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Ελληνικός
Ερυθρός Σταυρός

PRESS RELEASE

ELPEN, AgoniGrammiGonimi, Greek Red Cross: a collaboration, which offers a unique educational “Journey to remote Greece, with Health as a compass!”

First Aid education for children, enabling them to deal with emergencies and to care for wounds

An educational program which simultaneously enhances the childrens’ self-confidence, active participation, and a sense of responsibility

Schools are equipped with a complete pharmacy kit and a First Aid booklet

370 students, 25 Primary schools in the most remote areas of Greece, and 3 major organizations, joined forces for a wonderful “Journey to remote Greece, with Health as a compass!”; the program is carried out by specially trained nurses of the Greek Red Cross, and aims at providing students with equal access to knowledge, relative to basic First Aid principles and accident prevention. The program is materialized with **ELPEN** as its **exclusive sponsor**, in **collaboration** with the **Greek Red Cross**, and organized with **AgoniGrammiGonimi**. On Tuesday, April 28th, the program was presented in a **Press Conference**, which was **welcomed** by the **President** of the **Greek Red Cross**, **Dr. Antonios Avgerinos**; Mr. **Konstantinos Ioannidis**, ELPEN’s Director of Corporate Communication & Human Resources, Mrs. **Paraskevi Feleki**, Director of Nursing Department at the Greek Red Cross, and Mrs. **Katerina Angelou**, Project Manager of **AgoniGrammiGonimi**, also spoke.

The journey, which was launched in the beginning of March and will be completed by the end of May, has as its destination: **7 islands** of the **Aegean** (Naxos, Ikaria, Thassos, Koufonissia, Psara, Tilos, Samothraki), **10 villages** of the **Prefecture of Evros** (Kyprinos, Rizia, Kastanies, NeaVyssa, Orestiada, Lepti, Ferres, Dadia, Asproneri), as well as Alexandroupoli’s Special School, and **8 villages** of the **Prefecture of Ioannina** (Kalpaki, Konitsa, Delbinaki, Rodotopi, Longades, Bafra-Neokaisareia, Zoodochos, Kryfovos).

During a **2-hour training**, students from the 5th and 6th Primary Grades are introduced to **First Aid** basic principles, learning to be **ready** to deal with **emergencies** and the **prevention of accidents**. The program’s success and the students’ **enthusiastic participation** are due to the program’s **modern approach** that is **interactiveteaching**, and **specially adapted educational material**, which contributes to the **assimilation** of knowledge by the students. The Program has been developed by the Greek Red Cross, an organization which has approval by the Ministry of Education for Health Education in schools, as well as certifications for its educational content, by prestigious international Organizations.

Within the context of this program, each school receives 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 most recent guidelines for providing first aid, and contains illustrations so as to constitute a useful tool within the school premises.

Mr. **Ioannidis**, noted: *“This year, ELPEN celebrates **50 years** of caring for our fellow man , and within the context of the company’s Corporate Social Responsibility, we sought a program that would fulfill **3 ‘sacred requirements’**, that is, to offer to children, provide for remote areas of Greece, and to promote the concept of Health! These requirements were fulfilled in partnership with AgoniGrammiGonimi and the Red Cross, creating a program, which is **human-centered** and **adapted** to the needs of the current **reality**”. Mr.*

Ioannidis added: *“Through small – yet significant – actions, our aim is to inspire, from a very early age, **informed and responsible citizens**. We expect such actions to entice additional fellow ‘travelers’, such that even more children will gain access to knowledge – knowledge, which will have a positive impact on their limited, as well as their broader social circle.”*

Mrs. Feleki noted: *“For the Red Cross, a fundamental objective is to offer to humans, through various activities and programs, all of which aim at relieving human pain, ensuring and promoting health, protecting life and human dignity. First Aid is at the very core of the Greek Red Cross’s priorities; the collaboration with ELPEN and AgoniGrammiGonimi created the required conditions, so that our programs would reach even more children, providing them with access to essential and reliable knowledge, which would also reinforce their self-confidence and responsibility. This particular program is specifically adapted for children aged 11 and 12 years old, and through an experiential manner, it offers them the possibility to recognize risks, to safely take care of wounds and external bleedings, to deal with a burn, a nose bleed or a syncope (fainting), as well as to release a foreign particle from the throat; In fact, knowledge that **can even save a life!**”*

Through the **experience** of various educational programs, carried out by **AgoniGrammiGonimi** in all remote areas of Greece, **Mrs. Angelou** emphasized the need for materializing such programs and noted: *“It is important to take care, as much as we can, of the people around us – especially children; this conviction is crowned by collaborations, such as the journey we are fulfilling with ELPEN and the Greek Red Cross. Thanks to the technical expertise and our team’s network of contacts, after nine years of collaboration with schools across the country, together, we have planned a program of knowledge and contribution. If we can help **change the life of even one person**, then this **venture will transform into divine work.**”*

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