Patron: HRH Princess Katherine of Serbia

# LIFELINE CHICAGO 2023 30 June 30 June

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CATCAFE

1993–2023 Celebrating **30 Years** of Giving

Patron: HRH Cr

Jifeline Humanitarian Organization, Inc. 444 North Michigan Avenue • Suite 1200 • Chicago, IL 60611 Felephone (312) 228-0600 • www.lifelinechicago.org



3 July 2023

Dear friends,

During the very challenging 2022, and the first 6 months of 2023, supporters, benefactors and volunteers of Lifeline Chicago, continued their important work to help people of Serbia and Republic of Srpska. Because of your selflessness and generosity, you have done amazing and wonderful things for our people. I am so proud and grateful to all of you! You have made a tremendous difference in the lives of the people in your homeland, their lives are affected and changed for the better by your generous and selfless help.

So many important projects were conducted, that represent a substantial contribution to the healthcare, social welfare, and educational systems of Serbia and Republic of Srpska. When I see the smiles on the faces of all children that you have helped, or the sincere hug and handshake from our heroic doctors and nurses, who are able to perform their incredibly important jobs much easier and more efficiently thanks to your support, it brings warmth to my heart. And I want to share that beautiful feeling with you. Your efforts are highly appreciated by those whose lives you have improved.

It has been almost 30 years since the Lifeline Humanitarian Organization of Chicago was founded in 1993, and I need to say that I am very proud of all the good work and all the achievements that were possible thanks to your selfless support. I feel equally honored today as I was almost 3 decades ago when I became patron of this humanitarian organization. When I look little more in the past, I always, with great fondness, remember my parents, who were great humanitarians, and who taught me in my early years that the true joy of life is the joy of giving. And this is something that I see in all of you, my dear friends – you all know very well how enormous joy it brings to you when you contribute to those who are in need.

All you wonderful supporters, donors, benefactors, and friends of Lifeline Chicago, have saved, touched, and changed so many lives, but our mission is not finished yet. Working together, united in our cause, we must, and we will continue our efforts in making a difference in the lives of the people of our homeland. The love of the wonderful people of Serbia and the Republic of Srpska has made an unbreakable bond between all of us, and I want to do whatever is possible to provide them aid and comfort. But without your outstanding support and devotion, our work could never be so good and successful.

From the bottom of my heart, together with my husband, I thank all of you once again for all your generous care and love. And we both call you to continue with your hard work as you have done for so many years. Our people, and our country, need us.

Please keep up the good work for the benefit of our people.

HRH Crown Princess Katherine

THE ROYAL PALACE, BELGRADE, SERBIA TELEPHONE: +381 11 306 4000 FAX: +381 11 306 4040 hrh@royal.rs www.royal.rs



# СРПСКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА СПАРХИЈА новограчаничко-средњезападноамеричка



THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF NEW GRACANICA-MIDWESTERN AMERICA

Milena Tatic-Bajich, Psy. D. Editor of Lifeline Magazine 444 N. Michigan Ave. #1200 Chicago, IL 60611

It is a joy once again to greet all of you at LIFELINE CHICAGO for all the good work that you are doing.

Under the patronage of HRH Princess Katherine, you and your members have done so much to help those in need in Serbia - especially the sick, orphans, refugees and the needy.

May God bless you for all this. We especially want to recognize those who have donated and we encourage others to do so.

With God's blessings,

+LONGIN

Bishop of Diocese for New Gracanica and Midwestern America

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# **Lifeline Chicago**

Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Katherine of Serbia

Magazine 2023

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# Letter from the Editor



rectings to all! Another year has gone by and once again, Lifeline Magazine 2023 illustrates that Lifeline Chicago produces tangible results. The various institutions helped in Serbia, Republika Srpska and Kosovo and Metohija are forever changed. Whether small or large projects, the effect produces joy and ultimately safety, ease, and an environment more conducive to learning, being and expressing. YOUR effort, drive, determination and commitment produced these results.

As said before in different publications, the ripple effect is real and tangible. Just as we did several years ago in Trstenik when we helped with the flood in Serbia, the locals took up paint and paintbrushes and decided to beautify the school AFTER the Lifeline donations came.

Dear Readers, as you peruse this magazine, you will notice the 31 different projects completed last year. From libraries to new beds to floors to entirely renovated spaces, Lifeline's reach is wide in scope and breath. Go through the various places and various projects to see the wide assortment of COMPLETED projects. Wonderful and amazing.

This year, HRH Crown Princess Katherine's Award went to Rade Savich. At his own initiative, he started the golf outings and they have grown! All for the love of what Lifeline does. LLC congratulates him for this highly coveted award. Vinko Mancich is another person who needs mention here. He became the Assistant Treasurer on the Board to help out but his passion is in fund-raising. He thinks out of the box and produces a Clay-shoot event and then has a Yahtsee tournament. All for the love of what Lifeline does. These are just two names of MANY, and you may be one of them, who do various things because they love the kids. They have compassion for the downtrodden and a space in their hearts for the sick and disabled. God bless every one of you who give tirelessly, with passion and devotion.

LLC has lost a great benefactor in +David Stepanovich Stevens this year. With his lovely wife Nada, they gave tirelessly with passion and devotion. He will be missed.

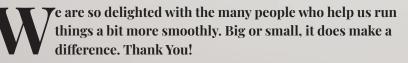
Plan to come out and support Lifeline in the fall for the lovely violin virtuoso Stefan Milenkovich along with Camerata Chicago for an unforgettable two-day concert at the Studebaker theater in Chicago and/or in Wheaton at the Wheaton College Arena. Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Aleksandar and Crown Princess Katherine will be in attendance. Check out our website for ticket information. All ticket sales will go to Lifeline.

As we look toward the future, we do not know what circumstances await. We do know that we have a mission. Whatever happens "out there," we have people who are counting on us for the special help we give to make people's lives a little bit better, a little bit happier.

With many blessings and warmest gratitude,

Milena Tatic Bajich, Psy.D.

# Special Thanks



Every year, for the last several years, they donate their time and play for the LLC Golf Outing in Florida. We would like to thank the **Florida Tambura Group**!

**Stevan and Annette Desancic and Nick Balach** from the Halyard Corporation donate their warehouse for LLC to use to pack all of their Christmas packages. We thank them!

**Jelena Mulin Photography**, always donates her time to take pictures for LLC whenever she appears at an event. We thank her!

**Dr. Christina Rudman DDS**, a talented photographer of wildlife, sells her photography online and all proceeds come to LLC. Go and check out her website: www.crphotographt.net Thank you!

**Little Greek Fresh Grill** and owner **Nick Vojnovich** has donated lunch packages to Florida golfers every year. We thank him!



# 2022<sub>A Year in Review</sub>



LLC is so very proud of being able to say "COMPLETED" about our projects. The next several pages will highlight some of the projects we have completed in 2022. We may have mentioned some of these projects in our Bozic issue, so do forgive us for over-stating but did we mention we are proud of saving "completed?"

