



**AMC**

Action for  
Mothers and  
Children

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023





**Action for  
Mothers and  
Children**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.</b>	A Glimpse of Achievement	05
<b>2.</b>	Overview of 2023	06
<b>3.</b>	A letter from the Executive Director	07
<b>4.</b>	We are Action for Mothers and Children	09
<b>5.</b>	How We make an Impact	09
<b>6.</b>	Our Strategic Objectives	10
<b>7.</b>	Ten Years of Impact	11
<b>8.</b>	The Impact of our Programmes and Projects	13
<b>9.</b>	Fundraising	34
<b>10.</b>	Our Partners	39
<b>11.</b>	Our Donors	37
<b>12.</b>	AMC Organogram	38
<b>13.</b>	Our Board	39
<b>14.</b>	Our Medical Committee	40
<b>15.</b>	Our Team	42
<b>16.</b>	Our Friends of Foundation	44
<b>17.</b>	How to Support AMC	46

# 01

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2023**

## A Glimpse of Achievement

Born in 2023, premature and underweight, Ajla and Lian faced a challenging start, spending their initial days in intensive care with treatments like incubation, CPAP, and oxygen systems. The life-saving medication Survanta played a crucial role in strengthening their lungs, vital for premature babies lacking surfactant. With the dedicated care of the Neonatology Clinic and support from Action for Mothers and Children (AMC), the twins' health significantly improved, and they are now thriving. The mother expressed deep gratitude to healthcare professionals and AMC for providing life-saving medication and equipment through generous donors. This support not only benefited Ajla and Lian but also around 5,000 other infants in Kosovo over the past decade.



## 2 Overview of 2023



More than **4,300** pregnant women and their partners were educated on various topics related to healthy pregnancy, healthy child growth, breastfeeding, and other health-related topics.



Primary Health Care professionals conducted a total of **19,404** home visits for pregnant women and children aged 0-3.



Through the Cervical Cancer Screening Program, more than **2278** free PAP tests were provided to women and girls of our country.



More than **800** students, teachers and parents benefited from educational sessions on the importance of healthy nutrition.



More than **4000** health professionals from the primary healthcare level were trained on different modules through various health programs.



Expansion of Group Care and WHRC Programs to Five Additional Municipalities



Over **€50,000** worth of medicaments and medical equipment have been donated to healthcare institutions.

# 3 A letter from our Executive Director



Dear AMC community, partners, and supporters,

As we approach the end of 2023, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the collective achievements and milestones that have shaped our remarkable journey at AMC.

I am thrilled to share that in 2023, we successfully established four additional Women Health Resource Centers, bringing the total to 18. Furthermore, we are delighted to announce our partnership with

UNICEF, securing support to extend these essential centers nationwide throughout 2024-2025. These WHRCs serve as invaluable hubs for educating parents on maternal and child health, embodying our commitment to community well-being.

Building on the success of our Group Care project, we expanded its reach to four more municipalities, totaling eight municipalities benefiting from this initiative. Securing support from UNICEF for scaling this project nationally in the next years, underscores the impact and effectiveness of our approach in maternal and child health.

Thanks to the unwavering support from donors in Kosovo and the Diaspora, 2023 marked the most successful year in fundraising in the history of AMC. Your generosity empowers us to continue our vital work and extends the reach of our initiatives.

The generosity of our donors enabled AMC to donate medications and medical equipment worth 50,000 euros. This impactful contribution has enhanced healthcare accessibility and made a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

This year, we joyously celebrated the 10th anniversary of AMC, a decade marked by numerous accomplishments and transformative impact. The journey we have undertaken together is a testament to the dedication, resilience, and passion that defines the spirit of AMC.

As we close this chapter, I share a personal update. After more than four years as the Executive Director of AMC, I will be transitioning to PLAY International as Head of Mission. This decision is bittersweet, filled with gratitude for the incredible experiences shared and excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead.

I am confident that the momentum we've built together will propel AMC to even greater heights under new leadership. The Board of Directors is actively engaged in finding a successor who will carry forward our mission with the same passion and dedication.

To each member of the AMC family, thank you for your unwavering support, commitment, and tireless efforts. It has been an honor to lead this exceptional organization, and I eagerly anticipate witnessing the continued impact of our collective endeavors.

As I embark on this new chapter, my commitment to the values and mission of AMC remains unyielding. I look forward to staying connected and witnessing the continued success of AMC in the years to come.



Executive Director



## 4 We are Action for Mothers and Children

Action for Mothers and Children (AMC), is a non-for-profit foundation with the foremost goal to save the lives of children and improve the health care for mothers in the Republic of Kosovo through developing better systems for the care of pregnant women and their children.

We believe that every child and mother has the right to a healthy life, regardless of where they are or what means they have. By developing and implementing programs that improve the health care of mothers and their infants, the number of children who die unnecessarily can be substantially decreased. We aim to focus on the development of sustainable, high quality, and capacity building health care programs for mothers and children in Kosovo.

