooms</li> <li>- Support special training courses in child-centered psychosocial and clinical care</li> </ul>	Stethoscopes, othoscopes, instruments for blood measurements, BIOX's (percutaneous oxymeters), equipment for allergy, viral and bacterial tests, microscopes, centrifuge, automatic biochemical analyzers, fiber bronchoscope, air conditioners, beds and sheets, toys, drawing equipment, etc.

While any level of financial support is appreciated, Project HOPE Switzerland also looks for partners who would like to cover a portion of a programme budget and follow programme developments.

## Programme Partners

Kozle Institute for Respiratory Diseases in Children, Skopje, Macedonia,

Staff from The Johns Hopkins University Child Life Center

Medizinische Universitäts-Kinderklinik, Inselspital, Bern,

## Communication

If you would like to receive more information about this program and/or if you wish to receive Fondation PH Suisse – *Partnerships in Health* news on a regular basis, please contact us at:

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