## 1. Vuk Karadzic Elementary School, Melnica Village, Serbia

- New library
- New painted walls, floors, and posters
- New bookshelves, filled with new Serbian and English books

### 2. Spomenak Orphanage, Pancevo, Serbia

- Total renovation of a new Computer Study hall room
- New computers, printers, and supplies
- Bookshelves, filled with books and games

# 3. Vuk Karadzic Elementary School, Popovi Village, Bijeljina, Republika Srpska

- New heating system with new chimney
- Replacement of old windows
- New interior doors and new entrance door

### 4. Hristina Markisic Orphanage, Aleksinac, Serbia

- New beds
- New Mattresses and coverings
- New bedding, linens, and pillows

### 5. Mosa Pijade Elementary School, Suvi Do Village, Serbia

- Total renovation of bathroom for boys and girls
- New plumbing and electrical
- School furniture for one class

### 6. Zvecanska Babies Orphanage, Belgrade

- Five new sitting rooms were established
- New furniture, carpets, toy boxes and toys

#### LIFELINE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION, INC. - CHICAGO - 2023 NEWSLETTER

# 2022<sub>A Year in Review</sub>

# 7. Victims of Human Trafficking, Mala Krsna, Smederevo, Serbia

- Equipped the space with furniture
- New appliances, all new kitchen equipment
- New mattresses, bedding, and pillows

### 8. Fourteen Facilities in Serbia and Republika Srpska

• Received a special Easter dinner to celebrate Pascha

# 9. Women's Shelter Zvecanska 52, Belgrade, Serbia

- Remodeled two new living rooms
- New sofas, carpets, and pillows

### 10. Vuk Karadzic Elementary School, Stamnica, Serbia

- New library
- New painted walls, floors, and posters
- New bookshelves, filled with new Serbian and English books

### 11. Zvecanska Babies, Belgrade Serbia

- Mission trip delivery Diaper boxes for a month
- New medical supplies of thermometers, stethoscopes, and inhalers

### 12. Kovin Psychiatric Hospital, Kovin, Serbia

- Renovation entire floor
- New electrical, wiring, plastering, painting
- Installation new doors, floor tiles
- New small kitchen





# 2022 A Year in Review

## 13. Rade Vranjesevic Orphanage, Banja Luka, Republika Srpska

- Babies wing renovated for developmentally disabled children
- New bathroom
- New living room remodeled, new paint and furniture
- New bedroom furniture

# 14. Community Health Centre Vozdovac, Belgrade, Serbia

• New ENT medical equipment delivered

### 15. Spomenak Orphanage, Belgrade, Serbia

- New outdoor sports equipment
- Bleachers, benches, and existing equipment brought up to safety standards

## 16. Anton Skala School for Handicap Children, Belgrade, Serbia

• 100 new school desks and chairs

# 17. Shelter Victims of Human Trafficking, Mala Krsna, Smederevo, Serbia

• 3-month supply of food and hygiene products purchased for the women and their children and babies

# 18. Marko Pajic Elementary School, Vica village, Serbia

- Remodel library
- New paint, bookcases, new books in Serbian and English
- New tables, chairs, cork panels and carpet
- New educational programs and games





#### LIFELINE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION, INC. - CHICAGO - 2023 NEWSLETTER



### 20. Community Health Centre Vozdovac, Belgrade, Serbia

- Second ENT Medical device donated
- Tympanometry Device needed for testing inner ear functions

### 21. Rada Vranjesevic Orphanage, Banja Luka, Republika Srpska

- Second children's wing refurbished
- New mattresses, bedding, and bedroom furniture
- New dining table and chairs
- Family room remodeled, new furniture, carpets, and toy boxes

# 22. Anton Skala Elementary School, Children with Autism, Belgrade, Serbia

- New Cafeteria furniture
- Kitchen remodeled, new doors installed
- New computers, printers, and cork boards

#### 23. Women's Shelter Sombor, Serbia

- Continued support of sustainability
- More Serbian dolls ordered

### 24. Jovan Jovanovich Zmaj Orphanage, Belgrade, Serbia

- Renovation of boys' and girls' bathrooms
- New plumbing, electrical, fixtures, tiles, and paint

#### 25. 6th October Special Needs School, Kikinda, Serbia

- New stair lift
- Two new special needs walkers

### 26. Packages (72) delivered to Banja Luka and Milina Sela, Republika Srpska

- Elderly and families in need received food packages
- Children received school supplies









### 27. Jovan Jovanovich Zmaj Orphanage, Belgrade, Serbia

• Ramp and walk-way remodeled to make access easy for disabled children

#### 28. Community Health Centre Vozdovac, Belgrade, Serbia

- New medical bags filled with ENT equipment for traveling doctors
- First aid kits, new otoscopes
- New blood pressure kits

### 29. Biljelina Women's Shelter – Republika Srpska

• New green house established for women to grow their own food and also sell at the market, creating a small income

#### 30. Lifeline Chicago's annual Christmas container

• Yearly container filled with hundreds of boxes marked for shelters, orphanages, villages, hospitals, Kosovo and Metohija

### 31. Kosovo and Metohija deliveries

- Families supplied with boxes of food, hygiene and clothing
- New backpacks filled with school supplies to young students

The total for 2022 and the 31 listed projects totaled \$420,000.00! These projects were possible due to the efforts of our donors and benefactors! Thank you for this incredible support!

As always, we cannot rest on our laurels. There is always so much more left to do. Even apart from new projects, we have committed to sustaining some places with food, diapers, and supplies. Our commitment gives them an opportunity to take care of other necessities. You have always been generous with Lifeline, it is our hope and desire to continue to provide the necessary support through YOU that elevates the body, mind and spirit of our recipients.

# Letter from V. Rev. Dr. Milos M. Vesin

# CONTINUING LOVING PERSEVERANCE OF OUR SISTERS

Give to God that three Circles of Serbian Sisters – Church Kolo and Knjeginja Zorka Kolo from St. Archangel Michael Church in South Chicago, now Lansing, IL, together with Kolo Sisters of St. George Church in Joliet, IL, in this year 2023 are continuing their benevolent endeavors towards helping Lifeline organization. As it is well known, Lifeline under the guidance of H.R.H. Princess Katherine Karadjordjevic, helps numerous orphanages, children's hospitals, nursing homes and many other humanitarian institutions in Serbia that take care of the least of Christ's brothers and sisters – those who are in need.

This year's Lifeline event in Lansing happens to be in a jubilee year, for this year we celebrate 120 years since the first Kolo Srpskih Sestara was organized. Therefore, my pastoral greeting is going to be in the form of a very important history reminder, for we must never forget those who paved this road on which we walk today.

