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Kryqi i Kuq i Republikës së Maqedonisë së Veriut
Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL



The past year was marked by a series of activities of the Red Cross of RNM that contributed to make positive changes in people's lives. Through our network of Red Cross branches and CRC Skopje we were part of the everyday life of people who faced various challenges but we were also with those who wanted to be with the Red Cross to feel fulfilled and happy.

Through its activities for protection and disaster management, the Red Cross, together with the responsible institutions, made a special contribution to overcoming the consequences of disasters such as fires in the summer and actively continued to work on raising public awareness, providing material assistance and training for the human resources in order to be prepared to cope with the consequences of climate change and all the natural disasters that are part of the everyday life of our country.

We have made a special contribution in promoting safe living and implementation of health preventive activities for protection of life and health of the population working in conditions of COVID-19 pandemic which imposed on us many challenges that we successfully dealt with. We continuously promoted blood donation and taught people how to provide first aid. We taught young people how to protect themselves from various diseases and to respect each other. Social activities had a special place in our work in the past year. We worked and integrated the elderly, helped the disabled, social cases, worked with the homeless, and those



Prof. Dr. Romel Velev
President



separated as a result of migration.

We promoted partnerships internationally and in the country and our good practices and results were recognized by our partners in the corporate sector, partner organizations from the Movement and international agencies, which resulted in providing significant support for various project and program activities to improve the lives of various categories of vulnerable population. Dissemination and restoring family links have also played an important role in our work to share humanitarian values and international humanitarian law and to provide humanitarian protection. We also worked on water safety and mountain rescue and many other activities that are presented in the annual report of our organization which we are happy to share with you.

We would like to express our special gratitude to our partners, who in the spirit of solidarity provided us with the means, skills and resources to deal with all the challenges in the past year.

We are especially proud of the contribution and dedicated work of our volunteers and staff. 2021 was a particularly difficult year but it was also a great inspiration for all of us to show that together we can overcome all the challenges of our time, no matter how difficult they were. Our achievements are an incentive to work harder. Our challenges are our motivation. Thanks to all our volunteers, partners and employees who contributed to achieving our goals.



PhD. Sait Saiti
Secretary General



SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The world has been exposed to major economic, social and health challenges such as poverty, inequality, hunger, human health and climate change. Among them, if not the biggest for many countries, was dealing with the aftermath of the COVID-19 virus pandemic. The pandemic crisis has had far-reaching consequences and has resulted in major global challenges, and the effects of the pandemic have profoundly affected the lives of people around the world, shaking the foundations of our solidarity models and having a major impact on humanitarian work.

The consequences of the global recession, quarantine and closure of countries as a result of the pandemic have resulted in significant increase in product prices, rising unemployment, declining incomes and rising health challenges facing the population. All of this has had the greatest impact on the poorest in the poorest countries. But the pandemic was not the only crisis we faced in 2021. The world has also faced crises caused by climate change, such as cold and heat waves, floods and fires, seismic events, migration and influx of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, poverty,

human trafficking, homelessness and socially disadvantaged people which resulted from the economic crisis as well as the diseases and the usual health challenges that are more frequent as a result of the new times.

Humanitarian activities were also greatly influenced by the changes taking place in the social environment. According to the United Nations, the number of people exposed to various humanitarian challenges in the world is about 235 million people, which is by far the highest number in recent decades. The data show that worldwide one out of every 33 people was a vulnerable person which is a significant increase compared to 2020 when this number was 1 person in every 45 people.

The Red Cross of RNM, as part of the humanitarian sector, as an auxiliary to the authorities and a positioned partner in the country and internationally, certainly gave its contribution to ensuring a better life for many vulnerable groups. Together we have contributed to better transform, be more effective, to mobilize support, to do what we know best in the interest of our beneficiaries.

ABOUT US

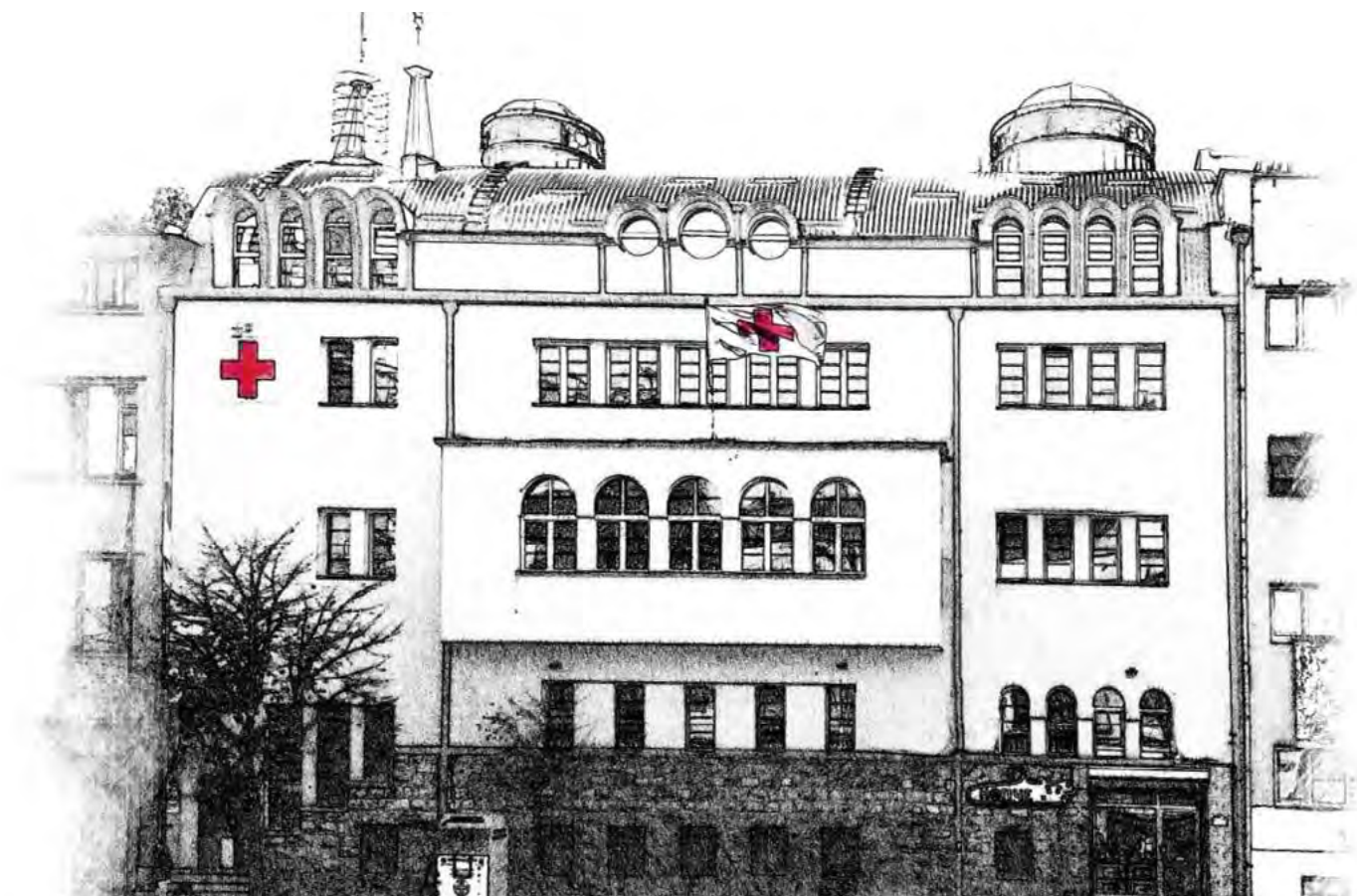
The Red Cross of RNM is the largest humanitarian organization in the Republic of North Macedonia and is part of 192 national societies - members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. In its 76 years of existence, it strives to improve the lives of vulnerable populations by mobilizing the power of humanity. Through our 33 Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje, we act in preventing and mitigating human suffering, protecting life and health, improving the social situation, ensuring respect and dignity of the people, especially in case of emergencies, promoting international humanitarian law and humanitarian values and the encouragement of voluntary engagement and continued preparedness to provide assistance and solidarity and humanity. We act, encourage and promote human values in order to respond in a timely manner to contemporary humanitarian challenges, and at the same time we are determined to do more, to do it better and to go further.

With thousands of volunteers and members in our ranks, we act as auxiliary to the authorities in the

country in creating a healthy and safe society, serving the citizens, especially the most vulnerable and those who need help.

In our efforts to respond to the needs of different target groups, we work with institutions and partner organizations to prevent diseases, improve health and alleviate human suffering through our own programs in the field of education, health and social care for the benefit of communities. We conduct emergency operations to provide humanitarian assistance, and provide other services to assist victims of armed conflict in accordance with the Geneva Conventions. We organize activities to help victims of natural disasters and other emergencies. We promote respect for international humanitarian law, the fundamental principles and ideals of the Movement and raise awareness on protection of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems.

We act locally, but according to the possibilities, we also provide support to the victims of armed conflicts, natural disasters, pandemics and other emergencies in the world.



NORMATIVE REGULATION

The Red Cross of RNM continuously invests efforts and energy in the internal arrangement, upgrading and implementation of the normative framework. We continued to work actively on monitoring the national legislation, acts and documents of the Movement, as well as the trends in the activities of non-governmental organizations to enrich our pool of documents and normative acts. In the past year, we actively followed the process of entry into force of new legal solutions, such as the Law on personal data protection, and began the process of implementation and adjustment to them. In addition, special attention was paid to the preparation of policies aimed at a high degree of moral and ethical behavior, such as the protection

and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, environmental protection, etc., a process that will continue in 2022 with the same intensity.

We continuously worked on the revision of the internal legal acts - rulebooks, rules, procedures, etc., their adjustment and improvement, as well as the preparation of new ones that regulate and specify a number of internal processes and define the roles and responsibilities of all participants. Of course, there were activities related to providing legal and advisory support to the RCB and CRC Skopje, realized through workshops and meetings, in order to successfully implement, understand and respect the internal norms.

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

RCB mentoring support for organizational capacity development

The Red Cross of RNM started with the implementation of mentoring development programs in response to the identified needs for development of RCB and CRC Skopje which would ensure adequate support for improving the operation and achieving better results in organizing and delivering services to the target groups. A workshop was held with representatives of the management and governing structures of RCB Vinica, Debar, Delchevo, Demir Hisar, Kochani, Resen, Sveti Nikole and Tetovo in the period 19-21.11.2021. The objective was to prepare 6 monthly local development plans with defined development priorities, activities, indicators, responsible persons and implementation time frame.

RCB self-assessment and evaluation process

In 2021, 3 different processes for assessment and evaluation of the work of the organization were conducted in order to determine whether the

development of the organization is declining, status quo, or the organization is continuously developing, in order to determine the main challenges in the work of the organization at national, city and branch level and to harmonize the views on the challenges in the development of the management and administrative structure, i.e. at local and national level.

During January 2021, a process of rapid assessment and mapping of the capacities of RCB/CRC Skopje was conducted. In accordance with the determination of the National Society for continuous improvement and organizational development, a questionnaire was prepared which was filled in by the secretaries of RCB/CRC Skopje which assessed the managerial skills, volunteer capacity, situation with the employees / part time workers in the organization and the equipment of the RCB/CRC Skopje. The assessment provided a clearer picture of the key activities and current state of human resources, the needs to support the work of RCB/CRC Skopje, the ambitions to develop additional services in the current operation and potential environments for implementation of projects supported through the HQ of the Red Cross of RNM.