## 5 How do we make an impact?

Our Foundation's work is based upon four pillars:

- **Education** of patients and health care providers in order to improve the quality of care delivered, especially patient-centered health services;
- **Advocacy** on behalf of mothers and children for better health care, especially for evidence-based policy decision-making;
- **Research** and studies identifying gaps in maternal and child health and prioritize the most concerning trends to address them;
- **Fundraising** for supplies of medications and equipment to meet national needs

## 6 Our Strategic Objectives

1



Reduce infant and neonatal mortality rate

4



Protect Women's and Children's Rights

2



Reduce morbidity and mortality among women

5



Raise philanthropic awareness in Kosovo and Diaspora

3



Reduce morbidity and mortality among children



## **Ten Years of Impact: Celebrating Action for Mothers and 7. Children's Decade of Commitment**

Over the past decade, the commitment of Action for Mothers and Children (AMC) to improving maternal health and saving the lives of many babies has been highlighted. A special event on June 6th marked the organization's 10th anniversary, attended by partners, board members, colleagues, former colleagues, and supporters. The achievements of AMC were celebrated, including the donation of essential medicines and medical equipment valued at over 3 million euros, which has saved the lives of more than 5000 babies. Additionally, over 15,000 women and girls have received free Pap tests, empowering them to prioritize their health and prevent cervical cancer. The establishment of Women's Health Information Centers by AMC has successfully educated and guided over 15,000 parents seeking vital health information and support during their journey through pregnancy and parenting. The organization expressed profound gratitude to all attendees and supporters for their unwavering belief in AMC's mission, emphasizing that their ongoing support and generosity played a crucial role in the organization's achievements. The speeches and videos during the event left a lasting impact, fostering unity and pride among all involved in AMC's remarkable journey.



# 8 The impact of our Programmes and Projects

## Women's Health Resource Center

More than 14,000 pregnant women, new mothers, and couples benefited from education on family planning, healthy pregnancies, breastfeeding, and postnatal care. In the year 2023, Women's Health Resource Centers (WHRC) provided assistance to 4,362 women and their partners, contributing to the ongoing support for over 14,000 individuals since 2015.

## Expansion and Outreach of Program

The expansion of the Women's Health Resource Centers into **five new municipalities** was coupled with the integration of the new project, **Group Care**. This strategic initiative aimed to enhance the reach and impact of the Centers, particularly in the municipalities of Pristina, Vushtri, Vitia, Mitrovica, and Fushë Kosovë, through the collaborative efforts of AMC.

## Tools and Equipment for Quality Care

Elevating healthcare service quality at the recently inaugurated Women's Health Resource Centers involved equipping them with necessary work tools and medical equipment. This ensures the delivery of high-quality health services in these newly established centers.

Within the Women's Health Resource Centers (Mother Classes), pregnant women attending the Classes for Mothers have been provided with essential prenatal vitamins. This crucial aspect of healthcare for expectant mothers involved the distribution of a total of 3,000 bottles. This initiative underscores the commitment to supporting the health and well-being of pregnant women through comprehensive care at Women's Health Information Centers.





## Home Visiting Program

The Home Visiting Programme has made a significant impact, reaching over 129,000 children aged 0-3 and 25,000 pregnant women since its inception. In the year 2023 alone, a total of **19,404** home visits were conducted for pregnant women and children aged 0-3, underlining the program's continuous commitment to providing essential support and services.

These visits identified cases necessitating referrals to specialists, such as pediatricians and speech therapists. Trained nurses played a crucial role in executing these services and received additional training in early childhood development.



## Healthcare Capacity Building workshops

To further support the home visiting program, two workshops were conducted to motivate coordinators. These workshops showcased municipal achievements, targets, and challenges faced by nurses during fieldwork.

## Awareness Campaign Initiatives

During World Breastfeeding Week, 41 sessions raised awareness among **302** pregnant and postpartum women.

## Medical Trainings and Workshops

To enhance home visit capabilities, sixteen 5-day training sessions were conducted, benefiting **384** health professionals. A successful exchange meeting in Vitia served as a model for commitment, and a two-day workshop with coordinators set targets for 2024.

Two workshops further motivated coordinators, highlighting achievements and challenges in the field. Overall, these efforts signify a commitment to improving healthcare services and professional capabilities.

Additionally, 21 one-day training sessions for the Health Information System and digitized home visits benefited **331** nurses and 29 coordinators.





## Strengthening the capacities of the Primary Health Care workers on Interpersonal Communication for Immunization, Infection Prevention and Control and Cold Chain monitoring

In our efforts to strengthen immunization capacity, we provided training sessions, benefiting in total **1045** healthcare providers.

Additionally, an expert was engaged to develop a presentation plan for three new vaccines, aligning with the Kosovo Institute of Public Health (NIPH) requirements. This facilitated the successful application to GAVI, leading to the approval of Kosovo's immunization schedule for the introduction of the Pneumococcal vaccine, Rotavirus vaccine, and HPV vaccine.