Immediately after the Ilindan Uprising in 1903, a very large number of refugees as well as immigrants came to Belgrade, and there was a tremendous need to help those people of various ethnic and religious groups. The famous Serbian painter Nadezda Petrovic, together with Delfa Ivanic organized a meeting with members of Belgrade's Women's Society. At that meeting Nadezda Petrovic laid out a plan for forming a benevolent committee in order to help "enslaved brothers and sisters from Old Serbia". The name of the organization – Kolo Srpskih Sestara was given by famous Serbian writer and diplomat Branislav Nusic, a.k.a. Ben Akiba. The founding meeting took place on Velika Gospojina (The feast of Dormition of Blessed Virgin Mary) August 15/28 1903 in Belgrade. Over three thousand women were in attendance on that August day in Belgrade. The first president was Savka Subotic, Delfa Ivanic was elected as vice-president and Nadezda Petrovic as secretary. From the very beginning Kolo Srpskih Sestara was open to many women of other nationalities and religions, and very soon local committees were organized all over Serbia, but also in Bosnia and Hercegovina, Slavonia and Slovenia.

The first goal of newly formed organization was to help the Serbs in unliberated regions, where they lived under the oppression either of Ottoman empire or Austro-Hungarian empire. Kolo Srpskih Sestara next to collecting funds for the needy co-patriots organized also courses for nurses, courses for illiterate women, but it also was very instrumental in establishing new hospitals. By 1906 Kolo Srpskih Sestara started publishing its own news-letter, and by the time of Balkan-wars, over 40.000 copies of news-letter as well as illustrated calendar "Vardar" were printed. In 1923, 100 years ago, Kolo

Srpskih Sestara has built its own DOM KOLA (Head-quarters). In the backyard two more buildings were erected, one for a boarding school and the other for the administration as well as for the "Vardar" editorial offices. Between 1903 and 1941 (beginning of the WW 2) 146 local subcommittees of Kolo Srpskih Sestara were opened all over.

Only six years later after the first Kolo in Belgrade was organized, in 1909 the Serbs in America have had their own first Kolo. It was in Cincinnati, OH, and it was organized by Fr. Milan Mrvicin and his popadija Darinka. In all parishes in which Fr. Mrvicin was serving, he organized Kolos: 1924 in Detroit, 1928 in South Bend. Chicago has gotten its first Kolo on September 1915 and it was named "Srpsko Sestrinstvo Drustvo" (Serbian Sister's Society). Until the end of the thirties almost all Serbian Parishes and Church-School Congregations had their own Kolo Srpskih Sestara. From 1909 until 1941– 48 Kolos were organized within Serbian Orthodox Church-School Congregations in the USA.

As far as this particular three Kolos are concerned, Church Kolo in South Chicago was organized on September 19<sup>th</sup> 1926, Kolo in Joliet on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1930 and Kolo "Knjeginja Zorka" in South Chicago on February 18<sup>th</sup> 1934.

From their earliest days Kolo Srpskih Sestara in America had very strong connection with the central organization in Belgrade. As Bishop Sava of blessed memory wrote in his immensely important book "The History of the Serbian Orthodox Church in America and Canada from 1891 to 1941", at the Kolo Slava in Belgrade on September 21<sup>st</sup> of 1937 there was also a sister from America – Zora Nicholas, representing all Kolos from America. The Serbian press especially quoted her following words: "… Everything we did for our Old Country is the result of our sweat and our hard labor, everything is like a big tear from the eyes and hearts of our poor Serbian people in America, as expression of their love and their concerns for Serbia."

All Kolo Srpskih Sestara from this side of the shore of the ocean were always faithful and dedicated to the Serbian Royal House of Karadjordjevic dynasty. Thatconnection was beautifully expressed in a donation from all Kolos in America towards the erection of the monument of late King Aleksandar in Belgrade in 1937.

And even now, one hundred and twenty years after the formation of first Kolo Srpskih Sestara in Belgrade, and one hundred and fourteen years after our first Kolo here in America, you dear Sisters who labor for the benefit of your known and unknown fellow-Christian and all those in need, now in the third decade of twenty first century, continually fulfil a sacred and noble mission. Our numbers might have decreased, but your love, endurance and perseverance are the same as you have inherited from your mothers, babas, and all those who labored in the years and decades before you.

May the Good and Almighty God, by the prayers of the Most Holy Birth-giver of God, of St. Sava, St. Mardarije and of all the Saints continually bless you in your dedicated and hard work for all those who suffer and who, as often is the case, have no one closer to them, but God in heaven and you here on this earth.

V. Rev. Dr. Milos M. Vesin Parish priest of St. Archangel Michael Church in Lansing, IL

# Combined Efforts Create Long-Lasting Results

hurch Circle of Serbian Sisters [CCSS] is a proud sponsoring member of the 3Kolo Group along with the K.S.S. Knjegina Zorka Kolo, both from St. Archangel Michael Church of Lansing, Illinois and St. George Circle of Serbian Sisters from Joliet, Illinois.



#### From CCSS:

Lifeline is a wonderful humanitarian organization to support! By combining the talents and support of our 3 kolo members, we create a unique themed fundraising event to help the less fortunate souls in our motherland. We wouldn't be able to continue holding these events without the great benefit of our volunteers and supporters. All these combined efforts culminate in providing assistance and continued spreading of joy to those underserved and deserving much more of life back in Serbia.

This annual effort and common goal promotes service and camaraderie within our kolo groups. It provides the opportunity to work with other kolo sisters and get to know them over the years. Knowing we can do this as individuals and a group provides us with joy and fulfillment that we are contributing to something larger than us and pleasing to our Lord; meaningful support that hopefully is life-altering for all the recipients. This is what keeps us interested and moving forward. Old Serbian saying: Upward and onward!





# Projects Completed through the Efforts of 3 Kolo





The three greatest virtues, faith, hope and charity; and the collective group of 3 Circles of Serbian Sisters which Lifeline Chicago dearly refer to as the 3Kolo Group. Over the past decade these ladies, driven by their faith have hosted several charitable events, giving hope to countless individuals, who may often feel as there is no chance of hope for a better tomorrow.

Autumn of 2021 featured A Taste of Pasta Afternoon dents. hosted by the Kolos: A n

K.S.S.S. Knjeginja Zorka Kola, St Archangel Michael, Lansing, Illinois; Serbian Sisters Kolo, St. Archangel Michael, Lansing, Illinois; St. George Circle Serbian Sisters of Joliet, Illinois. The following is a description of the Projects which the 3Kolo sponsored from the fundraiser.



# **PROJECT #1.** New Library

Ranko Radicevic Elementary School is situated in Melnica Village, approximately 2 hours southeast of Belgrade. The school is a learning institution for 65 students.

A new library was provided in the school. In addition to painting and installing new lights, the library is furnished with bookcases, stacked with books both in English and Serbian text. A poster of Nikola Tesla is prominently and proudly displayed, an inspiration for the students.



# **PROJECT #2.** Vasa Stajic Orphanage/Shelter, Belgrade, Serbia

An entire living space for a group of children residing within Vasa Stajic was remodeled, the mold and lead removed, replacement of all existing electrical wiring and lighting. The space was repainted and furnished with new carpeting, furniture complete with decorative pillows, a TV stand and TV, and walls adorned with new art work.

This recently refurbished living provides a warm, inviting area for the children evoking feelings of warmth, and welcoming.