In March 2021, electronic questionnaires were conducted with members of the Governing Board of the Red Cross of RNM, presidents of RCB, CRC Skopje and leaders of youth clubs which identified the challenges in the work, the situation in local strategic planning and the degree of local involvement of volunteers and members in the implementation of national society policies.

The analysis identified needs in the area of development of social services, training for employees and volunteers, promotion of youth work, encouraging the development of social enterprises, support in disaster management, support in resource mobilization, defining a criterion for vulnerability and records of vulnerable groups, etc. In the period May - November 2021, an assessment and analysis of the work of the organization for 2020 was conducted in order to determine the level of development of the organization at the local level. The essential aspects in the operation of RCB/CRC Skopje were seen and certain trends and conditions that affect the overall development of the national society were detected.

The assessment provided insights into the success of the implementation of the national society's programs at the local level, partnership cooperation and mobilization of funds in local communities, services operating in the RCB and

their contribution to improving the image of the organization, mobilization of funds for implementation of activities and financial operations of the organization.

The assessment provided indicators regarding youth work and the need to mobilize new volunteers in the organization, the system for planning, monitoring and evaluation and the functionality of informing and raising public awareness of the importance of the Red Cross in local communities. It is a framework for defining individual development plans for each RCB/CRC Skopje to be implemented in the forthcoming period by the Head Office of the Red Cross of RNM in cooperation and coordination with RCB/CRC Skopje.

Tool for summarizing annual data

In 2021, a tool for summarizing annual data of the national company has been prepared which will be used for processing annual data of RCB/CRC Skopje in different categories of activities in terms of number of users, gender, and age group, financial and other indicators. The tool has been adapted according to the format of IFRC and will serve to better inform the achieved annual indicators of the national company before the IFRC.

Cooperation with state institutions

As permanent partners of state institutions, we worked dedicatedly with state actors to provide humanitarian support to overcome the consequences of the disasters and crises that affected our country last year.

In communication and cooperation with the Government and line ministries, local self-government units and local institutions, we implemented activities of a social nature, intended to improve the well-being of the community in peacetime and in crisis situations. Together with the health institutions we supported the implementation of the vaccination process and the building of collective immunity in the country against COVID-19, we were in the forefront in supporting the fire brigades during the fires that hit the eastern part of North Macedonia, we actively worked to provide support to Irregular migration that takes place at the north and south border of the country where a state of emergency has been declared, we have upgraded the services we provide to our beneficiaries as part of the implementation of national policies to strengthen the health and social protection of the population.

The transparent, responsible and quality work resulted in direct support and presence at several events during 2021 by President Stevo Pendarovski, Prime Minister Zoran Zaev, Minister of Health Venko Filipce, Minister of Interior Oliver Spasovski, Minister of Defense Radmila Sekerinska, Minister of Education and Science Mila Carovska and other senior representatives of state institutions. Improvements to existing practices in program activities have been agreed upon, support in preparedness for effective response in case of disasters through a stock reserve program, and space has been opened for the development of additional initiatives to do more for people in need of assistance.

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia accepted the proposal and signed the „Emergency Response Program“ for establishing a long-term partnership in order to mobilize the overall capacity in the country by continuously providing annual funds for stock reserves and logistical support for humanitarian aid that would be available for emergency response and disasters.

Cooperation with international partners

One of the basic commitments of the Red Cross of RNM is effective and continuous building of partnerships and cooperation through the implementation of program and project activities with partner organizations aimed at helping and supporting various target groups.

In the past year, the national society has committed itself to the implementation of transparent and efficient operations in order to maintain the interest of partner organizations in mobilizing and securing funds for the implementation of programs and projects of the Red Cross of the RNM.

The Red Cross of RNM as a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in crisis situations, in conditions when the needs of the affected population exceed the possibilities for humanitarian support available directly from the national society, mobilized international support from national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, from IFRC, ICRC, United Nations and EU organizations and other international organizations. In this way, we have made a special contribution to providing a more effective response to the overall crisis management system in the country to meet the priority needs of the population affected by disasters and crisis situations. Support from international partners is provided for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as for adapting operations to emerging conditions.

1

session of the Red Cross
of RNM Assembly

4

sessions of the Red Cross
of RNM Governing Board



On June 11, 2021, the Red Cross of RNM was visited by a delegation of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The delegation was led by Mr. John Kennedy Mosoti, Director of UNFPA for the Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina and representatives of the UNFPA National Office in RNM. At the meeting, the Red Cross of RNM presented the work of the national society, the services provided in the country, the sources of financing and the key activities of the organization. Opportunities for cooperation with UNFPA on topics of common interest, priorities and challenges for creating a new five-year cooperation program were also discussed.

On October 21, 2021, the Red Cross was visited by the Deputy Ambassador of the Swiss Embassy in Skopje, Mr. Lucien Aegerter. During the meeting, the Secretary General of the Red Cross of RNM presented the previous experiences in

the cooperation regarding the support for the development of services for the elderly in Skopje through financial, technical and expert support from the Swiss Embassy, and discussed additional opportunities for supporting the activities of Red Cross in the field of migration.

On November 19, 2021, during the official visit of the President of the Republic of Poland, Mr. Andrzej Duda, to the Republic of North Macedonia, the Red Cross of RNM was visited by the First Lady of the Republic of Poland, Mrs. Agatha Kornhauser Duda, wife of the President of the Republic Poland, accompanied by Mrs. Elizabeta Gjorgievska, wife of the President of the Republic of North Macedonia, Mr. Stevo Pendarovski. On this occasion the Red Cross presented the activities and functioning of the SOS hotline in the Center for Psycho-Social

5

meetings with secretaries
of the RCB/CRC Skopje

1

meeting with presidents
of the RCB/CRC Skopje

Support for the population during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the importance of the services offered by the Red Cross to the vulnerable population.

With the support of long-term partners such as the Austrian Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent, support is provided for the implementation of program activities and humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable population affected by COVID-19, irregular migrants, families of victims of the fire in the modular hospital in Tetovo, support for development of social and economic services for the population, exchange of experiences and trainings within the mobilization and management with the membership and volunteers, first aid programs, development of a modern mobile application for mobilization of volunteers „Team North Macedonia“ and more.

Red Cross of RNM participated in international events and workshops for capacity building and exchange of experiences with the national Red Cross societies of Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Bulgaria and Romania in the framework of regional projects whose implementation is coordinated and implemented by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

In the period 28-29.05.2021, the Secretary General of the Red Cross of RNM, PhD. Sait Saiti visited the Bulgarian Red Cross on the occasion of the election session of the Assembly of the Bulgarian Red Cross for the mandate period 2021-2024. In addition to the formal holding of the session, during the visit the Secretary General discussed the continuation of positive practices in cooperation between the two national societies and exchange of experiences.





In the period 03-05 October 2021, a visit to the Bulgarian Red Cross was made by Red Cross of RNM HQ representatives for purpose of exchanging positive practices in the area of health-preventive and social-humanitarian programs, as well as creation of opportunities for initiating joint projects. A visit was made to the Home Care Center in Vratsa where health and social home care services for older people are provided by mobile teams of nurses and home helpers.

In the period 02-03.10.2021, the President of the Red Cross of RNM, Prof. Dr. Romel Velev and the Secretary General of the Red Cross of RNM PhD. Sait Saiti visited the Albanian Red Cross on the occasion of marking the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Albanian Red Cross. The delegation of the Red Cross of RNM met with the President of the Albanian Red Cross Uli Alushi and the Secretary General of the Albanian Red Cross Artur Katuchi, and congratulated them the jubilee, greeted the successful cooperation and discussed future cooperation between the two national societies and in the region.

Fund for Development and Projects

With a total amount of 1,462,270.00 MKD, development initiatives of RCB Gevgelija, Centar, Kavadarci, Kisela Voda, Ohrid, Prilep, Resen, Struga, Ship and CRC Skopje were supported, aimed at raising the number of members, developing forms for organizing volunteers, contributing to maintaining financial stability, developing sustainable services and services to vulnerable target groups or strengthening capacities and creating conditions for organizing the work of the Red Cross.

Additionally, in the period 3-5.12.2021 in the training center „Solferino“, training was held for 10 new RCB to improve the quality of preparation of project applications in the fund for 2022.

POLICY CREATION AND VOLUNTEER AND MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT

Volunteers and volunteering represent the potential of communities to respond to challenges in the local environment. Volunteering helps build cohesive communities, promoting trust and coexistence among citizens, and establishing the culture of solidarity and reciprocity necessary for a stable community. We are happy that this year over 2,400 active volunteers and 18,000 members recognized the Red Cross as a place that can give them additional meaning in their lives, a place where they can realize their desires and knowledge, an organization in which they can upgrade their competencies, and an opportunity to find hidden values that make us better people. We continue to build our volunteer system to be ready at any time to deal with various types of health and social challenges and disasters, because in such situations volunteers are our greatest potential for implementation of our activities and providing complementary support to institutions in the state.

Model for membership in the Red Cross of RNM

In 2021, a new draft Model for membership in the Red Cross was prepared, which will be completed at the beginning of 2022. It will be a great framework for increasing the number of members in our organization in order to provide even greater public support for the work of the Red Cross in the local communities we serve. The model was initially presented to the secretaries of the Red Cross branches and the Governing Board of the organization and aims to offer benefits and norms for increasing the number of members by providing a new normative framework that will regulate the overall activities of the national society in terms of mobilizing, recruiting, reporting and informing the membership of the Red Cross of RNM.

Orientation of volunteers and members

One of the essential benefits and achievements in the past period is the introduction of the work of orienteers in the organization which resulted with new volunteers and members in the organization in 2021. As a result of the work of the orienteers and the overall activities for mobilization of volunteers and members in the organization in 2021, a total of 2,400 active volunteers and 18,000 members were registered. This makes a special contribution for organizing regular orientation sessions at the local level, where by presenting the work and activities of the organization, in front of different target groups, new opportunities will be created for the inclusion of new volunteers and members in the organization. In the period from May 31 to June 1, 2021, a two-day online workshop was held for new orienteers of the Red Cross of RNM, which was attended by 21 representatives of the RCB and CRC Skopje. The two-day workshop aimed to train new orienteers in the Red Cross who will be in charge of the RCB to conduct orientation sessions with interested people from local communities who want to join the Red Cross of RNM as volunteers or members of the organization.

Assessment and analysis of the work of RCB / CRC Skopje

In the second half of 2021, a comprehensive assessment of the work of the RCB was conducted. In some of the attributes that were subject to analysis, several aspects related to the work of volunteers in RCB/CRC Skopje were considered.

2.400

active volunteers

21

newly-trained
orienteers



In the self-evaluation of the RCB/CRC Skopje, positive evaluations mostly dominated in terms of managing volunteers and members of the organization. However, the overall results of the evaluation indicate that there is room for further activities to promote volunteer work in the area of program activities, undertaking regular activities to mobilize new members in the organization, upgrading the database of membership and volunteering in different programmes of some of the RCB, regular sharing information and involving volunteers and members in the planning and decision-making process, and continuous organizing motivational activities to recognize volunteer contributions.