To reinforce the implementation plan, a one-day workshop was organized in collaboration with NIPH, covering vaccine distribution, data reporting, and cold chain management.





## Workshops and Training sessions

We organized workshops on vaccine implementation, distribution, and cold chain management, with 10 additional training sessions for **211** healthcare professionals.

Furthermore, we engaged a company to assess national-level human and infrastructural needs. The findings were presented during a two-day workshop, encouraging active participation from healthcare professionals to enhance program effectiveness.

During the quarter, training sessions on Infection Prevention and Control were conducted for primary healthcare professionals, with **244** nurses and family doctors participating. Analysis of pre- and post-test results revealed a significant improvement in accuracy levels, with an average increase from 72% to an impressive 100%.

## Strengthening the skills and knowledge of healthcare professionals in immunization

A total of **1,306** healthcare providers have benefited, including 569 doctors and 651 nurses. Among them, **975** healthcare providers (387 doctors and 588 nurses) received training for the routine administration of three new vaccinations.

Additionally, **88** healthcare providers underwent training for planning and implementing the "Catch-up" immunization plan.

Furthermore, **243** healthcare providers received training on the digitization of vaccination side effects.



## Cervical Cancer Screening Programme

In the year 2023, the Cervical Cancer Screening Program in Kosovo achieved significant milestones, reflecting a dedicated commitment to women's health and the prevention of cervical cancer.

### PAP Tests and Outreach:

A total of **2,278** women and girls benefited from cost-free PAP tests, contributing to a cumulative count of over 15,000 tests provided. The program maintained a consistent focus on early detection to ensure timely interventions for the prevention or treatment of cervical cancer.

**Awareness Initiatives:**

The program launched a successful awareness video campaign aimed at informing and empowering women and girls across Kosovo. [Watch the video here](#)  
Additionally, six impactful awareness-raising lectures were organized in municipalities, positively impacting 109 women.

**Medical Training and Certification:**

Two family doctors in Peja underwent specialized training to proficiently administer the Pap test. Their certification, endorsed by the director of the main family medicine center, highlights the program's commitment to building medical expertise at the grassroots level.

**Quality Assurance Measures:**

To improve performance quality, the Institute of Pathology had previously introduced a double-reading protocol for Pap test samples. During the current year, a total of 105 samples underwent retesting, involving collaboration between the Institute of Pathology and the Regional Hospital. These measures are implemented to guarantee the accuracy and reliability of Pap test results

**Professional Development:**

Two selected pathologists actively engaged in an online training/conference organized by the International Gynecologic Cancer Society. The initiative, recognized and endorsed by the Director of the Institute of Pathology, aligns with the overarching goal of augmenting the skills and capabilities of pathologists in the field of cervical cancer screening.

**Advocacy and Expansion:**

Continuous advocacy efforts with the National Board for Cancer Control (NBCC) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) led to the approval of the program's expansion into other municipalities. This resulted in successful launches in Obiliq and Gjilan, marking a notable achievement in improving women's health.



### **Participation in Board Meetings:**

Recognizing the program's significance, AMC was invited to be part of the National Board for Cancer Control meetings, showcasing the program's active involvement at the national level.

In conclusion, the Cervical Cancer Screening Program's accomplishments in 2023 underscore its dedication to raising awareness, enhancing medical expertise, and actively engaging in national and regional initiatives to combat cervical cancer. The successful implementation in new municipalities reflects a significant step forward in improving women's health and preventing cervical cancer in Kosovo.



### **Healthy Eating for Children Promoting Healthy Eating Habits in Preschools and Primary Schools Successful Nutrition Program Implementation**

Significant progress has been achieved in various municipalities, including Gjakova, Gjilan, and Ferizaj, where the successful implementation of nutrition menus has been observed.

## Training Sessions

Training sessions for preschool staff members were conducted in several locations, benefiting a total of **241** staff members. Additionally, successful individual and group sessions took place at Women's Health Resource Centers in Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Ferizaj, Lipjan, and Gjilan, with the participation of **600 parents**.

## Advancing School Health: Action Plan and Nutrition Review

A workshop involving the interministerial group was organized to finalize the Health Promoting School Action Plan effectively. The nutrition in primary schools underwent a thorough review by a group of experts, resulting in the preparation of a comprehensive report on nutrition in primary schools.



## Coalition of Organizations on Reproductive Health Rights – K10

Coalition of many organizations dedicated to improving sexual and reproductive health and advancing reproductive rights.



## Quality Assessment of Primary Healthcare Division

The evaluation of 14 maternity hospitals in Kosovo was conducted collaboratively by the Ministry of Health, K10 coalition, and UNFPA-appointed experts. Visits and meetings were held with hospital directors and healthcare staff, including midwives. Additionally, 14 focus groups engaged with women to gather insights on the quality of services provided. The expert presented a report to the Ministry of Health with three scenarios for the hospitals' future.