# **PROJECT #3.** Zakoplaca House

The young adults living at Zakoplaca House are incapable of earning a livelihood or independent living, but too old to remain in facilities for children without parental care. The government provides a small allowance. For the past decade the 3 Kolo Group has supported the 6 residents with clothing and hygiene bags. A three-month food supply was provided and backpacks filled with provisions. They are always extremely grateful for their new clothes, shoes and the food to help them throughout the year.







# **PROJECT #4.** Banja Luka, Republika Srpska, Specification of Humanitarian Packages For Pi Social Work Centre Banja Luka

Distribution of humanitarian packages to 60 of the most vulnerable families.

The packages included essentials: a 3-month supply of flour, rice, sugar, yeast, oil, biscuits, meats, soap and detergent.

Miodrag Babic, of Legal and Guardianship Affairs stated, "The greatest joy of all our users who were delighted with these packages. We share the same feeling of joy with our users, because with your help we were in a situation to make them happy. Therefore, ... I express my sincere gratitude to the LIFE-LINE Humanitarian Organization and the Foundation of HRH Crown Princess Katherine, for the donation."









# **PROJECT #5.** 300 Back Packs filled with school supplies distributed throughout Serbia, Repubilka Srpska and Kosovo and Metohija

### 50 delivered into Kosovo

Many provided to children living in the enclaves in Kosovo. LLC believes for some of the children this may have been their first ever backpack.

#### 100 backpacks distributed for St. Sava Day

Priests Branimir Čolić and Dalibor Čolić at Hram Svetih Sirmijskih Mučenika, Sremska Mitrovica made an appeal for the children to receive a gift at the St. Sava day celebration. The families, who otherwise would be unable to give their children this git were overjoyed and humbled by the backpacks.

#### 100 distributed to Camp Kosnica

50 children from Kosovo plus 50 children from several orphanages and shelters throughout Serbia. Underprivileged children enjoy one week of camp, romping, laughing, socializing, and being children. They return home with a new backpack for the upcoming school year.

### 50 distributed to the Women's Shelter,

50 distributed to the older children there, in great need of a backpack, and supplies.











# .3KOLO



# **PROJECT #6. Vozdovac Health** Centre, Belgrade, Serbia

The ENT Department and the Home Care Department of this Center were the recipients of necessary medical equipment.

This most recent donation consisted of the following new equipment: 15 medical satchels for home treatment, new oximeters, first aid kits also equipped with ENT equipment, stethoscopes, analog blood pressure monitors, otoscope sets, and penlight sets. Dr. Nevenka Velicković, general director of the "Vozdovac" Community Health Center remarked, "... this donation from my dear sisters from the Three Kolo Group is so important, and I am very grateful to them and Lifeline Chicago, for once again being determined to help, and not forgetting the needs of the people of Serbia... Your selfless helping hand shows how noble you are. On average, our institution treats 354,000 patients annually, of which 20% are children, and that's why we greatly appreciate this support to our work to preserve health."



# **PROJECT #7.** Women's shelters in Serbia and Republika Serpska

Since their inception of supporting Lifeline Chicago, the 3 Kolo Group provides the residents of the various Women Shelters Christmas Packages. The delight these women in shelters experience upon receiving their Bozic Gifts is indescribable. A sense of dignity is restored as well as joy.

This year, wrapped with love and adorned with mistletoe and holly, the gifts included:

- Clothing: warm sweaters, tops, sweat pants
- Hygiene bags
- Clothing for the children
- A special Christmas toy, crafts and backpacks

# **PROJECT #8.** The Center for Human Trafficking Victims Protection, Mala Krsna, near Smederevo, Serbia

**KOLO** 

The Center is used for the urgent accommodation of Victims of Human Trafficking. An emergency appeal was made for assistance and support. The 3 Kolo group of Sisters provided one month's supply of food and hygiene items for five newly admitted mothers along with their babies. The Acting General Manager, wrote, "We thank the Lifeline Chicago Office for their understanding and great help in continued giving[.] [T]heir support means a lot for our users as it comes always as a quick response to the appeal we sent".



# **PK Award** 2022 Goes to Rade Savich







er Royal Highness Crown Princess Katherine gives out an award annually for exemplary contributions to Lifeline. Last year, Rade Savich received this award for exemplary dedication to helping the Princess Katherine Foundation, Lifeline Chicago and children in Serbia.

Rade Savich simply wanted to help. He did not need to be on the Board to do so, nor did he need the Board to raise funds. He went straight to work and joined some of his passions to create one incredible success. He started the LLC golf outing in Northwest Indiana and joined forces with his friend, Zoran Tomasevic. They now organize and host the golf outing in Florida annually.

His passion for the sport and his passion to help children aligned and it has grown from 20 golfers in one day in Northwest Indiana to a two day affair with 90 golfers and 220 people for a Saturday night banquet in Florida. More than golf, every year Rade collects donated stuffed animals around Indianapolis from all Pet Smart stores. He takes the time and goes from one store to another and one year collected over 3,000 stuffed animals! His enthusiasm and great heart capture the attention of those around him. He has infused his wife Fanny and two daughters with the same enthusiasm and they all help him whenever the need arises.

He not only donates many items for golf outings for auction or wherever a need arises, he also gives valuable information to the Board about items that can be used for charitable events and other fund raisers. LLC could not ask for a better representative of its mission and values! Congratulations to a truly wonderful benefactor, donor, and all-around ambassador, and even more importantly, to a great human!

# Lifeline Loses a Great Benefactor and Humanitarian









his year, Lifeline lost a great benefactor and friend to Lifeline. + David Stepanovich Stevens passed away on February 25,

2023 at the age of 86, surrounded by his family and friends. He will always be remembered by Lifeline for his compassionate generosity, as someone who was immediately available to help and also as someone who could make a witty remark and leave people in stitches.

Lifeline Magazine has highlighted some of the donations and contributions made by David and Nada Stepanovich Stevens throughout the years. They supported the Princess Katherine Foundation and Lifeline Chicago and believed in the mission and values of LLC. Before he passed away, David and Nada visited Serbia and saw all of the projects that they supported over the years. One could see compassion in his eyes as he met numerous beneficiaries of his contributions. He was touched and happy to see the results of his donations. Some of the most recent contributions are highlighted here.

# Spomenak Orphanage, Pancevo Serbia

David and Nada have done several projects to help improve the lives of the children living at Spomenak, Orphanage, in Pancevo. Most recently, they helped to remodel the outdoor yard, making it safer for the kids to play and socialize. The project included replacing the broken bleachers, swings and outdoor playground equipment.

# Anton Skala Elementary School, Belgrade, Serbia

The Anton Skala school is a school for developmentally disabled children who suffer from autism and autism spectrum disorders. The school had dilapidated chairs, desks and tables. Some of the children who stay at the school are 18 years old and older and do not have appropriately-sized chairs and tables. David and Nada purchased all new desks and chairs for 100 students. They also made a visit to the school and were greeted by thankful teachers and students.