Marking December 5th – International Volunteer Day

On the occasion of the International Volunteer Day, the Red Cross of RNM organized a special event in the hotel DoubleTree by Hilton Skopje under the motto „The heroes among us - Unstoppable“.

The Secretary General, PhD. Sait Saiti addressed the present and spoke about the importance of volunteering in the country and internationally and a message was read from Mr. Stevo Pendarovski, President of RNM who warmly thanked the volunteers of the Red Cross. Eleven certificates of appreciation were awarded to prominent volunteers who made a special contribution to the realization of the goals and tasks of the national society in 2021. The certificates were awarded by Mrs. Elizabeta Gjorgjeska, wife of the President of RNM, and the Secretary General of the Red Cross of RNM, Dr. Sait Saiti. The event also featured an exhibition of posters with motives from the work of volunteers from the RCB/CRC Skopje. On December 3, various activities were organized at RCB and CRC Skopje across the country in order to raise awareness on the importance of volunteering in local communities.

633

grass-root organizations

18.000

registered members

PROGRAMES OF THE RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

SOCIAL HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMMES

Social services of the Red Cross of RNM

One of the priority goals of the Red Cross of RNM is the development of social services to support different target groups of population in order to contribute to reducing the vulnerability of the population, protection of human dignity and to ensure a better quality of life of citizens who face certain challenges in the communities.

Personal assistance to persons with disabilities

The Red Cross of RNM with the support of the MLSP for the fourth year in a row is continuously involved in the development of personal assistance services for persons with disabilities that were delivered during the year. Through CRC Skopje, and RCB Bitola, Struga, Strumica, Gostivar, Negotino and Veles the service was delivered to a total of 198 beneficiaries by 134 hired personal assistants.

Beneficiaries of the personal assistance service are persons with severe and most severe physical disabilities and completely blind persons. Regular coordination meetings were held at the local level with representatives of the centers for social work, assistants and users regarding the realization of the service.

In the period November and December, an evaluation of the personal assistance service for the period January - October 2021 was conducted. It was realized through CRC Skopje and the included RCB in accordance with the standards for implementation of the personal assistance service for persons with disabilities. From the conclusions in the evaluation report it can be noticed that there is great satisfaction among the beneficiaries of the delivered service. On September 22 and 24, 2021, workshops were held with representatives of CRC Skopje and 11 RCB, which discussed current issues, challenges in implementing the service for personal assistance to persons with disabilities, news related to legal changes by the state to reduce the age limit for

service delivery starting from 6 years and it can be used by persons over 65 years of age, and positive practices for service delivery were shared.

Home care and assistance for the elderly and people with disabilities

The Red Cross of RNM has many years of experience in providing support to the elderly. Experience has shown that older people prefer to receive help and care services at home - because they feel comfortable, peaceful and safe in their home. This is one of the conclusions of the research of the Red Cross of the RNM, where it is noted that a large number of elderly people in the country need social and health services in their homes. Amendments to the Law on Social Protection regulate the possibility for delivery of the home care service, on the basis of which the Red Cross of RNM verified a new special training program for caregivers.

Based on the program, trainings were conducted during the year and from October, with the support of the MLSP, it started delivering home care services for the elderly, with the exception of the Care Center of CRC Skopje through which care services are provided for the fourth year for the elderly. During the year, a licensing process was conducted for several RCBs and CRC Skopje for providers of social services for assistance and home care. By the end of the year, the care service is delivered through CRC Skopje and 6 RCB, which employs 79 caregivers and covers a total of 152 older people. Nine RCB are project supported by the MLSP, which is funded by the World Bank.

The number of RCBs that will provide care and assistance to the elderly and people with disabilities is expected to increase next year. In order for the services to be available to the general public, the Red Cross of RNM developed a concept for delivery of social services and for citizens who can use it for a certain fee to ensure sustainable development of social services.



Development of social services in the communities

In the call launched by the MLSP, the municipalities in partnership with the civil society organizations in the communities applied for grants intended for projects for development of social services in the local communities. The grant funds, provided by the World Bank, are intended for the establishment of a service and the financing of the service, at a determined price of the service for a period of 12 months.

Some of the Municipalities in RNM applied in cooperation with the Red Cross at the local level. CRC Skopje and eight RCB (Strumica, Kavadarci, Kochani, Kriva Palanka, Kichevo, Struga, Demir Hisar and Debar) signed agreements with the MLSP to finance projects for the development of care and assistance services for the elderly and people with disabilities. Trainings for caregivers for assistance and care of the elderly

and persons with disabilities were conducted, organized through CRC Skopje and RCB verified for the implementation of the caregivers training program. On March 30, 2021, MLSP organized an information session which provided guidelines for the implementation of project activities, as well as information on the implementation of the licensing process of organizations as providers for delivery of services to the end users.

Care and support for older people

The services for care and assistance for older people are one of the priority goals of the Red Cross of RNM which in the coming period should be developed in the national society. The project for home care for older people, which is implemented through CRC Skopje, continued to be implemented with the support of the City of Skopje, the Albiz Foundation and the Swiss Red Cross. Ten Red Cross volunteers and five medics

are hired to deliver social and health home care services to 200 older people. The program activities for the older people in the day care centers for the older people and centers for providing home care assistance which are located in DHO „Dare Dzambaz“, in RCB Chair, as well as in the premises of the primary school in the Municipality of Saraj continued to be regularly implemented. Also, during the year, activities continued to be implemented in the Day Care Center in Gazi Baba. On a monthly basis, in the day care centers, on average, about 537 visits were realized.

During the year, activities for healthy aging were implemented through the clubs for the older people, which operate through RCB Kriva Palanka, Negotino, Veles, Ohrid and Prilep. With the outbreak of the pandemic in our country, the activities through the clubs for the elderly were aimed at prevention and protection from COVID-19, activities for procurement of groceries for the elderly through the mobile teams of the Red Cross, conducted health prevention workshops and etc.

Strengthening the resilience of the elderly and people with disabilities during COVID-19 and future disasters

The project is a three-year initiative in the Western Balkans region, coordinated by the Serbian Red Cross and supported by the European Union, the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Red Cross. Launched in late 2020, it connects partners with national Red Cross societies and civic associations from Albania, BiH, RNM, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo, and networks of civic associations in countries representing the elderly and persons with disabilities. The Red Cross of RNM and the Association “Humanity” are joint partners in the implementation of project activities in RNM.

The aim of the project is for the elderly, people with disabilities, national Red Cross societies and citizens’ associations to better cope with COVID-19 in the countries of the region. The project has established five telephone lines for psycho-social support of the citizens and they operate through CRC Skopje and RCB Kochani, Bitola, Veles and Gostivar. To make it easier to deal with the heat wave, recommendations for the elderly were promoted. A coordination meeting with all partners within the project was held in Belgrade on November 8 to present the implemented project activities so far and to discuss the challenges faced by the partners in the implementation of the activities.

Strategic plan for healthy aging

During the year, the Strategic Plan for Healthy Aging 2021 - 2025 was prepared, a document in which the Red Cross of RNM expresses strong determination and preparedness to take a series of activities, by creating a vision, achievable strategic goals and priorities in order to deal with the challenge of healthy aging and inclusion of senior citizens in active social life. The development plan incorporates the previous experiences, knowledge and practices that the national society has gained in the past years through the implementation of activities for active and healthy aging.

The elderly and access to integrated and individual health care in North Macedonia

On March 22, 2021, the Red Cross of RNM participated in a Round Table on the topic: „The elderly and access to integrated and individual health care in RNM“ organized by WHO - Skopje. The aim was to share the results of the WHO assessment of health care in RNM, related to aging, conducted in September 2019 - January 2020. The Red Cross participated in the panel session with its representative on the topic „Necessary support and training for caregivers“.



PROJECTS FOR SUPPORT FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES FOR LONG-TERM CARE IN THE COMMUNITIES

In 2020, the Red Cross of RNM started with the implementation of activities within the social-health care projects „Development of business services for integrated care and support in Red Cross of RNM“ project supported by the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Red Cross, and „Support for inclusive development of long-term community care services“ by incorporating participatory approaches from a variety of stakeholders, supported by the European Commission.

In 2021, preparatory activities were carried out for the establishment and piloting of the Emergency Button service on the territory of the city of Skopje. An Emergency Button Contact Center was created. 120 monitoring alarm devices were procured and two technical solutions were created - a software application for monitoring the users of the alarm devices and a mobile application for the volunteers who are part of the field assistance system „Emergency Rescuer“. Two specialized vehicles are provided for the transport of persons who are not able to independently secure transport for the use of health, social, or other administrative services due to old age, illness, inability or difficulty, to move independently - the service is intended to be piloted in next year on the territory of the city of Skopje.

As part of the Incare project, a two-day workshop on Theory of Change was organized with government and non-government officials, to review opportunities for changing policies and systems for long-term care in the country and linking the Emergency Button service with other social services.

Within the project, supported by the Austrian Development Agency, two feasibility studies were created for the establishment of social-medical centers in Skopje and Dojran. The prepared feasibility studies aim to be the basis for the creation of business plans by international experts, for potential financing opportunities from international development banks and funds. Within the third pillar, through the Regional Training Center in RCB Strumica, 44 people from RCB Radovish, Valandovo, Gevgelija and Strumica were trained, through three parallel trainings with which the participants obtained a certificate for caregiver for assistance and care for the elderly and persons with disabilities. At the end of the year, the fourth training was started, which covers a total of 19 long-term unemployed people.

 Црвен крст на Република Северна Македонија
Kryqi i Kuq i Republikës së Maqedonisë së Veriut
ЦРВЕН КРСТ НА ГРАД СКОПЈЕ / КРГОЈ I KUQ I QYTETIT TE SHKUPIT



защо што
**СЕКОЈА СЕКУНДА
Е ВАЖНА!**



Mitigation of the effects and consequences of COVID-19

The project activities „Mitigation of the effects and consequences of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable in society with a special focus on the elderly“ supported by the Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection and the Austrian Red Cross, provided organizing five trainings for caregivers to assist and provide care for the elderly and people with disabilities.

The project also provides training for educators who conduct the training. The project started with implementation in September and a training was conducted for a total of 14 caregivers through RCB Kumanovo, of which 10 people will be made available for the needs of the Association „Our Message“ which are supported by project activities.

On September 24, 2021, a meeting was held with Mr. Herald Fuger - Attaché at the Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection. The purpose of the meeting was to highlight the positive cooperation and support provided by the Austrian Ministry through the Austrian Red Cross for the development of social services for various target groups of vulnerable population.

Particular emphasis was placed on the support provided for the implementation of the project activities aimed at developing the capacities of the national society for quality delivery of services for assistance and home care for elderly.

On December 7th, the Red Cross of RNM opened the new Educational Training Center for Adult Training in Skopje.

The ceremony was attended by the Minister of Education and Science, a representative of the Austrian Red Cross, as well as representatives of institutions and partners with which the Red Cross works closely to implement verified training programs.