## Activities and Efforts of K10

Member organizations actively marked international days through diverse initiatives, including round tables, street actions, and training sessions. European Cervical Cancer Prevention Week, Zero Discrimination Day / Roma in Action (RIA), International Health Day / YMCA Movement, International Father's Day /SIT, World Youth Day / SIT, World Contraceptive Day /KOPF, Breast Cancer Awareness Month / Qendra Kosovare per Luftimin e Kancerit te Gjirit Jeta - Vita, 16 Days of Activism – Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK), 16 Days of Activism – Roma in Action (RIA), The Last Tunnel /SIT.

## New Member joins K10 Coalition

Kosova Obstetricians and Gynecologists Association – KOGA joining as the 13th member of K10 Coalition.

## Medical Training and Certification

K10 Coalition, with UNFPA support, organized training for **155** healthcare professionals, (doctors and nurses), on topics like: Gender-Based Violence, STI management, Family Planning, and Adolescent health Professional Ethics and Patients' rights, Sexual and Reproductive Health of Persons with Disabilities.

## Advocacy and Meetings with stakeholders

K10 hosted a major event on "Family Planning and Low Contraceptive Use," convening representatives from health institutions, NGOs, and stakeholders. Round table discussions focused on protocol development, improving patient counseling, and enhancing contraceptive supplies. Recommendations highlighted the crucial need to implement protocols, enhance patient guidance, and ensure greater availability of contraceptives.



### **Training Initiatives:**

Journalist training, conducted in partnership with the Association of Journalists Kosovo, focused on "Responsible reporting for sexual health and reproductive rights", involving 15 female journalists. These efforts underscore K10's dedication to enhancing sexual and reproductive health in Kosovo through comprehensive evaluations, partnerships, and targeted training.

### **Group Care for the first 1000 days**

An alternative approach for pregnant women to gain a better understanding of prenatal and postnatal care, which involves receiving health care services, education, and support.

### **Advocacy and Expansion:**

In 2023, the Group Care Project, initiated in 2022, underwent substantial expansion, now covering additional municipalities in Kosovo: Prishtinë, Mitrovicë, Fushë Kosovë (TIP), and Vushtrri and Viti. This innovative program offers pregnant women a distinctive approach to comprehending prenatal and postnatal care. It involves not only the provision of healthcare services but also includes education and support.



## Empowering Maternal Health

The project's success is evident, with collaborative sessions benefiting 82 expectant mothers in various locations, creating a mutual learning environment through peer-to-peer support and shared knowledge facilitated by trained midwives. This inclusive approach highlights the program's commitment to improving maternal and infant health across diverse municipalities in Kosovo.



## Medical Training and Certification

A comprehensive two-day training in February and a subsequent session in November led to 25 healthcare providers becoming facilitators for the program, contributing to the training of a total of 35 nurses and midwives since its inception. This initiative reflects the program's dedication to improving maternal and infant health in diverse municipalities.

Group Care during the first 1000 days is an international project funded by the European Commission through the HORIZON 2020 program and is implemented by a consortium of partners from the Netherlands, Belgium, United States, England, South Africa, Suriname, United States, Ghana, and Kosovo. Antenatal and/or postnatal group care is being implemented in seven different countries of the world with high, middle and low incomes. The data collected and analyzed during the implementation of this project will be used to compile a toolkit which will serve all countries to implement group care, a model that is also promoted by the WHO.





## **SUPPLIES OF MEDICATIONS AND EQUIPMENT TO SAVE LIVES OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN**

Through partnerships with various donors and international organizations, we facilitate the supply of essential medications and equipment for the well-being of mothers and children. A significant collaboration with Americares allows us to procure vital medications such as Surfactant for premature infants' lung development, along with prenatal vitamins, amoxicillin, contraceptives, and other crucial medical supplies.

Surfactant Medication Worth 26,810.00 Euros Provided to Neonatology Clinic in Kosovo



On the 6th of April 2023, the Neonatology Clinic at the University Clinical Center of Kosovo received a delivery of Surfactant medication. This valuable contribution is a result of the ongoing collaboration between Action for Mothers and Children and the international organization AmeriCares. The generous donation consists of 70 bottles of the "Survanta" medication, with a total estimated value of **26,810.00 euros**.

## Enhancing the Quality of Health Services

Throughout the year, 17 Women's Health Information Centers (Mothers Classes) have received Baby Fetal Dopplers, intended for use by trained health staff. The beneficiary centers, including Prishtina/QMG, Prishtina KOGJ-QKUK, Prizren/QMG, Lipjani, Mitrovica, Obiliqi, Shterpca-Drajkovci, Klina, Kaçanik, Hani i Elezit, Kamenica, Gjilani, Fushë Kosova-TIP, Dragash, Viti, Vushtrri, and Ferizaj, have received support from the EBRD for this initiative, totaling **€1,509**. These devices greatly enhance the capacity of these WHRCs to detect the fetal heartbeat and to provide improved prenatal care.