# Vozdovac, Belgrade

The ENT Department of the Health Centre "Vozdovac" in Belgrade, Serbia, received a large donation of urgent and necessary medical equipment, which was provided by a donation from Mr. and Mrs David Stepanovich Stevens.

The staff was grateful for equipment such as audiometers, syringes with extensions, cotton holders, specialized larynx mirrors, Hartmann speculums for children, indirect laryngeal grippers), and Hartmann tongue compressors for children and adults.



### Milina Sela, Republika Srpska

The Women's Association of Milina Sela in Republika Srpska were given holiday gift bags filled with presents to over 160 children at local schools in the villages of Priboj, Koraj, Majevica and Peljava through the generosity of David and Nada Stepanovich Stevens.

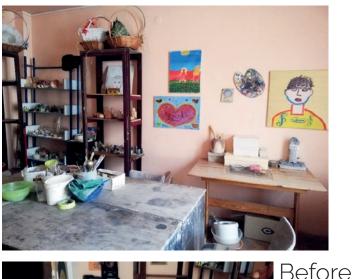
Twenty vulnerable families with 35 children received food pages for two months and the children received their own gift bag of clothing, shoes, and backpacks filled with school supplies.

The world is a little bit smaller with the loss of David Stepanovich Stevens. The children and staff in various institutions in Serbia and Republika Srpska benefitted from his kindness. Lifeline and all who those who knew him are saddened by the loss of a great compassionate humanitarian and friend. Vjecnaja Pamjat (Memory Eternal).

# Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj Receives a New Learning Wing

he Nelson Family Charitable Foundation (NFCF) was started by Valerie Wuchenich Nelson and her children. They wished to promote education, learning, and more generally, help make a difference in the lives of children.

NFCF has worked with Lifeline Chicago and contributed in previous years. This past year, work was done to Jovan Jovanovich Zmaj Home for Children without Parental Care and Shelter in Belgrade, Serbia. Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj Home for Children without Parental Care was opened in 1987 with a capacity for 80 Children. NFCF renovated a whole wing with a new learning space to develop music, art and craftsmanship.













"It was such a delight to see the opportunities given to the kids of JJ Zmaj with the addition of the music, craft and art rooms. Music and art is healing and soothing of the soul... so wonderful to see!"

Valerie Wuchenich Nelson

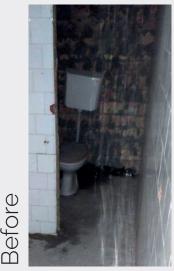


After



John and Mildred Medich Wuchenich  $\approx FOUNDATION \approx$ 

# Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj Receives a New Bathroom in the New Learning Wing



he John and Mildred Medich Wuchenich Foundation has supported projects on behalf of HRH Crown Princess Katherine Foundation for the past ten years. The family has traveled with LLC board members to Serbia to inspect the projects they have completed and to look for possible future projects that they could support.

They have always been concerned about the children and their safety as well as their living conditions. Their dedication, perseverance and commitment is appreciated by the recipients of their generosity and by Lifeline.







# Jovan Jovanovich Zmaj Orphanage/Shelter Belgrade, Serbia

Built over 35 years ago, Jovan Jovanovic Zmaj is not only a home for children without parental care but also serves as a shelter for abused children who go through therapy individually and as a family. The work done helps to fa-

cilitate the child's return to family of origin.

The bathroom in the new learning wing needed a total renovation. This meant new plumbing, removal of mold, removal of lead paint, addition of all new electrical wiring, new fixtures, floors, and tiles. HRH Crown Princess Katherine visited the facility and had a ribbon cutting ceremony with both the Nelson and Wuchenich family on the most recent mission trip.





# Another Bathroom Renovation at Kovin Psychiatric Hospital



•he John and Mildred Medich Wuchenich Foundation supported yet another project at Kovin Psychiatric Hospital, Department of Addictive Diseases.



# Kovin Psychiatric Hospital, Kovin, Serbia

The Department of Addictive Diseases at Kovin required renovation of its old bathroom that over 60 men shared. Twenty women were forced to share the same bathroom with the same showers. Privacy did not exist on the second floor. The Foundation remodeled the entire bathroom, which included adding a separate bathroom for women.

Over the years, the John and Mildred Medich Wuchenich Foun-

dation has renovated the entire Kovin Hospital. Every year, they took on a separate project, whether to replace all windows and doors or to add a common living space for the various patients to use or to changing large bathrooms, they steadily renovated the entire place!. The severly mentally ill are often overlooked in many places due to the stigma of mental illness. The Foundation, in its compassionate generosity, has always sent the

message of: We see you. You matter. You are not forgotten.

From HRH Crown Princess Katherine: "We continue to help the Special Psychiatric Hospital Kovin so that the patients have the best possible conditions during treatment and recovery. I am very grateful to John and Mildred Medich Wuchenich Foundation and Lifeline Chicago for once again showing great devotion and dedication to providing for those in need."



# A Note from Pittsburgh/Tri-State Committee:

he Pitt/Tri-State committee would like to thank all the individuals, groups and organizations that donated to our mail campaign this past year. We are especially appreciative, because we understand how challenging the current economic environment is, and even in this difficult time, so many gave so generously to our organization. We raised approximately \$20,000 through our mail campaign alone, and were able to complete much-needed projects to improve the lives of many youth in Serbia.

We have a dedicated committee from throughout the Greater Pittsburgh and Ohio Valley region, and while we have yet to resume fundraising events in person, we look forward to doing so in the near future so that we can reconnect with all of you who have supported us over the years.

The committee wishes to thank all of you, who have so generously given to this worthy cause. We understand there are many organizations that would benefit from your generosity and we are humbled that you continue to choose LifeLine. Your donations produce vast improvements for the lives of so many in Serbia, and we are for-ever indebted to you.

With Deepest Gratitude, The Pittsburgh/Tri-State Committee

Members (in Alphabetical Order):

Linda Bain Sandy Connell Nino Karas Paul Karas Jennifer Kosanovic (Chair) Kristina Marinkovich Helene Prince Charlene Stanich Deb Studen-Pavlovich Marco Trbovich (Secretary) Mitza Trbovich Nina Trbovich Julianna Tumbas Stefanie Tumbas (Treasurer)

**\*\*** If anyone in the Tri-State area is interested in participating on the committee, please reach out to a member for more information.



# Pittsburgh/Tri-State Continues to Assist Anton Skala School



Pittsburgh/Tri-State



n 1964, Anton Skala School opened its doors to students. Now the school educates 94 students and primarily focuses on the growth and education of children with developmental disabilities, most of whom have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

In 1978, Anton Skala School was the first school in the Balkans to open a department for children with autism, believing that the inclusion of all children in a regular school is what is appropriate and the best educational setting for all students in Serbia. Each year, the number of applicants interested in attending Anton Skala School far exceeds the physical capacity of the school. This is attributed to their goal of creating a more accepting world by promoting public awareness in all facets of the community.