COVID-19 response to improve the socio-economic situation of marginalized persons

The project supported by the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Red Cross started in October with organizing of training for caregivers for assistance and care for the elderly and people with disabilities through RCB Bitola. The training covered a total of 12 long-term unemployed women. The project envisages organizing a total of seven trainings that will be implemented during 2022. Also, for the educators who realize the trainings, it is planned to organize educations in order to strengthen their skills for the implementation of the training program for caregivers.

Improving the socialization of children and youth with disabilities

RCB Veles, Kichevo, Gostivar, Debar, Delchevo, Prilep, Kavadarci and CRC Skopje were included in the Project „Improvement of the socialization of children and youth with disabilities“, supported by Komercijalna Banka AD Skopje, and the activities were implemented during the year targeted for improving the socialization of children from day care centers and children in foster families. The project activities covered 340 children with disabilities aged 3-26.

Educational training centers

As a verified implementer of special programs for adults, the Red Cross contributes to building the system of adult education in the country, provides high quality learning and opportunities to obtain qualifications in accordance with the needs of the population. In the five-year period so far, 750 unemployed people have been trained who have obtained an appropriate certificate, through 16 educational training centers of the Red Cross, of which 4 centers cover an additional 8 municipalities. The trained persons help in the delivery of quality social services for the citizens - help and care of persons who due to age, chronic diseases, disability, etc. reasons are in a state of exhaustion and unable



to take care of themselves, as well as personal assistance to persons with disabilities in order to contribute to the independent and independent living of persons with disabilities and their active and equal participation in the community.

Trainings for personal assistants for persons with disabilities

In 2021, a new program of the Red Cross of RNM for personal assistance training for persons with disabilities was verified. During the year, a Red Cross verification process was conducted in several municipalities in the country as a training provider. Through CRC Skopje and RCB Bitola, Shtip, Negotino and Strumica, trainings for personal assistance of persons with disabilities were conducted. A total of 76 candidates attended the training and obtained a state-recognized certificate for personal assistants for persons with disabilities.

Trainings for caregivers for assistance and care for older people and people with disabilities

For the second year in a row, the Red Cross of RNM is continuously implementing the new program verified by the Center for Adult Education, for conducting trainings for caregivers for care and assistance to elderly and people with disabilities in Skopje and 16 municipalities in the country. The Red Cross of RNM provided support from the MLSP through the World Bank, for 10 trainings for

caregivers for assistance and care for elderly and people with disabilities which were organized through CRC Skopje and 8 RCB. 170 long-term unemployed people were trained. As part of a project supported by the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Red Cross, a regional training center for caregivers of the elderly and people with disabilities has been opened. The center is managed by RCB Strumica and operates for the needs of RCB Gevgelija, Radovish and Valandovo. Three trainings were organized and enable training so 45 caregivers from Strumica, Radovish, Valandovo and Gevgelija. With the support of Business & Strategy Europe through CRC Skopje, 15 caregivers were trained. With the support of UNFPA, three trainings were organized in RCB Kriva Palanka, Delchevo and Gostivar for training of 30 caregivers. During the year, trainings were organized in RCB Negotino, Bitola and Ohrid. In 2021, the trainings covered 396 caregivers.

Training for palliative caregivers of the frail and assistance in caring for people with Alzheimer's disease

The Red Cross of RNM, in cooperation with UNDP, has prepared training programs for palliative caregivers for frail people, as well as a training program for caregivers for people with Alzheimer's disease. The programs are verified by the Center for Adult Education. The palliative care training supported by UNDP was conducted through CRC Skopje, and enable training for 13 people.

GOOD PRACTICES – SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE

CITY RED CROSS OF SKOPJE, RCB BITOLA, RCB STRUMICA

The homeless shelter in Momin Potok in Skopje was opened in 2008 and has been successfully providing the necessary help and support to the homeless for 13 consecutive years. In the shelter, homeless people receive services from a hairdresser/barber, examination and advice from a doctor as well as medication, hot meal and drinks, expert-counseling consultations with a social worker and psychologist. During the year, 2127 visits to the doctor were made. A total of 783 meetings were made to the social worker. The social worker helped out personal documents of 156 persons (ID cards, birth certificates, health cards, etc.). For these persons, after securing the documents, processes for receiving social assistance or for exercising another right in the field of social protection. In 2021, 104 expert-counseling conversations were realized by the psychologist with the homeless people. During 2021, the shelter was visited by 160 homeless people, with a total of 8,223 visits, and 23,759 pieces of clothing were distributed to this target group. The successful operation of the shelter is largely due to donations from longtime partners who work with the Red Cross.

During the year when the temperatures were extremely low, the homeless shelter in Bitola functioned, where 19 homeless people were registered, who were supported with material assistance by RCB Bitola.

RCB Strumica for 5 homeless people helped maintain their personal hygiene and provide clothing and protective masks and disinfectants.



CAMPAIGNS OF THE RED CROSS OF RNM

Global anti-discrimination campaign

On the occasion of October 1 - International Day of Older Persons, the Red Cross of RNM joined the global campaign against age discrimination under the motto #AWorld4AllAges. The campaign was initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO) with the involvement of the IFRC. The campaign started on October 1 and lasted until November 20. A survey was conducted on perceptions of existence of age discrimination among the general population. The data should serve as a basis for further research and undertaking activities for the involvement of the Red Cross in the fight against this type of discrimination.

„Think of us too“

The Red Cross of RNM joined the global actions for the fight against hunger by organizing a campaign under the motto „Think of us too“, which was conducted from 16 to 22 October through RCB and CRC Skopje. With the campaign, the Red Cross contributed to the overall efforts to reduce poverty and social exclusion of citizens. The campaign provided funds in the amount of 325,740 denars. From the donated funds, as well as the assistance from the actions, a total of 13,340 kg of food was provided and it was distributed to 1,458 people at social risk. A total of 298 Red Cross volunteers were involved in the campaign.

„Your contribution - a significant assistance“

In the period of 19 to 24 April 2021, the Red Cross of RNM organized a humanitarian action during the „Week of Solidarity“ under the motto: „Your contribution - significant assistance.“ The action aimed to raise the awareness of the population on the necessary mutual support, and to provide adequate assistance to the most vulnerable categories of the population. Food aid, hygiene and disinfectants, and cash were provided by legal entities and citizens. From the collected funds (232,741 denars) food packages were provided.

The action raised a total of 9759 kg of food, 5580 kg of clothes, 1424 kg of hygiene items and 636 pairs of shoes. The aid was distributed to 2,047 families at social risk.

„We are all their children“

In the period of 15 to 21 November 2021, the Red Cross of RNM marked the „Week of care for the older people“ under the motto: „We are all their children“ in order to raise public awareness of the need for increased integration and support for the elderly in all areas of social life. The activities were supported by UNFPA for the functioning of 8 mobile teams for free service for procurement and delivery of food, hygiene, medicine and other assistance for elderly and lonely, 15 information workshops were held with the elderly to familiarize them with the rights of social and health care in order to improve their quality of life and healthy aging, and 3 trainings were held for caregivers for assistance and care for elderly and the people with a disabilities. The training covered 30 long-term unemployed vulnerable people and educational workshops on topics of interest to senior citizens, thematic workshops to encourage social inclusion of the elderly, etc.

Prevention of human trafficking

The Red Cross of RNM as a member of the Secretariat of the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration through the implementation of preventive activities contributes to the fight against this global problem by participating in the celebration of October 18 - European Anti-Trafficking Day with organizing preventive activities for peer education of the young population. 23 prevention workshops were organized with which 450 students from primary and secondary schools had the opportunity to get acquainted with the ways in which they can be involved in human trafficking and their self-protection. During the year, 62 preventive workshops were organized, which covered a total of 1,447 people.

GOOD PRACTICES

CITY RED CROSS OF SKOPJE

„**Button**“. During the year, the implementation of the project „Button“ continued, a project created to provide a more efficient system of distribution of clothing to people at risk, easy access to low-cost clothing for all citizens in order to preserve the dignity of those with low income and do not seek help, employment of vulnerable target groups and contribution to the protection of the environment.

In 2021, citizens donated 55 tons of clothes in donation containers, and about 962 citizens donated clothes directly to the store. Cooperation was continuously realized with 12 public institutions where a total of 15.320 pieces of clothing were donated, and a total of 4.241 pieces of clothing were distributed to persons at social risk, i.e. 388 persons or 125 families at social risk received the necessary clothing through a point for free distribution, with donated 19.561 pieces of clothing.

During the year the store was visited by about 4.250 citizens. A total of 8.951 second-hand clothes have been donated into the shop, and 4.389 pieces of clothing, footwear and fashion accessories have been sold. During 2021, volunteers dedicated 1.623 hours of volunteer work in support of the operation of „Button“. In accordance with the vision of Button for raising awareness for environmental protection, workshops were conducted for repurposing some of the donated used clothes, from which products are made by using patchwork technique. Continuous attention is paid on waste prevention, recycling and use of recycled content and the clothes that no longer can be used are recycled in the factory Usje.



HEALTH PREVENTIVE PROGRAMMES

In the course of 2021 the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia actively worked on raising awareness of the population for protection and prevention of diseases, with special emphasis on the COVID-19 pandemic. We have invested in the establishment of health services and centers of a sustainable nature. Through effective communication and education, we aimed to raise public awareness of the vulnerable population about the importance and significance of COVID-19 prevention measures and thus contributed to reducing the incidence of new COVID-19 cases. All activities undertaken were in accordance with the measures for prevention and control of the COVID19 pandemic.

Project activities to support vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 pandemic

Cooperation with WHO

In the period from September 20 to December 31, 2021, within the project „Support for informing the elderly and Roma population to raise awareness of protective measures and vaccination against COVID-19, the Red Cross of RNM in cooperation with the regional office of WHO-Skopje, developed and implemented field activities on raising awareness on protective measures and vaccination against COVID-19 intended for the Roma population and the elderly. The Red Cross of RNM volunteers together with health mediators from the Roma population distributed 5,000 flyers with information about the most common myths related to COVID-19 vaccination among the Roma population in the city of Skopje. Within this project, CRC Skopje in November 2021 opened COVID-19 SOS telephone line where the elderly had the opportunity to be informed about different issues related to COVID-19 vaccination.

Cooperation with UNFPA

The Red Cross of RNM as a partner organization, in the period November-December 2021 supported the activities of UNFPA within the project „Safe and Innovative Health Services during COVID-19“. The activities were realized in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, the Macedonian Association of Gynecologists and Obstetricians - MAGO, the Macedonian Medical Association. The volunteers of the Red Cross of RNM were actively involved in the administrative-logistical support of the mobile gynecological clinic in Sveti Nikole and cooperated with primary care doctors and local NGO's

to inform women that live in remote places about the work of the mobile gynecological clinic.

Project for providing response to COVID-19

Within the Project for providing response to COVID-19 pandemic, financed by the World Bank, implemented by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of RNM, the Red Cross of RNM – City Red Cross of Skopje signed an agreement for procurement and distribution of hygiene products for vulnerable categories of beneficiaries. The Red Cross of RNM supported the RCB throughout the country with distribution of 54.887 hygiene parcels, intended for vulnerable categories of beneficiaries, according to lists received from the MLSP. Within this activity, the Red Cross also distributed bags with books in frames of the initiative „Read at home“, targeted for children from families at social risk.