## 9 Fundraising

### Fundraising events and Philanthropy Awareness

Since our foundation's establishment, we have been committed to enhancing Kosovo's healthcare system, providing quality health services for every mother and child, regardless of their socio-economic status. Despite challenges, continuous donor support motivates our unwavering efforts. Fundraising is a vital aspect of our mission, and AMC organizes events in Kosovo, Zurich, and the USA, particularly within the Albanian community, to ensure sustainable support for our vision.

In our public relations drive, AMC utilizes diverse social media platforms to keep donors, partners, stakeholders, collaborators, and the community informed about our achievements, results, and overarching mission. Our engagement extends to TV and radio broadcasts, where we actively promote programs, raise awareness, and advocate for AMC's mission.



## Save a Life – fifth edition

The philanthropic event "Save a Life" in Zurich, organized by AMC on May 5th, successfully raised **20,859 euros** to enhance healthcare for mothers and children in Kosovo. The primary focus was on supplying essential medical supplies and equipment to hospitals. Similar to previous years, the event united the Albanian community in Switzerland, offering an evening of impactful speeches and captivating live music performances by the Kosovar band "String String." The event featured dinner, networking and live music, serving as a dynamic platform for active philanthropy in support of this crucial cause.

## Cycle Kosovo for Children – 9th edition



The Cycle Kosovo for Children fundraising event, held from June 15 to June 18, successfully **raised approximately €14,000**. The funds were used to purchase essential medical supplies for the Neonatology Clinic and Pediatric Clinic at Ferizaj Regional Hospital. These vital medical equipment includes: a nebulizer for children, a pulse oximeter for newborns, a neopuff resuscitator, an Integrated Wall System comprising an otoscope, tensiometer, pulse oximeter, and thermometer, as well as an ultrasound, to support the Neonatology and Pediatric Clinics in Ferizaj's Regional Hospital. This donation is set to significantly elevate the standard of care for young patients and contribute positively to the overall wellbeing of the community.

This donation will enable Ferizaj Regional Hospital to provide better health services, ensuring that children in the region receive the care they need and deserve. This remarkable achievement highlights the dedication of the participants and supporters who came together to make a positive difference in the lives of children.



Let's Dance – 7th edition



On September 20th, AMC celebrated its seventh edition of the annual fundraising gala, "Let's Dance," coinciding with the organization's 10th anniversary. The event brought together dedicated supporters to reflect on the numerous accomplishments achieved by AMC over the past decade.

This year's gala held special significance, serving as a symbolic milestone in the organization's journey. The evening's highlight was the presentation of the prestigious "Champion for Mothers and Children Award" to Michael Gold, Zana Aqifi, and Lindita Baleta. These individuals were recognized for their outstanding contributions, spanning all seven editions of "Let's Dance," solidifying the event as a cornerstone philanthropic gathering in the country.

The remarkable success of the gala, which **raised €23,000**, reflects the enduring commitment of the community to AMC's mission of enhancing healthcare for mothers and children in Kosovo. This achievement underscores the collective impact and support that continues to drive positive change in Kosovo.

### Meet Us Halfway – 7th edition



The annual fundraising event, "Meet Us Halfway," held in New York on October 27th, successfully **raised over \$70,000** in support of mothers and children in Kosovo. This seventh edition of the event served as a celebration of past achievements and introduced AMC's latest initiative, the James Strickler Endowment Fund, aimed at empowering the next generation of healthcare professionals in Kosovo.



The event featured a live performance by the Muhaxheri family and speeches from keynote speakers, including Ilir Hoxha, an AMC Board Member, who highlighted the significance of the James Strickler Endowment Fund. Dr. George Little, another AMC Board Member, discussed Dr. Strickler's vision for a locally-led NGO, emphasizing AMC's sustainability and success. Carol Strickler, daughter of James Strickler, expressed appreciation for the endowment fund, honoring her father's humanitarian efforts.

Richard Lukaj, an Honorary Board Member at AMC, reminisced about the early days of establishing Action for Mothers and Children to address infant mortality in post-war Kosovo. The event, supported by various sponsors and donors, demonstrated unity and philanthropy, raising a substantial amount to create a sustainable impact on maternal and child health in Kosovo.

### **Social Enterprise Teshavesha**

Teshavesha, a charity shop in Prishtina, operates with the primary goal of raising funds to support AMC programs. The shop receives clothing donations from citizens and companies, which are sold at symbolic prices. Apart from its charitable objectives, Teshavesha actively promotes environmental sustainability through the reuse and recycling of textile materials.

In addition to fundraising, Teshavesha empowers marginalized women by providing employment opportunities in its thrift shops. The enterprise relies entirely on community goodwill, with community members donating gently used clothing items.

Clothing donations not only offer crucial financial support but also address social and environmental challenges. Teshavesha, successful for several years with two stores in Prishtina, experienced a notable increase in donations in 2023. The community's support plays a significant role in advancing Teshavesha's mission and addressing critical issues in society.