To assist in providing a better experience for all the students at Anton Skala, donations made to Pittsburgh/Tri-State were put to good use, by creating sensory spaces in classrooms so that students with ASD have an area to engage with items that give the needed sensory input, so that they may remain calm and have a more successful learning experience.

The donations also covered the cost of classroom materials such as computers, educational resources, books, toys and games, as well as affording the ability to make some structural updates including doorframes and new doors.







# Significant Donation to 6 October School



n the northern Banat region of Serbia, 6 October School sits in the town of Kikinda. The school is a primary learning center that also serves students with developmental disabilities. The most vulnerable children in the community are educated at 6 October. While the rest of society often forgets these children, the school and its dedicated faculty help them grow academically, socially and emotionally. They also provide refuge, hope and unmatched care in a loving environment, which is not only their school but also where the students reside.

Sadly, the school does not have an elevator, nor the necessary equipment to transport students from one floor to another. Staff members have carried the physically disabled students up and down flights of stairs for years, so that they were able to engage in educational and social activities and to gain access to the outdoors. This poses many risks, not only for the students but also for the faculty and staff.

The school was in dire need of a stair climber and specialized walkers to

mitigate risks to the students and to aid in their development.



# Pittsburgh/Tri-State Donates Specialized Walkers

Pittsburgh/Tri-State donated the specialized walkers, which allow students with cerebral palsy to get more appropriate and effective physical and occupational therapy. The walkers also give the students the ability to be mobile and move more freely from one area of the building to another with their classmates, increasing their social and academic opportunities.

These walkers aid in giving students with disabilities equal access to the opportunities that their typical peers regularly have.





# The Stanich Family Gifts Stair Climber

ary and Charlene Stanich responded to the needs of 6 October School by generously gifting the desperately needed stair climber, so that the school's goal of providing a safer and more accessible learning environment could be realized.

The stair climber is an assistive device that allows students in wheelchairs to safely move from one floor to another, ultimately giving them greater access to learning and areas in the school that they've been unable to access in the past. It also allows them to gain access to the exits more easily.

VIK.do.

With this contribution, the students who learn and live at 6 October are safer, have greater mobility and greater access to education, therapy and social activities.

Their lives have been made better through this act of kindness!





# Aliquippa KSS Invests in Zvecanska 52

he Circle of Serbian Sisters from St. Elijah, in Aliquippa, PA generously gave of themselves to better the lives of the women and infants living at Zvecanska 52.

Zvecanska 52 is a woman's shelter and maternity home located in Belgrade that sees approximately 40 pregnant women, new mothers and their newborns pass through the doors every year. Many of them have difficult life stories and circumstances, creating a need for attention and assistance to overcome these circumstances. The support provided at Zvecanska allows them to begin to heal and offers a healthy and protective environment to raise their infants.

The mothers and their children are able to stay at the home for up to two years, while trying to reestablish an independent life through a training program created by Lifeline Chicago. They also receive services



to help them cope with their tragic pasts, many of whom were abused, kicked out of their family homes or trafficked.

Hoping to help in the creation of suitable living environments for the new moms and babies, the Aliquippa KSS outfitted two living rooms at Zvecanska with all the necessary furniture, including sofas, chairs and tables, as well as pillows, blankets and carpeting. Giving these young mothers a "touch" of home will go a long way to make them feel a sense of normalcy as they begin their journey into motherhood and attempt to get back on their feet and move toward an independent life for them and their babies.



# Winning Not Only in Sports

raljevo Royal Crowns American football team divisions qualified for a total of five national championships in all junior

boys and young adults are learning about a different kind of leadership: volunteerism. These young people learn the meaning of giving and

giving back to the community through volunteer work, visiting the sick children in hospitals and taking gifts sent from Lifeline Chi-

cago. These young people

are commended for their

desire to help through

these visits to spread a bit

of cheer. LLC is thankful

to the Kraljevo Roval

Crowns who are reaching

many sick children in

hospitals and earning a

different kind of "win."

categories. They have teams for 19 years old and under. flag football



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LIFELINE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION, INC. - CHICAGO

# In Memory of Dr. Dayna Less, Campers Return

hank you to **Sam and Alexandra Starcevich** for their special donation in memory of Dr. Dayna Less who loved her St. Sava Camp in Libertyville.

#### Kosnica - Camp Beehive

Camp Beehive resumed again in 2022 after being shut down by Covid for two years. Camp for these children, ages 8 to 13, was very eventful and enjoyable. They had a week of fun, learning and playing games. For many of these children, this was an exercise of learning independence and spiritual growth. They had the opportunity to experience outdoor living and to learn mechanisms of de-stressing from daily life.

**Sam and Alexandra Starcevich special donation** in memory of Dayna Less included:

New tents, new sleeping bags, camp supplies, backpacks for the campers, hygiene bags, and a new T- shirt to take home. The whole event created an atmosphere of joy and pleasure both for the children and for the volunteers working at the camp.

#### **Camp Pizza Party Held**

No camping would be complete without a pizza party at its conclusion! Camp kids received a special Pizza Party during both weeks, in memory of Dr. Dayna Less, donated by the Dayna Less Memorial Fund.









# **Beehive Camp** Welcomes Many Children and Builds Relationships

hank you to **Frank and Barbara Skala** who support a second week of camp. They pay for the food for the entire week, activities and transportation. They give 50 kids the opportunity to have a week they will never forget!

During week one, 50 children arrive from **Kosovo and Metohija**. They come from Štrpce, Sevce, from small villages and isolated places in the middle of Kosovo.

During week two, 50 children come from social institutions from Novi Sad, and from socially vulnerable families in Vojvodina.









# Below from a volunteer camp counselor:

The aim of this project is to offer a carefree, active holiday week to Serbian children, each with their own personal story, but for whom a holiday is not so obvious. During Košnica they may forget their worries for a moment and just be a child. Through sport and play, but also attention, love and the occasional hug, so much can be achieved.

The organization of Košnica is in the hands of a few Serbs, who, with a large group of friends and (international) volunteers, create this camp for these children. Every year a step further: an extra activity, better tents, a new sponsor. This year was the 15th edition and they have welcomed two groups of 50 children.

Being able to actively contribute to building, running and dismantling the camp has been a particularly inspiring experience for our family. Firstly, we got to know a group of Serbian friends who are committed to the children without any form of self-interest. They have embraced us effortlessly in their project and made us feel very welcome. In this way we also learned more about Serbia, the people and culture.

Secondly, we have actively helped with all (sports) activities with the children. This automatically creates emotional ties with the children, while you know that they have to face hard times in normal life.

For them, life is not that simple and self-evident, as it applies to us. With a hug, a conversation or sometimes a simple gesture, you can make a difference. Even if it is only for a while, it means a lot to them. The emotional side of working in the Košnica project has made a deep impression on us.