Support at COVID-19 vaccination points

With the start of the mass vaccination against COVID-19, during 2021 the Red Cross of the RNM provided support to the Ministry of Health in 13 cities in the country. Since the beginning of the mass vaccination against COVID-19, 178 Red Cross of RNM volunteers provided the following support to the population at the vaccination points until December 31, 2021:

- administrative support - 979,577 citizens
- first aid - 14 291 citizens
- psychological first aid, 254,747 citizens
- transportation of a vulnerable category of population to vaccination points -1524 citizens
- vaccination of migrants - 38 migrants



ACTIVITIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 THROUGH NUMBERS:



941

persons covered by the service for delivery of food, hygiene, medicines, etc.



3.438

people covered by the service and telephones for psychosocial support, advice and referrals



4.306

people covered in other activities (medical examinations and advice)



13.552

distributed family food parcels (vulnerable categories)

32.696

distributed hygiene family parcels (vulnerable categories)

5.728

distributed disinfection kits (vulnerable categories and COVID centers)

95

distributed baby parcels



3.701

distributed meals for the homeless

6.358

distributed hot meals for other groups



299

engaged vehicles



40
disinfectants (COVID centers)

85.134
distributed protective gloves (vulnerable categories and COVID centers)

95.877
distributed protective masks (vulnerable categories and COVID centers)

360
bags of 6 kg washing powder (COVID centers)

400
visors (COVID centers)

396
engaged disinfection pumps



4.538
assisted homeless people with hygiene, disinfection, clothing, etc.

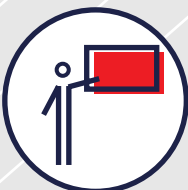
3.017
delivered drugs for chronically ill patients in quarantine and oncology therapies

20
hearing aids (Turkish Red Crescent donation)

80
wheelchairs (beneficiaries and COVID centers)

412
boxes of clothes (donated by the German Red Cross)

100
sets of bed linen (COVID centers)



2.031
volunteers / professional service hired

104.203
volunteer hours



7.139
people involved in other activities (distribution of posters, public campaigns)

distribution of 3,000 posters to promote hygiene and protection from COVID-19



Training for trainers in Emergency Health Care

In the period from December 26 to 30, 2021 a training for trainers was held in Struga on the topic „Emergency Health Care“, supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Regional Office for Europe. The purpose of the training, which was attended by 18 representatives of RCB / CRC Skopje, was to strengthen the knowledge and skills of volunteers and emergency health care staff, community health and first aid, inter-agency coordination and providing technical expertise and support for preparation of emergency health response based on international standards and the development of an Emergency Health Care Action Plan.

Marking the Week for Fight against Cancer

The Week for Fight against Cancer was marked in the period from March 1 to 8 under the motto „I can and I will succeed“ - in the fight against cancer. There were 42 educational lectures by RCB volunteer doctors in primary and secondary schools,

members of youth clubs, pensioners' associations, work organizations and volunteers in municipal organizations. These activities covered 2123 people.

Marking the Week for fight against Diabetes

The Red Cross of RNM traditionally marked the Week for fight against Diabetes in the period October 10-16, 2021 under the motto „Healthy Lifestyle and Diabetes“. In this regard, in order to contribute to our ongoing efforts to prevent diabetes, RCB and CRC Skopje undertook activities to raise awareness on the risks of diabetes through sharing posts on social networks and conducting 54 educational workshops for target groups at risk which included 577 persons.

Marking the Week for fight against HIV/AIDS

This year, the Red Cross of RNM, according to the calendar of traditional activities, marked the Week of fight against HIV/AIDS in the period of 1-7 December 2021. The week was marked under the motto „Knowledge is the best prevention of HIV infection“.

RCB organized 60 HIV/AIDS peer education workshops for 1519 young people in high schools, where condoms, promotional and informational material were distributed and 2 short educational videos with messages on HIV/AIDS prevention were made. All these activities were aimed at raising public awareness on the importance of prevention and early diagnosis of HIV/AIDS with a special emphasis on the young population and reducing the stigma associated with people living with HIV.

Marking the Week for fight against Tuberculosis

The Red Cross of RNM marked the Week for fight against Tuberculosis in the period of September 14-21, 2021. For this purpose, a large number of educational lectures, workshops were realized, with participation of 2.524 people from different target groups. In this way, we want to raise public awareness on the importance of general health, social and economic impact of TB and to accelerate efforts to end the global TB epidemic.

Visit of delegation of IFRC

In the period 29-01.07.2021, the Red Cross of RNM was visited by representatives of the European Regional Office of the IFRC, Dr. Davron Mukamadiev - Regional Coordinator for Health and Care and Dr. Aneta Trgachevska - Regional Delegate for Health and Active Aging Programs. During the visit, a meeting was held with the Secretary General of the Red Cross of RNM PhD. Sait Saiti, and with the staff of the Red Cross of RNM HQ and CRC Skopje, as well as with representatives of WHO and UNFPA. The representatives of the IFRC visited the First Aid Center, the Homeless Station, the Blood Donation Center, the Operations Center and the Red Cross logistics center of the RNM. During the visit, the national society presented and discussed its activities and opportunities for developing future initiatives and sharing good work practices.

Climate change - prevention of health from heat and cold waves

For several years, the Red Cross of RNM has been actively involved in preventive and field activities aimed at protecting the population from the heat waves that affect our country in the summer. During the heat waves, The Red Cross of RNM through the RCB implemented activities to provide bottled non-carbonated water that was distributed to citizens, informative educational materials with tips to protect their health from heat waves, free blood pressure measurement of citizens who needed it, as well as providing first aid in case of need. As part of the field activities, 55 volunteers were engaged and 7100 bottles of water were distributed in the period from 11 am to 4 pm during the heat wave days. The Red Cross of RNM has been actively involved in raising public awareness on reducing the effects of the cold wave by posting preventive flyers, videos, and winter protection and self-protection.

24 Март - Светски Ден на ТБ
24 - Mars - Dita botërore e TB

НЕПРИФАТЛИВО Е ЌСНТЃ Е РАПРАНУЕШМЕ

На секои две минути умира
по едно дете од Туберкулоза.

Në çdo dy minuta vdes nga
një fëmijë nga Tuberkuloza.

Часовникот отчукува!
Ора трокет!



Donation of respirators for the Ministry of Health

On the occasion of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the Red Cross of RNM donated to the Ministry of Health thirty-five non-invasive respirators with complete auxiliary equipment as well as guidelines and video training for use of the equipment provided by the Swiss company BCD microtechnique SA. The donation amounted to CHF 320,000. The respirators were distributed in Delchevo (3), Strumica (4), Veles (5), Ohrid (4), Kavadarci (2), Bitola (5), Jasenovо (2), Negotino (2), Kichevo (3), Gevgelija (3) and Kochani (2). The Red Cross also donated 60 medical pads, 60 bedding sets, disinfectants and hygiene material to the Clinic for traumatology, orthopedic diseases, anesthesia, resuscitation and intensive care and an emergency center.

Harm reduction from drugs

Harm reduction from drugs is a project intended for drug users and is implemented through RCB Kichevo, Veles and Prilep. The centers opened at RCB aim to offer medical, social and legal services to beneficiaries and supply them with condoms and sterile injection equipment. In 2021, 619 people were covered. A total of 85,687 needles and 58,777 injection syringes, 4,258 condoms, 2,520 lubricants and 2,357 IECs for injecting drug users were distributed.





FIRST AID

With its authority and long-term work in the area of promotion and development of the first aid, The Red Cross of RNM during 2021 worked on strengthening the existing material and human capacities in providing efficient and quality services in the field of first aid, introduction of new and development of existing program activities, their implementation, promotion and strengthening of partnership cooperation.

Refreshment first aid courses

During the month of January, 6 refreshment courses were realized for 198 current lecturers and demonstrators who conduct trainings for different target groups within RCB and CRC Skopje. The purpose of these lectures was the active lecturers and demonstrators to get acquainted with the latest developments in the field of first aid, the new materials that are available for their further education and the improvement of their knowledge in this field.

First aid trainings for candidates for drivers and legal entities

The Red Cross of RNM has a long experience and tradition in educating the population about the importance of proper and timely first aid in case of accidents, including traffic accidents, which helps reduce injuries and increase the chances of survival. RCB and CRC Skopje during the year realized 2,432 first aid courses for drivers which included 27,864 candidates and 217 first aid courses for legal entities and trained 1,419 people. In 2021, 4 courses for new lecturers and demonstrators for first aid courses for drivers were realized and 65 candidates were trained and one course was held for 27 candidates for lecturers for first aid courses for legal entities.

With these trainings, the Red Cross of RNM aims to create new resources of quality lecturers and demonstrators who will properly and appropriately transfer their knowledge in the field of first aid to candidates for drivers of motor vehicles and legal entities.

Visit of a delegation of the National Council for Road Traffic Safety

On 07.07.2021, the Red Cross of RNM was visited by a delegation of the National Council for Road Traffic Safety headed by the President Gordana Kozuvarovska and Risto Manchev. The delegation was received by the Secretary General of the Red Cross of RNM, PhD. Sait Saiti. During the talks, the Secretary General Saiti presented the work of the Red Cross of RNM, as well as the activities undertaken to improve first aid education for candidates for driver and the opportunities for joint cooperation and implementation of joint campaigns.

World First Aid Day

On September 11, the Red Cross of RNM through RCB and CRC Skopje traditionally marked the World First Aid Day under the motto „Be a hero in your school and community“ Promotional stands were organized at 28 locations throughout the country for realistic presentation of injuries and administering first aid in order to raise awareness among the population about the importance of first aid as a life-saving skill. The promotional stands are part of the series of activities undertaken by the national society during the month of September for the affirmation of this life-saving tool.

2.432

first aid courses for drivers

27.864

covered candidates with first aid courses for drivers



National online first aid quiz

On September 20, 2021, the first National Online First Aid Quiz was organized with participation of 100 young people organized in twenty teams from the Youth Clubs of RCB/CRC Skopje. The quiz was an opportunity for young people to refresh and upgrade their knowledge in the field of first aid as an important life-saving skill.

Trainings

The Red Cross of RNM conducted two trainings on „Strengthening the capacity of the national society in first aid programs“ in June and October 2021 in the Training Center „Solferino“ in Struga.

The purpose of these workshops was to improve the techniques and methodology for preparation and implementation of courses/ trainings and appropriate administrative preparation and planning. The workshops were conducted by a licensed trainer from the Red Cross of RNM in accordance with the given guidelines for the implementation of training for trainers from IFRC and were attended by 26 employees and volunteers from RCB / CRC Skopje.

Within the IFRC project for support of the process of COVID-19 vaccination in RNM, 8 first aid trainings were conducted for 174 volunteers engaged at COVID-19 vaccination points.

217

first aid courses for legal entities

1.419

covered candidates with first aid courses for legal entities

BLOOD DONATION

Blood donation actions

The Red Cross of RNM and the Institute of Transfusion Medicine in 2021 realized 53,133 units of blood or fulfilled the planned obligations with 102.18% and compared to 2020, better results were recorded for 6,387 blood units. In the city of Skopje, RCB Gazi Baba, Karposh, Kisela Voda, Centar and Chair in 2021 realized 17,221 units of blood or fulfilled the planned obligations with 116.11%, and compared to 2020 have better results by 1,470 blood units.

