PRESS RELEASE

«A journey to remote Greece, with Health as a compass!»

ELPEN is the exclusive sponsor of a First Aid Educational Program across remote areas of Greece, in collaboration with "AgoniGrammiGonimi" and the Greek Red Cross

The first phase of the program includes visits to Primary schools, in islands of the Aegean area and villages across Thrace and Ioannina

With **ELPEN** as its **exclusive sponsor,** and in **collaboration** with **"AgoniGrammiGonimi"** and the **Greek Red Cross**, **"A journey to remote Greece, with Health as a compass!"** launches today, on Thursday, March 12th. The program's first visit takes place in Apiranthos, a mountain village in the island of Naxos. This is a **First Aid Educational Program** for **Primary Schools**, which are located in remote or inaccessible areas of Greece; the program is part of ELPEN'scomprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility program for the year 2015. **"AgoniGrammiGonimi"** has undertaken the organization of the program, while its realization is carried out in collaboration with the **Greek Red Cross** and its specially **trained and certified nurses**.

The first phase of this educational program includes visits to 25 schools, in **islands** of the **Aegean** and in remote **villages** in the **Prefecture of Evros** and **Ioannina**, such as Kyprinos, NeaVyssa, Kastanies, Rizia, Orestiada, Lepti, Longades, Ferres, Thassos, Ikaria, Samothraki, and others.

The aim is to offer **PrimarySchool** students'**equal access** to **knowledge** related to the **basic principles of First Aid**, such that they are prepared to deal with emergencies and contribute to the safety of their friends, classmates, or even members of their families. Under ELPEN's sponsorship, each school will receive **a fully equipped First Aid kit**, as well as a **First Aid booklet** from the Nursing Department of the Greek Red Cross; the booklet is in accordance with the new guidelines for providing first aid, and contains illustrative photographs appropriate for a non-expert public.

Students from the **5ᵗʰ** and **6ᵗʰPrimarygrades** will attend a 2-hour **seminar on First Aid**, which will be given by **nurses of the Greek Red Cross**. Through **modern, interactive teaching** and participation, they will learn to properly evaluate an accident, a patient's health condition, but also the correct order of steps they should follow in order to provide first aid, safely and efficiently. The students will also learn the following: how to recognize a concussion and what sort of first aid they need to provide in such an occurrence; how to take care of a wound and how to stop an external or a nose bleeding; how to avoid a burn, or how to assist in case of a burn; how to successfully deal with the presence of a foreign body in the throat, or a fainting event. In addition, the children will also learn about the necessary elements that should be contained in a fully equipped First Aid Kit, and how to use them under specific circumstances.

Mr. **Konstantinos Ioannidis**, ELPEN's Director of Corporate Communication & Human Resourcesnoted:*"This year, ELPEN celebrates **50 years** of offering to humans, and within the context of its Corporate Social Responsibility program, our company travels away from major cities, in order to **meet in person and provide for children living in remote areas**– children who do not enjoy equal opportunities, in terms of access to educational matters, or other incentives."* Mr. Ioannidis added:*"The journey has only just begun; within the near future, we intend to **approach as many schools and villages as possible**. «A journey to remote Greece, with Health as a compass!» is a unique program that promotes **3 key sectors**: **health, education** and **equality**. We are particularly happy to have organizations, such as AgoniGrammiGonimi and the Greek Red Cross,as our 'fellow travelers' along this effort of ours; we share the same sensibility and philosophy of social contribution with both organizations."*

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