# 10 Our Partners

At AMC, we recognize the vital role that partnerships play in achieving our mission. Our partners bring unique expertise, resources, and perspectives to the table, allowing us to expand our reach and impact. We are proud to collaborate with a diverse range of organizations and institutions who share our vision and are committed to making a positive difference in the health sector in Kosovo. We extend our sincere gratitude to all our partners and look forward to continuing our journey together.

UNICEF



Save the Children



United Nations Fund for Population Activities



World Health Organization



Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center



The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice



Americares



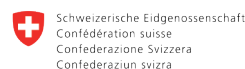
March of Dimes



Direct Relief International



Swiss Embassy



Australian Embassy



▼  
Bulgarian Embassy 

▼  
Canada Fund for Local Initiatives 

▼  
Group Care Global, USA 

▼  
TNO, Netherlands 

▼  
City, University of London, United Kingdom 

▼  
LUMC, Netherlands 

▼  
VUB, Belgium 

▼  
University of Cape Town, South Africa 

▼  
PERISUR, Suriname 

▼  
PHS, Ghana 

▼  
SIMAVI, Netherlands 

▼  
Cycle Kosovo for Children 

▼  
EBRD Community Initiative 

End of Violence Against Children



Women's Children and Adolescent's Health



AMC has a long history of working in collaboration with the Government of Kosovo, ministries, municipalities, healthcare institutions, etc. Our joint efforts have significantly contributed to lower infant mortality rate and improve the health of mothers and children. Below are the names of some of the institutions that we have been closely working with.



**The Government of Kosovo  
Office of Good Governance**



**Ministry of Health**



**Ministry of Education, Science  
Technology and Innovation**



**Ministry of Labour and  
Social Welfare**



**Assembly of the Republic of  
Kosovo, Committee on Health  
and Social Welfare**



**University Clinical  
Center of Kosovo**

- Municipality of Deçan
- Municipality of Gjakovë
- Municipality of Glogoc
- Municipality of Gjilan
- Municipality of Dragash
- Municipality of Istog
- Municipality of Kaçanik
- Municipality of Klinë
- Municipality of Fushë Kosovë
- Municipality of Kamenicë
- Municipality of Lipjan
- Municipality of Obiliq
- Municipality of Rahovec
- Municipality of Pejë
- Municipality of Podujevë

- Municipality of Prishtinë
- Municipality of Prizren
- Municipality of Skënderaj
- Municipality of Shtime
- Municipality of Shtërpçë
- Municipality of Suharekë
- Municipality of Ferizaj
- Municipality of Viti
- Municipality of Vushtrri
- Municipality of Malishevë
- Municipality of Novobërdë
- Municipality of South Mitrovica
- Municipality of Junik
- Municipality of Hani i Elezit
- Municipality of Mamushë