In the other RCB, 35,912 units of blood were collected in 2021 or compared to 2020 better results were achieved by 4,737 units of blood. In 2021, in the City General Hospital „September 8“ in Skopje, in the service for transfusion medicine, 1,633 units of blood were collected.

In 2021, in the Daily Center for Blood Donation in DHO „Dare Dzambaz“ - Skopje 2,593 units of blood were collected, of which 2,033 were with self-initiated blood donation from the citizens of Skopje and 560 units of blood were collected by organized blood donation actions. Compared to 2020, this years the result is better for 150 units of blood. During 2021, the coordination team held 86 coordination meetings and coordinated 683 blood donation actions in the field.

Educations for voluntary blood donation

A seminar for blood donation on the topic „COVID-19“ was held in the period of 12-14 March 2021 in Struga.

The seminar adopted conclusions on promotion of activities for blood donation, preparing a mobile application for blood donation, organizing a forum, seminars and workshops on COVID-19 and training for motivators for voluntary blood donation and media campaign on raising public awareness on voluntary blood donation.

In the period from 02-04 July 2021 and from 10-12 September 2021 two seminars were held in Struga on „The influence of the media and social networks in blood donation.“ The seminars covered topics such as the importance of social media for non-profit organizations, social media trends, offline and online integration, social media writing techniques and more.

In the period from 03 to 05 December 2021 a seminar on blood donation with students was held in Struga. The topic of the seminar was „Campaign and techniques for social media.“ Through the contents for communication and campaigns and social media, the participants got acquainted with the importance of communications, the ways of communication in building relationships with future blood donors, the possibilities of social media for planning, organizing campaigns and informing about them. Through group work, the participants created three campaigns and prepared announcements for social media, and through the evaluation process they shared their opinions, impressions and suggestions for the work and for the promotion of blood donation.

683

blood donation actions

53.133

collected blood units

March 17 - Blood Donation Day in RNM

On March 17, 2021, a webinar was held at which the President of the Red Cross of RNM Prof. Dr. Romel Velev spoke about the role, tasks and goals of the organization. During the event, several videos were shown with content from the work of the Red Cross in the field of blood donation.

Third Voluntary Blood Donation Forum

On the occasion of June 14 - World Blood Donation Day, the Red Cross of RNM organized the Third Forum for voluntary blood donation, which was held in the period from 11-13 June 2021 in Struga at the hotel „Solferino“ on the topic „Strategy for voluntary blood donation of the Red Cross of the RNM“. Discussions focused on retaining existing regular blood donors, recruiting and attracting new blood donors and educating them.



102.18%

fulfilled planned
obligations for 2021

86

meetings of the
coordination team

Blood donation of the President of the Republic of North Macedonia

During the pandemic with COVID-19, the President of RNM, Mr. Stevo Pendarovski and his son Ognen Pendarovski donated blood in the Daily Center for Blood Donation in DHO „Dare Dzambaz“ on January 15, 2021.

Certificates of appreciation for blood donation actions

During the pandemic with COVID-19, the Red Cross of the RNM and the Institute for Transfusion Medicine organized blood donation actions in the high schools in the city of Skopje. On that occasion, during the month of June 2021, the most successful high schools „Vasil Antevski - Dren“, „Pance Karagjov“, „Cvetan Dimov“ and „Orce Nikolov“ were awarded with certificates of appreciation for successfully organized blood donation actions.

At the event, the certificates of appreciation were awarded for support and cooperation in blood donation to the Mayor of the City of Skopje, Mr. Petre Shilegov, and the Department for Education of the City of Skopje.

Global campaign to promote blood donation - „Donate blood and contribute to keep the world moving“

On the occasion of June 14, World Blood Donation Day, the Red Cross of the RNM together with the Institute for Transfusion Medicine awarded certificates of appreciation for the cooperation in the area blood donation to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense and to the Minister of Health Venko Filipce, the Minister of Interior Oliver Spasovski and the Minister of Defense Radmila Sekerinska for their personal contribution, support, encouragement and cooperation.



MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is an important component of overall personal and collective health and well-being. Personal factors such as loss, unemployment, serious injury or collective factors such as pandemic, natural disaster or economic crisis disrupt an individual's personal capacity to deal with the effects of these phenomena and this affects his or her mental functioning and health. The high rate of unemployment, isolation and domestic violence resulting from the pandemic is putting pressure on the population's coping capacities, resulting in chronic stress and various health challenges, especially in the elderly, people with disabilities and women. During the year, the Red Cross of RNM implemented several activities to strengthen the resilience of the population and promote mental health among beneficiaries, employees and volunteers.

Trainings

In 2021, 11 trainings and lectures were held in the field of mental health and psychosocial support. More than 100 volunteers participated and gained basic knowledge on the topics: psychological first aid for a person facing a crisis, psychosocial support to the population in emergency situations, psychological first aid over the phone. The trainings were of interactive character, with simulation exercises but also practical knowledge for the staff and volunteers.

Support for emergency services

In 2021, wild fires occurred in the Eastern part of the Republic of North Macedonia and their extinguishing involved members of the fire service, members of the Ministry of Interior and volunteers from the general population. Conducting an assessment of psycho-social needs and recognizing the need for their support and assistance in the coping process, the Red Cross of RNM in cooperation with the Chamber of Psychologists, on 03.09.2021 realized a total of 5 debriefing sessions for people who participated in firefighting in Kochani, Berovo and Delchevo. 46 people received this type of psychological support. To support the population affected by the crisis, the elderly and people with disabilities, SOS lines were opened for emotional and informational support.

Psychosocial support for evacuated persons

The psychosocial needs of refugees are of particular importance to the Red Cross. They usually arrive from war zones and have experienced various stressful events. The Red Cross of RNM in collaboration with the Chamber of Psychologists in order to improve the psychosocial status of migrants from Afghanistan, organized psychological individual and group sessions held by professionals. Support for them is in the form of weekly meetings, and continues in 2022.

Promotion of the system for PFS and PSS

The Red Cross of RNM on 09.07.2021 held an event to present a concept for establishing a system for delivery of first psychological support and psychosocial support to vulnerable groups and the general population in times of crisis and in peacetime.

The event was attended by the Secretary General of Red Cross of RNM, Sait Saiti, Elizabeta Gjogievaska, wife of the President of RNM, the Minister of Health Venko Filipce, the Deputy Minister for Labor and Social Policy Enver Husejin, representative of the Ministry of Education Dushan Tomshik, representatives of the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Health. The event was also attended by representatives of UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, EU Delegation and the Centre for Social Work, Chamber of Psychologists, the Association of Social Workers, the University Clinic for Psychiatrics and other organizations.

During 2021, the Red Cross worked on the preparation of an action plan for the establishment of an organized system for psychosocial support in disasters and development of new methods based on strong inter-sectorial cooperation among the institutions, families, schools, employers and health workers and other stakeholders within the state.



Психо-социјалната поддршка е емоционална / информациска поддршка која се пружа на лица, или групи на лица. Овие линии се наменети за повозрасни лица и лица со попреченост.

СЕКОЈ ИМА ПОТРЕБА ДА РАЗГОВАРА СО НЕКОЈ.
ЈАВЕТЕ СЕ НА НАШАТА ТЕЛЕФОНСКИ ЛИНИИ:

071/367-909
071/367-981
071/379-119

GOOD PRACTICES

CRC SKOPJE, RCB BITOLA, RCB VELES, RCB GOSTIVAR AND RCB KOCHANI

Telephone lines. The challenges posed by the pandemic were particularly severe for people with disabilities and the elderly as the most vulnerable group to the pandemic. Concerned about their health, away from their families for security reasons, with limited mobility and uncertainty due to different sources of information, they needed support the most. For this purpose, the Red Cross opened 5 telephone lines in May in 5 regions (Bitola, Veles, Gostivar, Skopje and Kochani) in order to support the elderly and people with disabilities. They could call the lines every working day and get reliable information about the pandemic, vaccine information, referral to the necessary legal, medical or other professional help. Flyers were also distributed to promote the service to family doctors and surgeries, and the service was promoted on radio and in guest appearances on morning TV shows. In the period from May to December, there were 783 telephone calls.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The emphasis of the of the Red Cross of RNM disaster preparedness and response activities in 2021 was on providing response and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The activities were organized through the Operations Center of Red Cross of RNM, in the form of planning, provision of humanitarian aid and analysis of information received from RCB/CRC Skopje. Activities were implemented in accordance with the standard operating procedures of the Red Cross of RNM, as well as recommendations from the Government of RNM and IFRC. The Operations Center coordinated activities with state institutions and organizations involved in the crisis management system, and in coordination with the IFRC Regional Office in Budapest and national Red Cross societies in the region.

Forest fires

Natural disasters are a frequent occurrence in RNM. This year RNM was affected by a series of large-scale forest fires in the regions of Delchevo, Kumanovo, Prilep, Kriva Palanka, Radovish, Ohrid, Kochani, Debar, Ship, Kichevo, Skopje, Bitola, Berovo and Pehchevo. In response to this disaster, the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, in August 2021, declared a state of crisis on the entire

territory of RNM. The Center for Crisis Management established a crisis headquarters, composed of representatives who are part of the crisis management system in RNM with the participation of the Red Cross of RNM which operated its activities through RCB with assessment and response teams in the affected regions.

The Red Cross of RNM launched an appeal for raising funds for the affected population, and 2,000,000.00 denars were raised in the solidarity fund. In the first phase, the Red Cross of RNM disaster response teams provided logistical support and first aid to the forces dealing with the fires, and in the second phase, humanitarian aid was provided to the endangered population. The Red Cross of RNM through the IFRC DREF fund mobilized 457,192.48 Swiss francs for forest fire management and procurement of humanitarian aid for the recovery of the vulnerable population affected by forest fires. The entire humanitarian aid operation covered 12,612 people or 4,204 families. Red Cross of RNM organized a basic training for forest fire management with the participation of 30 members of the disaster response teams from RCB/CRC Skopje, who were actively involved in forest fire management.





NATO-SPS practical exercise

The Red Cross of RNM took part in the NATO exercise „North Macedonia 2021“ by participating in the planning process, organizing the exercise and participating with disaster response teams (65 volunteers). The NATO exercise for the first time included the mountain rescue service where the RCB Ohrid, participated in the preparation and implementation of the scenarios, logistics and implementation of the foreseen scenario.

Dealing with the dangers of unexploded ordnance

The Red Cross of RNM participated in a training on Dangers of unexploded ordnance organized by the Faculty of Security - Skopje. The workshop discussed the challenges of dealing with unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices, as well as the ways in which modern technology can be applied in operations to neutralize them. A campaign was conducted to raise awareness on the dangers of unexploded ordnance in Ohrid.

Visit of a delegation of the Turkish Red Crescent

In March 2021. The General Director of the Turkish Red Crescent, Mr. Ibrahim Altan, visited the Red Cross of RNM. The purpose of the visit was to deliver humanitarian aid consisting of 100 wheelchairs, 25 hearing aids and 500 hygiene parcels for the vulnerable population, the COVID Centers in RNM, as well as promotion of the cooperation of the two national societies. The visit resulted in a donation of 50 16.5m2 tents, 250 blankets and 100 mattresses from the Turkish Red Crescent.