This project knows nothing but good: it is supported by people with a big heart and deserves all the support it can get. We are definitely going back to Košnica! LIFELINE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION, INC. - CHICAGO - 2023 NEWSLETTER

# Fourth Annual Lifeline Golf Outing *Florida* 2022



he fourth annual Lifeline Golf Outing may have been the Biggest and the Best so far! Rade Savic and Zoran Tomasevic did an outstanding job chairing yet another successful and fun event in which even torrential rain did not stop people from having a great time. Some golfers ended early due to the rain but rain could not stop people from enjoying the event.

Folkore group Bistra Voda from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Clearwater entertained during dinner hour. Golfers, sponsors and donors enjoyed a buffet dinner, silent auction table, and sang with tambura music throughout the evening.

The success of the event goes to the incredible work of the organizers and to all of the sponsors and donors. We are truly grateful for all of the effort made to help out those in need in Serbia, Kosovo and Metohija and Republika Srpska.









# Fourth Annual Golf Outing Helps to Rejuvinate Vranjesevic Home

n this phase of the renovations, the ground floor of the Home was completely renovated and refurbished. The funding of this phase was made possible by the generous donors and volunteers of Lifeline Chicago's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing. This vast undertaking included the removal of dangerous mold and lead paint, painting of the entire floor and the following purchases of all new furniture and accessories: wardrobes and closets, nightstands, beds complete with mattresses and bedding sets, dining room chairs and dining tables, and an entire new living room. "...We are very happy that you think of them and we are grateful to you for helping

you for helping us to provide everything they need for normal growth and development. We also want to emphasize that without your support, this project would not be finished. Thank you, dear friends," said Ms. Darijana Kecman, director of the "Rada Vranješević" Home.

У Дом "Рада Вра Захваљује ау Њ.К.В. Прини

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# Milica Malesevic Estate

n the last five years and more, the Dr. Nikola Sumenkovic Home in Stamanica, Serbia received donations from the late Milica Malesevic estate. This facility has been operational since 1964. When the coal mine in Stamnica closed, there were vacant flats left by the miners. The Institution grew from accommodating fifty people of severe mental disabilities to 450 in separate pavilions. The aim of the home is to rehabilitate children with severe disabilities in everyday living needs. Many stay in the institution as adults because of the severity of their disabilities. The age range of the population is from newborn to adult.

In 2022, The Milica Malesevic Estate finished its last project. The donation created a complete reconstruction of the gym façade. The rain gutters were replaced, a new floor was added, new radiators, an air conditioner and lighting panels were installed. The hall was painted and the facility received new sports equipment, including a volley-ball net, two basketball hoops and five new mats. This has made it safer for the children to play.

Mrs. Ana Tomasevic, the principal of the Stamnica Home, stated: "... the renovation of the gym is of great importance for our institution and all the users it accommodates. In this way, greater opportunities are created for even better treatment, development of motor skills, sports and recreational activities and better spending of free time..."

















#### About Milica Malesevich

Milica Malesevich, born in 1912 and died at the age of 90 in 2003. She grew up as Milica Ognjanac to Pantelija and Ruzica Ognjanac. Her father was a school teacher and her mother was a homemaker. She was one of ten children who grew up in her early childhood in Zemun. She became a registered nurse and moved to Pula, Croatia where she earned numerous awards for her accomplishments. She was briefly married to a pilot and she became a widow. She moved to the United States and worked as a nurse in several hospitals and married Uros Malesevich. Both, she and her husband gave generously to the church and other charitable causes. They did not have children of their own and she was the last living sibling.

## Brief description of the Stamnica projects over the last several years thanks to the donation of The Milica Estate:

- Every Christmas the institution received new clothes, shoes, socks
- New winter jackets
- Hygiene bags of soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste
- Thousands of diapers
- Educational games and toys
- 20 New wheelchairs
- New Kitchen pots and pans
- New industrial refrigerator
- New Cauldron for cooking 150 liters of food
- Bath Bed for bathing
- New outdoor summer classroom was built
- Tables, chairs, and benches for the disabled
- New beds and mattresses for Adult Hospital
- New cribs with mattresses for babies
- Medical equipment, mechanical scale, altimeter, orpthalmoscope and an otoscope
- New picnic tables and benches throughout the yard
- New Van to transport sick patients to clinics and hospitals
- New sit down lawn mower
- 350 New sheets and 350 New pillows
- Renovation of small gymnasium
- In Milica's Memory a beautiful garden was built.





## KINGDOM OF SERBIA ASSOCIATION UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HRH CROWN PRINCE ALEXANDER Distributed Aid into Kosovo and Metohija on Behalf of LLC

From a Press Release:

Twenty-four delegates of the Kingdom of Serbia Association on June 28, 2022 visited Kosovo and Metohija was led by Mr. Dragan Božić, president of the City Board of the Association of the Kingdom of Serbia from Sremska Mitrovica and coordinator of the Association's humanitarian activities.

At the beginning of the visit, the delegation attended the Vidovdan ceremonial session of the PO of the City of Pristina – Municipality of Gračanica and the "Vidovdan Poet's Vigil" on the eve of Vidovdan, and then the Holy Hierarchical Liturgy in the Gračanica Monastery and the memorial service for the Kosovo heroes at Gazimestan, which was officiated by His Holiness the Patriarch of Serbia Mr. Porfirije, together with His Eminence the Metropolitan of Montenegro and the Littoral, Mr. Ioanniki and thirteen other bishops.

During this visit, humanitarian action was also carried out when specially prepared gifts were distributed to children in Gračanica. Boxes and bags of new clothing, along with games, toys, and puzzles, was distributed to newborn babies and young children.







## Kosovo and Metohija

he humanitarian action was implemented in cooperation with the city of Sremska Mitrovica and the humanitarian organization "Majka 9 Jugovića", with the great support of the Lifeline Chicago Humanitarian Organization, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Katherine. The action of the Kingdom of Serbia Association was strongly supported by Mr. Petar Samardžić, deputy mayor of Sremska Mitrovica.

"The whole trip went without any problems and the gift distribution action was successfully carried out and without major difficulties to the great joy of the children from Gračanica who were deeply touched by this nice gesture and attention on the occasion of the great Vidovdan holiday. " — President of the Association

#### Lifeline Cookbook Continues to Provide for Women's Shelters

From a Press Release:

## WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSES RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM CROWN PRINCESS AND LIFELINE CHICAGO

Belgrade, 14 October 2022 – The HRH Crown Princess Katherine Foundation in Belgrade, in cooperation with Lifeline Humanitarian Organization of Chicago, [under] Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Katherine, has provided substantial support over many years to the women who reside in safe houses/women's shelters in Serbia and the Republic of Srpska, and this assistance continues with the most recent donations.

The "Economic Empowerment of Women Victims of Violence" project was launched to enable women in safe houses/women's shelters to garner gainful employment and to become financially independent upon leaving these institutions. This particular project was enacted to assist three safe houses in the Republic of Srpska, located in Banja Luka, Modrica, and Bijeljina. The funds for this project were provided by the publishing and sales of the "Cooking with Love" cookbook, which was created by a distinguished group of selfless and dedicated supporters of Lifeline Chicago.