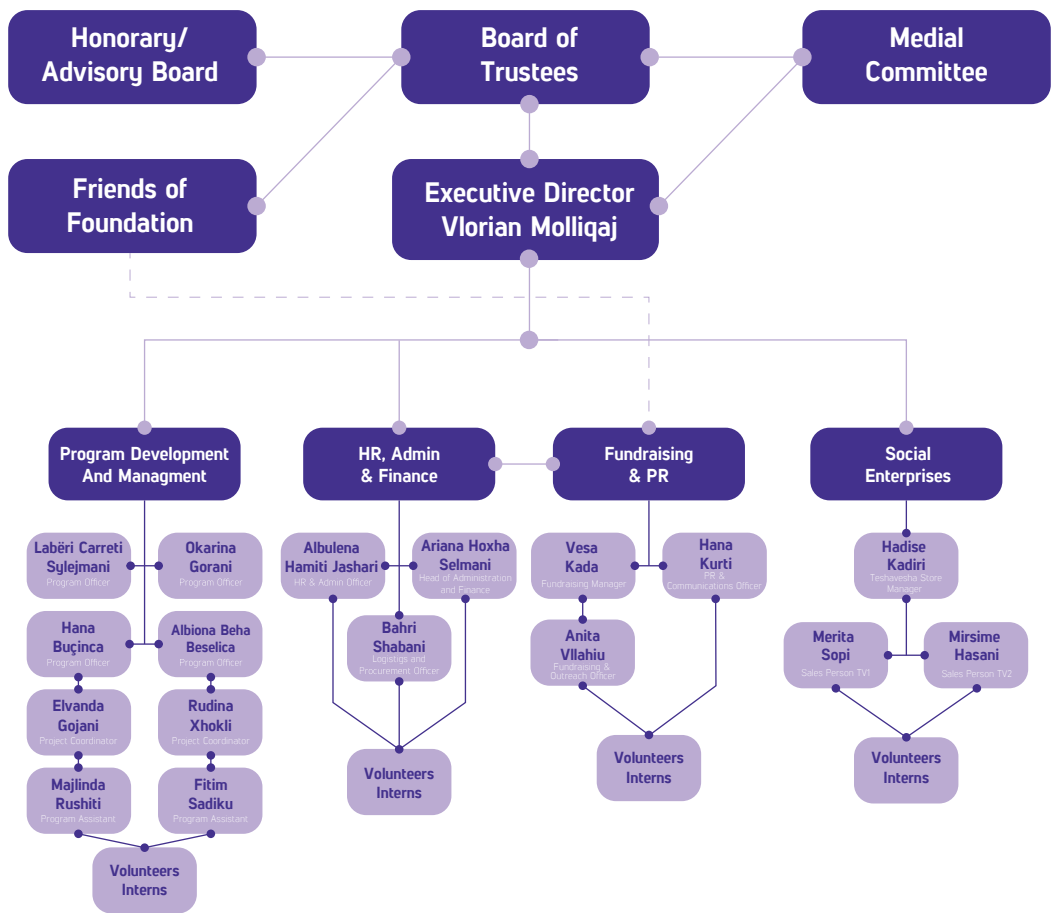
# 11 Our Donors for 2023

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our donors for their unwavering support throughout the year. Through their generosity and steadfast commitment to our mission, we have been able to make a significant difference in enhancing the health of mothers and children in Kosovo. We are sincerely thankful for their involvement in our journey and for playing a pivotal role in creating positive change.



# 12 AMC Organizational Structure: A Recognition of Collective Contributions

Illustrating our organizational structure in this organogram, we acknowledge the invaluable contributions of every member in our organization. We extend our gratitude for their ongoing efforts to bring about positive change in the health sector of Kosovo.



## 13 Our Board

Our Members of the Board play a critical role in guiding AMC by strategically planning its direction. Composed of a dedicated international group of individuals with diverse backgrounds and expertise, our Board provides invaluable leadership, governance, and oversight to our organization. We are grateful for their commitment to our mission and the countless hours of service they dedicate to AMC.



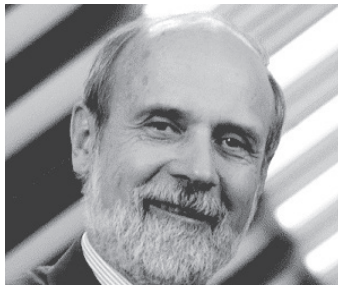
**Mrika Aliu** Chairwoman



**Valon Xharra** Vice Chairman



**Ilir Hoxha** Board Member



**George Little** Board Member



**Elizabet Peraj** Board Member

## Advisory Board



**Afërdita Ademi Osmani**



**Merita Stavileci Mustafa**



**Zarrin Munusamy**

## Honorary Board



**James Strickler**

Honorary Chairman



**Elia Zaharia**

Honorary Trustee



**Richard Lukaj**

Honorary Trustee



**Philip Sigwart**

Honorary Trustee



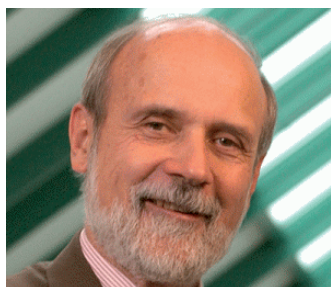
**Ardiana Bunjaku**

Honorary Trustee

## 14 Our Medical Committee

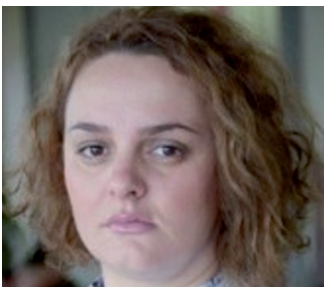
Our Medical Committee's expertise and guidance are particularly critical in our maternal and child health programs. Their knowledge and experience in obstetrics, gynecology, pediatrics, neonatology, and midwifery are invaluable in ensuring the safety and well-being of mothers and children. They provide critical oversight and quality control to our programs, ensuring that our care is evidence-based, up-to-date, and aligned with best practices. Thanks to their effort, we are able to provide comprehensive and high-quality care programmes for mothers and children, improving their health outcomes and reducing maternal and child mortality and morbidity rates in Kosovo.





**Dr. George Little**

Chair of Medical Committee



**Dr. Jehona Binishi Sylva**

Member



**Dr. Drita Lumi Demiri**

Member



**Dr. Pranvera Zejnullahu Raçi**

Member



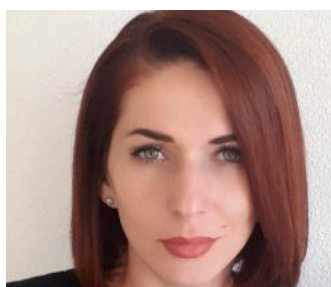
**Dr. Qamile Zeqiraj**

Member



**Dr. Merita Vuthaj**

Member



**Dr. Elida Islamaj**

Member



**Dr. Mynavere Latifi Hoxha**

Member

## 15 Our Team

We acknowledge and appreciate that the foundation of AMC's success is built upon our team and their commitment to achieve the shared goal. We are fortunate to have a passionate and dedicated group of individuals with rich experience and expertise in the field. AMC will always be grateful and thankful to the team for the years of service and devotion to making our mission, vision and values come true every day for the community we live in.