Preparedness for effective disaster response

The project is a self-assessment process for selection of strong and weak RCB/CRC Skopje in order to gain experiences and recommendations, analysis of documents in the national society grouped in a logical framework in 37 areas.

The implementation of the envisaged activities is planned to be finalized in 2022, and refer to the update of the SOP for disaster preparedness and capacities of the Red Cross of RNM - module for response to the epidemic, review and analysis of the existing legal framework and all analytical documents that refer to the disaster preparedness and response program.

Project X – STOCK

In 2021, the implementation of the project X - STOCK started, and the main objective is to improve cross-border emergency management in Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia by strengthening cross-border preparedness by joint management of emergency stock reserves. The second partnership meeting within the project X-STOCK was held in Struga in November 2021. The project partners presented in detail the national resources at their disposal, available resources of the national Red Cross societies in the area of human resources, emergency stock reserves as well as infrastructure and logistics, i.e. warehouses, fleet, specialized teams, etc.

Erasmus+, save schools and kindergartens

A final event was organized for the project „Safe Schools and Kindergartens“ where the project results were presented as well as the National Recommendations for Disaster Risk Advocacy, first aid and psychosocial support in case of disasters in educational institutions. The project resulted with European and National recommendations for advocacy for disaster risk reduction, first aid and psychosocial support in case of disasters in educational institutions.

Activities of the Red Cross of RNM in response to COVID-19

In frames of the activities for coping with the consequences of COVID-19, a training was held for educators to promote hygiene and protection from COVID-19. The training was attended by 18 representatives of CRC Skopje and RCB.

Assistance for families affected by the fire in the modular hospital in Tetovo

On September 8, 2021, the modular hospital for COVID patients in Tetovo was affected by a fire in which 15 people tragically lost their lives, patients and people found in the hospital at the time of the fire.

In those difficult moments of loss of loved ones, the RNM Red Cross once again proved its humanity by collecting and providing financial assistance to the families of citizens killed in the fire, for which it immediately launched an appeal for donations from the citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia to contribute a certain amount of funds in the Solidarity Fund of the Red Cross of RNM.

The total amount of raised funds from individuals and legal entities was 3,825,450.00 denars. The collected funds were transferred to the families of the victims.

Assistance for the families of the victims of the traffic accident in Bulgaria

After the horrific tragic accident of the passenger bus in the Republic of Bulgaria on 23.11.2021 in which 45 citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia lost their lives and 7 people were injured, the Red Cross of RNM initiated all humanitarian aid mechanisms to support the injured and families of the victims by offering first psychological support, material and financial support.

Through the launched appeal for donations in the Solidarity Fund of the Red Cross of the RNM, the national society raised 4,807,911.00 denars that were donated by individuals and legal entities. In cooperation with the competent state authorities, the funds were transferred to the families of the dead and injured.



Water safety

Water safety courses in 2021 were organized according to special protocols. Two courses for education of lifeguards for open and closed waters were held and 34 people were trained. The Center for Water Safety in Ohrid engaged 54 lifeguards for the safety of swimmers on Lake Ohrid and the Center for Water Safety in Skopje engaged about 30 lifeguards in the Aqua Park in Skopje and other swimming pools. Also, the Red Cross of RNM participated in the election assembly of ILSE which was held on the ZOOM platform.

Mountain rescue

In the two Mountain Rescue Stations (MRS): Dimitar Bocevski“- Matka and „Dare Bombol“ – Vodno, 222 volunteers were engaged throughout the year. In MRS Vodno during the whole year there were 111 days on duty during weekends and public holidays and the teams intervened 52 times, where 17 injured people, due to the severity of the injuries were sent to the hospital. In MRS Matka, 28 days of duty were realized with 5 interventions of the teams. Outside the regular duty, on 4 occasions the mountain rescue team took part in the search and rescue of 7 missing persons on Vodno Mountain.

GOOD PRACTICES

RED CROSS BRANCH OHRID

The Red Cross Branch Ohrid implemented the second project for mountain rescue, funded by the European Union, through the IPA program for cross-border cooperation with Albania, and procured rescue equipment for winter seasons, which contributed to the successful implementation of a number of rescue operations and assistance.

50 calls were registered on the SOS number 13-112, of which 12 were for injured persons, 25 assists for retrieving stuck vehicles on the mountain Galicica, 2 assists for rescuing pets, and on other calls the teams provided assistance via the SOS line, with providing advices for safe evacuation of persons from the mountains. Also the project enabled conducting trainings for use of the new specialized equipment for rescue in winter conditions, as well as trainings with the army air force WING for action in rescue operations where it is necessary to rescue injured persons by aircraft.



Cash transfer

Within the project „Strengthening the resilience of the elderly and people with disabilities during COVID-19 and future disasters“ supported by the European Union, the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Red Cross, a workshop was held in Struga in the period of 5 to 7 May 2021. The main objective was conducting self-assessment of the national society for using the tool for financial support of the vulnerable population through cash transfer. An action plan for implementation of activities for development of the cash transfer tool has been prepared. An educational workshop was in Belgrade in the period of November 8 to 12, 2021.

The workshop focused on the application of the tool for financial assistance in cash and voucher support. The workshop was attended by representatives of national societies from the region. During the last year, a plan of activities was prepared for the implementation of the process for distribution of cash transfer assistance to 1000 elderly people and persons with disabilities. The target group was mapped in cooperation with the MLSP. The assistance will be realized in the first quarter of 2022.

PROGRAMME FOR SUPPORT OF MIGRANTS

During 2021, The Red Cross of RNM continuously provided support to migrants passing through or staying in RN Macedonia. Key priority activities in this regard were providing medical and humanitarian assistance to migrants and refugees in the reception centers in Tabanovce and Vinojug, as well as reducing the vulnerability of infants, children, mothers, the elderly and people with disabilities. Medical and humanitarian assistance was also provided to irregular migrants and refugees, strengthening of coordinated activities together with all involved government institutions working in the field, early integration and inclusion of asylum seekers and persons under subsidiary protection, distribution of masks, gloves and tools for disinfection to protect against COVID-19 and humanitarian assistance to citizens evacuated from Afghanistan.

The Red Cross provided 24-hour support in the centers in Vinojug and Tabanovce, Kumanovo, with first aid teams and logistics support teams and the border regions with the Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and R. Greece. The team that is engaged in the field consists of 30 people who are divided into 6 teams, namely medical team, logistics team, distribution team and service request team. Medical assistance is provided three times a week for people accommodated in the Reception Center for Foreigners Gazi Baba - Skopje. During the year, a total of 6905 packages and 12 552 hot meals were distributed. 20 cases of family reunification have been realized. In 2021, 13 people are part of the integration program.

Activities with evacuated citizens from Afghanistan:

- Organized English language courses for adults and children (72 people)
- Organized computer course for 47 people
- Organized calligraphy course for 33 people
- Organized Macedonian language course for 17 people
- Organized painting course for 48 people
- Quran recitation classes, organized for 24 people
- A total of 372 transports for medical services were made
- 38 pairs of glasses were purchased on the recommendation of an ophthalmologist
- Therapy was provided to 47 chronic patients on a monthly basis
- 312 interventions were made by Red Cross paramedics
- A children's corner for children in hotels operated every day from 9 am to 5 pm
- Communication room in the hotel (Bellevue and Continental) (17 laptops with internet connection)
- Psychosocial help and support with a psychotherapist 2 times a week for group and individual sessions
- Info - corner of the Red Cross in hotels (3 locations)
- Recreational activities (ZOO, excursions, cinema)



Location	No. of refugees and irregular migrants
Reception Transit Centre Vinojug, Gevgelija	515
Transit Centre Tabanovce, Kumanovo	2257
Mobile team Lojane, Vaksince, Lipkovo	8899
Mobile team Gevgelija (irregular migrants)	5204
Reception Centre for foreigners – Gazi baba, Skopje	235

Location	Provided assistances and interventions
Reception Transit Centre Vinojug, Gevgelija	3544
Transit Centre Tabanovce, Kumanovo	725
Mobile team Lojane, Vaksince, Lipkovo	2451
Reception Centre for foreigners – Gazi baba, Skopje	317

Distribution of water, food and hygiene materials. In the period of January – December 2021, the following support for irregular migrants was provided through the centres:

Water (bottle 0.5l)	49,655
Ready to eat meals	9130
Ready to eat meals	1875
Tooth paste and tooth brush	1101
Soap and towel	1406
Protective masks and disposable gloves	3633

Food parcels	6905
Warm drinks (soup and tea)	3362
Shampoo and wet tissues	881
Blankets	5126
Clothes for adults	509

YOUTH OF THE RED CROSS OF RNM

The youth of the Red Cross of RNM are enthusiastic, ambitious and dedicated young people who invest their capacities, knowledge, skills and free time in fulfilling the mission of the organization and help the people who need support. During 2021, the youth were active actors in the activities for prevention and management of COVID-19 activities of the national society, i.e. in disaster response teams, mobile teams to support the vulnerable population and support the vaccination processes. We round up the past year with over 1,910 active volunteers and about 4,142 members of the youth.

Peer education

Peer education is a process in which well-trained and motivated young people engage in informal or organized educational activities with young people of similar age, attitudes or interests. These are educations where young people pass information to their peers. The Red Cross of RNM peer education system includes a series of activities for preventive action on various topics such as HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, addiction diseases, fight against human trafficking and the like.

Summer camp 100% Red Cross

After a one-year break, the 100% Red Youth Summer Camp was held, which this year was organized in the period from 15-21.7.2021 in the training center Velestovo, Ohrid. The summer camp was attended by 32 representatives from 29 Youth Clubs from RCB/ CRC Skopje. Topics such as: basics of youth work, youth organization, volunteer recruitment, youth club management, planning and development,

new perspectives in youth work and lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic were elaborated at the Summer Camp.

Youth Week

Among the opportunities for recognizing young people for their contribution and participation in the organization within the calendar of traditional activities is the celebration of Youth Week from October 1 to 7, which this year was marked under the motto „Our story continues with you!“ The activities were aimed at affirming the youth participation, promoting the opportunities offered by the Youth Clubs as well as recruiting new youth in the organization. The youth clubs of RCB and CRC Skopje organized a series of field activities during the month of October.

Program for strengthening and unifying the work of the Youth Clubs

During 2021, the pilot phase of the Program for strengthening and unifying the work of the Youth Clubs started, which aims through a mentoring system to help in the process of volunteer management and better realization of the Red Cross mission by meeting minimum conditions for a successful youth club.

Within the program, 10 young people were engaged in the role of process facilitators in 10 Youth Clubs on the territory of RNM. The program generally contributed to the development of skills and habits for proper management in Youth Clubs, increasing the motivation of young people and strengthening the processes of planning and delivery of services.