These three safe houses received valuable donations which included the following: a laser cutting and engraving machine, a sewing machine, an embroidery machine, a commercial-grade iron, a laptop, and a greenhouse to assist residents in acquiring and/or expanding their



knowledge and skills in the field of agriculture. The living conditions in the safe house in Banja Luka were also greatly improved with the installation of new radiators and the purchase of new living room furniture.





## Cookbook Continues to Give to Women Shelters

n addition to assisting safe houses/women's shelters in the Republic of Srpska, the institution in Sombor, Serbia, received the following: sewing machines, an industrial iron, and materials for producing linens/ bedding sets. The tailors of this institution, affectionately known as the "Sewing Ladies of Sombor," are using this new equipment to produce quality products to sell and to also train other women who are residing in the safe houses/women's shelters with respect to new trade which will, thus, assist in the eventual financial independence of the ladies of this institution.

"I thank all the people with big hearts who participated in the creation of the recipe book and thus provided help and important, necessary support to the users of the safe houses in the Republic of Srpska and Serbia. It is very difficult for me when I hear that some women are exposed to violence on a daily basis, both verbally and physically. We all need to pay attention to what is happening in our environment and prevent any kind of violence. And also provide support to those who have been victims of violence.

Our women must know that someone is standing by them and protecting them, defending them, and working to reduce violence and discrimination. We must all work together to make them feel safe and know that they are not alone and that they have those who are ready to help them. My Foundation in Belgrade, as well as the offices of the Lifeline Humanitarian Organization abroad, which all work under my patronage, have been providing support and assistance to safe houses and women who are victims of violence, and will continue to do so because we wish to make the world a better place to live in", said HRH Crown Princess Katherine



# Lifeline Trips to Serbia Serbia Trip June 2022

LC Mission Trips are really designed for Lifeline Board members to see first-hand the various projects progress "in the field." It gives Board members ways greet LLC travelers with open arms and are happy to see the travelers, donors and benefactors. Often, the children make special gifts to give to the LLC travelers. It touches the heart like nothing else can. We have seen many-a-traveler wiping away tears. The children have a vested interest in showing us that they can speak and understand

an ability to see what may still need tweaking or what results were gained through improvements made. When making plans for the trip, new travelers desire to attend to learn about what LLC does.

Having done this for more than 15 years, children al-



the English language. On one mission trip, the children came out in their Sunday best and folklore costumes, reading an entire English welcome for the travelers. So very touching because they took the time to learn and share. Not a dry eye in the place.





















# Mission Trips Up Close

n most mission trips, we visit the Royal Compound and Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Aleksandar and Crown Princess Katherine. Sometimes Their Royal Highnesses attend events and places planned for a mission trip. On this mission trip in June 2022, the travelers were donors who came to see the places where they have sent donations.

1. Part of the mission trip is to always visit the Palace and Their Royal Highnesses, Crown Prince Aleksandar and Crown Princess Katherine.

2. Sharon Desancic, Schererville, IN

Inspecting Room family remodeled at Zvecanska Babies Orphanage in Belgrade in memory of her beloved husband Aleksander Beban Desancic.

3. Leslie Speranza, Lattingtown, NY

Visited Bliznak School in Brancevo, Serbia. Helped remodel the school in memory of her brother Douglas Whitehead.

4. Milena Yerich, with children Tatiyana and Michael Jr., Niagara Falls, Canada

Visited a room at Zvecanska Babies, Orphanage, Belgrade remodeled in memory of George and Violet Yerich.

5. Leila and Mila Tomlin with parents John and Melissa , White Plains, NY

Raised money for new benches, picnic tables at Vasa Stajic Orphanage/Shelter in Belgrade.

6. Some LLC Board Members

Always a meeting to discuss future plans, upcoming events and plans.





# Sunday, September 17, 2023

The **3Kolo** Group Presents

Circles of Support



## In Support of *Lifeline Chicago* Serbian Social Center — Lansing, IL 1:00PM

## **AUTHENTIC ETHNIC BUFFET & BAKE SALE**

FEATURING CASH RAFFLE — CHINESE AUCTION

AND FABULOUS BIG PRIZE RAFFLE

FOR DETAILS OR RESERVATIONS:

3kolosmidwest@gmail.com

Patty Weiser 708-373-5176

# 6<sup>th</sup> LIFELINE Florida

## Charity Golf Outing Benefiting Lifeline missions & orphanage homes March 15-16, 2024 East Lake Woodland CC, Oldsmar (Tampa) Florida More info/register: lifelinefloridagolf.com

Nikola Visic 727-505-8319/ rsavich7@gmail.com

Rade Savich 317-225-0106; Zoran Tomasevic: (813)-293-5445; Lifeline office: 312-228-0600; lifelinechicago.net









LIFELINE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION, INC. - CHICAGO - 2023 NEWSLETTER



In the presence of Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Aleksandar and Crown Princess Katherine for both concerts

### BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY NO.6-PASTORAL

TCHAIKOVSKY VIOLIN CONCERTO

Save the Date

Lifeline & Camerata Chicago Present

# AN MILENKOVIC

Camerata Chicago Orchestra

## Oct. 27-28 Chicago, Wheaton

Find more information @: www.lifelinechicago.org and www.cameratachicago.org



#### Gold Level • \$10,000.00 and up

The Nelson Family Charitable Foundation

Margaret McCartan

The John & Mildred Medich Wuchenich Foundation Ann Marie Pujo David+ & Nada Stevens John & Lana Vujicic

#### Silver Level • \$2,500 - \$9,999

Anonymous Anonymous Rivertowne Advisors LLC Bill & Tina Anderson Stojan & Milena Bajich Slavka Balac Mim, Nick, Dana & Jocelyn Bizic Roxanne Zivanovic Getz Bill & Kim Slepcevich Sam & Angie Lazich Vinko & Sonja Mancich Mary Markovic Mane & Sonja Ogrizovich Carson Robbins Nickolette Rudman Christina Rudman Rod Samardzija Rade & Fanny Savich Donna Marie Sekulich

#### Bronze Level • \$1,000 - \$2,499

Mike & Nikole Barach Nada Boskovic Rada & Puco Cemovich Nicholas & Eleanor Chabraja Donna Cirjkovic Lela Cirjkovic Lela Cirjkovic Serbian Eagles Athletic Club Dragana Cupic Dragana Cupic Sharon Desancic Sharon Desancic Tim & Danielle Frank Lincoln Ridge Funeral Home Rose Glamoclija Mira Irons John Konjevich Victor Krstec Sandra Lalich Peter Loncar Alex Machaskee Nicholas & Helen Malinovich Michele Mistovich Peter & Jelena Mulin Pero & Nina Ogrizovich Bogdan Popovic Nadezda Rakic Sandeep Ramanujam DBR Carrier Inc. (Dermin Ramic) Ramic Nick & Melanie Sever Frank & Barbara Skala Leslie Speranza Gary & Charlene Stanich Samuel & Alexandra Starcevich The Skylon Tower Kenneth & Dara Valin Judith Vezmar Nick Vojnovich

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