**Vlorian Molliqaj**

Executive Director



**Vesa Kada**

Fundraising & Events Manager



**Albiona Beha Beselica**

Program Officer



**Laberie Çarreti Sylejmani**

Program Officer



**Okarina Gorani**

Program Officer



**Hana Buçinca**

Program Officer



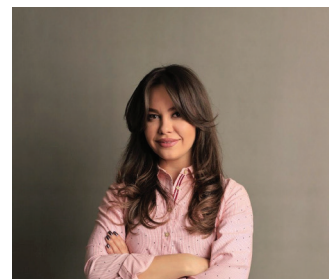
**Elvanda Gojani**

K10 Coordinator



**Rudina Xhokli**

Program Coordinator



**Hana Kurti**

PR & Events Officer



**Anita Vllahiu**

Fundraising and Outreach Officer



**Ariana Hoxha Selmani**

Head of Administration and Finance



**Albulena Jashari Hamiti**

Office & Procurement Officer



**Fitim Sadiku**

Program Assistant



**Majlinda Rushiti**

Program Assistant



**Bahri Shabani**

Logistic Assistant



**Merita Islami Sopi**

Teshavesha Staff



**Mirsime Hasani**

Teshavesha Staff



**Hadise Kadiri**

Store Manager at Teshavesha

## 16 Our Friends of Foundation

Our Friends of Foundation is a group of passionate individuals who support our fundraising efforts. Their commitment to our mission enables us to expand our programs, reach more women and children, and make a greater impact. Thanks to their dedication, we are able to continue to grow and scale-up our programs.



**Agnesa Vuthaj**



**Agon Gashi**



**Bekim Ahmetaj**



**Bledar Asllani**



**Fadil Berisha**



**Ilirjana Bajraktari**



**Jehona Gjurgjeala**



**Lindita Baleta**



**Dr Omer Dzemali**



**Merita Gashi**



**Sara Shala**



**Teuta Sahatqija**



**Zana Aqifi**



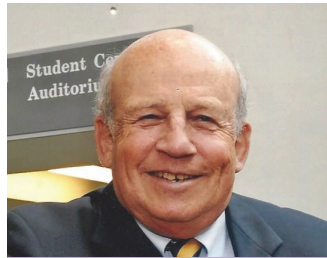
**Vlora Çitaku**



**Përparim Avdili**



**Barbara Burri Sharani**



**Barry Smith**

## 17 How to support AMC?

Together, we can make a meaningful difference by saving lives and enhancing the health of infants, mothers, and children in the Republic of Kosovo. Maternal and child mortality is closely linked to poverty, lack of education and lack of necessary medications and equipment. By developing and implementing programs that improve health care for mothers and children, the mortality rate can be significantly reduced.

Your help would have an invaluable impact in achieving our goal. You can help us by volunteering, giving donations or organizing fundraising events to support our foundation's mission.

### **Volunteer**

Get involved now by becoming a volunteer! Lend a hand to help those in need!

Our organization is dedicated to offering volunteer work opportunities to young students, researchers, scholars and others! If interested please fill out the form on our website or contact us.

### **Fundraise for us**

Do something great and help us be there for mothers and children in Kosovo.

As an independent NGO, support from fundraisers like you really go a long way in helping us provide vital support to the most vulnerable people in Kosovo. There are lots of ways to get involved – from running, cycling, to organizing a tournament. Whatever the idea, every single donation, no matter how large or small, makes a difference.

### **Donate**

Your donations are gratefully appreciated and will be used to continue improving the health of mothers and children in Kosovo.

All donations to us will be acknowledged in writing, and external auditors will annually review AMC's budget.

## Donate in Kosovo

Bank Name: Raiffeisen Bank Kosovo  
Account name: AKSIONI PER NENA DHE FEMIJE  
SWIFT Code: RBKOKKPR  
Account number: 1501090002825780  
Currency: EUR  
IBAN: XK05  
IBAN for foreign transfers: IBAN = XK051501090002825780

## Donate in the USA

Action for Mothers and Children  
Hitchcock Foundation  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center  
1 Medical Center Drive  
Lebanon, NH 03756

You can also contribute by direct deposit or cheque.

\* Online donations in the U.S.A. are accepted via PayPal at the Hitchcock Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) organization. Under name of fund, program or doctor\* please specify Action for Mothers and Children/Kosovo Fund under section name of fund, program or doctor\*

The check or money order should be addressed to the Hitchcock Foundation/ Kosovo Fund /Action for Mothers and Children. The Hitchcock Foundation is recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. United States taxpayers may deduct contributions to the Foundation from their income taxes to the extent permitted by law.

## Contact us

Action for Mothers and Children

Str. Sefedin Ahmeti, Ob. 4 no. 27  
10000, Prishtina, Kosovo  
tel: +383 038 748 309  
mob: +383 49 110 333  
info@amchealth.org  
www.amchealth.org



**AMC**

**Action for  
Mothers and  
Children**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**2023**