Topic	Total	Participants
Prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI's	74	2770
Prevention of addiction diseases	63	3877
Fight against human trafficking	70	1462
Hygiene promotion	64	1170
First aid	109	1338
Dental care	32	690
TOTAL	412	11307



Youth Week in numbers:

- 26 Youth Clubs from RCB and CRC Skopje took part in the activities
- 11 guest appearances on radio and television shows
- 15 videos were recorded
- 7 articles were published in local electronic media
- 3 sports events were organized
- 18 promotional stands
- 13 murals / graffiti painted
- 355 volunteers from the Youth Clubs were involved
- over 250 potential young volunteers were recruited

RED CROSS IN ACTION – PROMOTION OF HUMAN VALUES

The program in 2021 had to be reorganized due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the inability of young people to work in teams to protect their health. Starting from January 21, one-hour online trainings for existing and potential volunteers throughout the country were realized once a week. In this way, the young people had the opportunity to strengthen their capacities in different areas and to encourage their desire for self-learning and research in areas of interest. The trainings were conducted by RCA-PHV instructors on topics such as teamwork, presentation skills, and career counseling for work and university selection for study, community support, artificial intelligence, ecosystem and many other interesting things.

A total of 39 workshops were held in 2021, attended by 3,436 young people, or an average of about 88

young people per workshop. For greater motivation of the PHV instructors, the book „My PHV corona story“ was published, in which a written story was published by each instructor, in terms of how they dealt with the situation during the corona pandemic. 30 PHV songs were recorded during the PHV Week in the period of September 21-27 and a CD was made which was distributed to each RCB, and the songs were posted on the PHV YouTube channel to be shared with a wider audience.

The promotion of the CD „For all of us“ took place on December 5 at the event organized by the Red Cross of RNM on the occasion of International Volunteer Day. In the framework of PHV Week in 2021, more than 40 table games and electronic games were made that are used in the Red Cross branches in the Youth Clubs and in the dissemination departments.



39

workshops

3.436

youth representatives that
attended RCA-PHV workshops



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Trust and communications

We have witnessed a time when it was important to provide clear, consistent and reliable health information that was crucial to ensuring safe and effective communication with the population. The Red Cross of RNM has invested great efforts in timely communication and transmission of messages that have contributed to the protection and prevention of the population from COVID-19. We did this through our traditional forms of direct communication with users but also by incorporating sophisticated forms of communication through social and digital media.

But in order to trust our messages, one must also trust the one who conveys the messages. The contribution and engagement of the Red Cross of RNM over the past year gives us the right to believe that our reputation in the local communities is even greater. Trust in us allows us to be even more efficient.

E - Newsletter "Info"

The weekly editions of the electronic newsletter of the Red Cross represent a successful tool for informing our volunteers, partners, collaborators about the activities we carry out at local, national and international level. In 2021, 106 issues of the e-newsletter "Info" were prepared with a total of 1,198 articles published. The newsletter was distributed to 84,232 e-mail addresses.

Visibility Fund

With assets from the Visibility Fund the Red Cross provided uniforms for the RCB and CRC Skopje for implementation of field activities.

Publications

The traditional weeks defined with the Law on Red Cross, as well as a number of project activities and strategic documents within the publishing activity of the national society this year were regularly supplemented with brochures, flyers, posters, manuals, post stamps and other publications. Carrying the humanitarian messages, significant results were achieved among the target groups, and at the same time it had a positive impact on raising the image of the national society. All editions are prepared in Macedonian and Albanian, and some of them in English language.

Cooperation with the media

20 press releases were developed for the media and there were numerous public appearances in the media, for promotion of the activities of the Red Cross of RNM.

Social networks of the Red Cross of RNM

The redesigned web page and Facebook and Instagram enabled space for posting different information for different categories of visitors. The volunteers and other citizens visited the pages on regular basis in order to obtain information about Red Cross events, places for donation and possibilities for inclusion in the activities of the organization.

106

No. of issues of the e-newsletter in 2021

1.198

RCRNM/RCB/CRC Skopje articles in the e-newsletter

84.232

No. of persons that received the e-newsletter on weekly basis



DISSEMINATION AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

Dissemination sessions

In the field of dissemination, RCB and CRC Skopje undertook a series of activities to disseminate knowledge about the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the values of the organization and the basics of International Humanitarian Law. During 2021, a total of 269 dissemination sessions were organized, covering about 6.845 people.

Marking May 8th

The World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day - May 8 and the Week of the Red Cross of RNM (May 8-15) were marked under the motto: #IUNSTOPABLE. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement marks this day in honor of Anyr Dunant, the Movement's founder, who was born on May 8, 1828. On this day, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world conduct activities for raising awareness on the importance of the fundamental principles and values, in order to recruit new members and volunteers in the Movement and to recognize and thank our partners for the support they provide to the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The President of the Red Cross of RNM Prof. Dr. Romel Veleв in a video address stated that the motto featured the Movement's efforts in response to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Everything the volunteers and the staff did was to help people cope better with the pandemic.

Advanced dissemination training

Training for disseminators for advanced dissemination was organized in the period from 9 to 11 June 2021, in order to improve the dissemination system of the National Society. 15 disseminators were trained who gained knowledge and skills for representing the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement with emphasis on the Red Cross of RNM through dissemination modules for institutions, media and potential donors and partners in the corporate sector. The training was supported by the ICRC.

Campaign for promotion of the work and the role of the Red Cross of RNM

In October, The Red Cross of RNM, with the support of the ICRC, launched a campaign to promote the work and role of the national society in front of local institutions. The campaign covered three aspects: organizing meetings with RCB representatives and representatives of local institutions, dissemination sessions for partner institutions and creating promotional materials for dissemination. The first phase of the campaign included 5 RCB (Ohrid, Kichevo, Bitola, Negotino and Veles). In accordance with the guidelines and the plan for implementation of the campaign, 18 dissemination sessions were organized in November for 188 employees from 18 institutions who participated in the initiated meetings.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

In 2021, we continued our commitment to openness and sharing information with citizens and partners and their involvement in key decisions and projects that have an impact on the wider community and offer opportunities to engage in Red Cross activities in the communities. We have invested in approaches to improve our work, to be more effective, to learn and gain new knowledge about vulnerability and finding solutions through the advancement of digital technologies and means of communication. We have worked hard to incorporate new technologies and digital practices to enable the rapid flow of information, the use of collective knowledge and the advancement of communication skills in order to be able to use the full potential of our network and provide access to information about our supporters, partners and beneficiaries.

Coordination and communication

As a result of the pandemic, The Red Cross of RNM made an impressive breakthrough in adapting to the new work reality that required virtual coordination and management of activities and provision of its services. We used a variety of platforms, and digital systems for volunteer engagement and training, and coordination. Remote operation has become the norm along with providing support and tackling the challenges people face. We participated and organized virtual workshops, webinars, conferences and workshops. The digital transformation has been widely accepted, teaching us what can be achieved virtually, but also what we still need to do in direct contact with our service beneficiaries. For us, of course, this will remain a challenge to continue to develop this system of work in the years ahead and to make sure that the benefits of digital transformation are incorporated into everyday work even when things return to normal.

In terms of digital transformation, in the past year our work was marked by the following activities:

Red Cross of RNM software application

Through a tailor-made software application of the Red Cross of RNM, the data of RCB/CRC Skopje regarding the registration of volunteers, members, blood donors and employees in the organization at national and local level has been continuously processed in the past few years. Also, the software enables fast flow of information in the area of program and financial planning and reporting. In 2022, the national company plans to review and upgrade the application in order to ensure an even better flow of information that will ensure better functionality and efficiency in the work of the national company in providing comprehensive services to end users.

Red Cross of RNM software for first aid courses

The new software developed by the national society is a centralized system of records to ensure greater visibility and security of the database, electronic verification of candidates' knowledge and electronic records of passed candidates.

Mobile application for donations - „SOLIDARITY“

Funds intended for positive changes in the communities can be donated through the established application. The donation site offers the opportunity through fast and efficient access, individuals and legal entities to donate and provide support in the efforts undertaken by the Red Cross to respond and influence in addressing issues such as the fight against poverty, hunger, health promotion, progress in education. The site is available in three languages - Macedonian, Albanian and English. <https://solidarnost.redcross.org.mk/>



Team North Macedonia - mobile application for rapid recruitment and management of volunteers

Mobile application for fast mobilization and management of volunteers. During 2021, a tool has been prepared for rapid mobilization and management of volunteers who are interested in supporting the activities of the Red Cross of RNM in case of emergencies and disasters. By using the mobile application „Team North Macedonia“ any interested person can easily access the Red Cross, apply and attend appropriate training for field activities and become part of the list of potential volunteers who would be available to engage in activities in case of need.

The application enables fast mobilization of persons with the necessary competencies or those who are closest to the place where the volunteer task would be performed, and during the year the application can be used as an information tool about the current work. During 2021, trainings were held with the responsible persons for work with volunteers in case of disasters and emergencies.

NIKS platform

Red Cross of RNM participated with its representative in the Support Group for implementation of the NIKS application in RNM for incorporating the activities of the national society in the application. In 2021, the cycle of trainings for using the application was completed, in which representatives from RCB / CRC Skopje also participated.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2021

The financial report of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia presents the planned and realized income and expenditures of the organization and serves as a confirmation for the successful implementation of the programme and project activities supported by national and international partners of the organization.

The operation of the organization presented through the financial data shows successfully finished year with 204,94% realization of the Budget compared to 2020 when this figure amounted to 194,96%, as a result of the implementation of the Amendments to the Red Cross Law, on basis of which the fee for registration of vehicles on the territory of the RNM are transferred to the HQ of the Red Cross of RNM and are further distributed to the Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje, as well as the increased project support from foreign donors.

The total realized own income amounts to 86,64% and participates with 16.16% in the overall realized income. The realized income from organs and donors are earmarked funds and most of the funds are transferred directly to the Red Cross branches, for implementation of project activities. This income amounts to 278.18% and it is increased compared to 2020 when it amounted to 228,97%. The income is increased as a result of the funded projects for provision of support in response to COVID-19, the projects for older people supported by the European Union and the projects for support of the population affected by the fires in the country, and the projects for support of migrants transiting through the Republic of North Macedonia. This funds amount to 83.84% of the overall realized income in 2021.

In the area of expenditures, it can be seen that the expenses are controlled and targeted for programme activities, in compliance with the basic objectives of the organization. 85,87% of the total realized expenditures are functional programme expenditures and they are increased in nominal value compared to the previous year. The expenditures for salaries of staff amount to 7.05% and the material expenditures amount to 7.07%.

12,29% of the total expenditures were targeted for the needs of the HQ and 47.14% of the expenditures are direct transfers to the Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje and these costs in nominal value are increased compared to the last year as a result of the Amendments to the Red Cross Law and the implementation of project activities. The remaining 40.57% of the funds were spent by the HQ for direct implementation of programme activities of the RC branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje.

Some of the surplus of funds, that is, the positive difference between income and expenditures is for projects which will continue to be implemented in 2022.

The Governing Board of the Red Cross of RNM formed a commission which conducted internal audit on the financial and material operation of the organization. Also, an independent auditing company was hired which conducted external audit in compliance with the Law on Audit and the international standards for financial reporting and accounting regulations which are in force in the Republic of North Macedonia. The auditing company stated that the presented financial results of the Red Cross of RNM are realistic and objective.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2021

	Budget 2021	Realized 2021%	%
TOTAL INCOME	124,239,157.00	254,620,810.00	204.94
Own sources of income	47,504,800.00	41,158,599.00	86.64
Income from organs/donors	76,734,357.00	213,462,211.00	278.18
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	124,239,157.00	190,989,016.00	153.73
Salaries and contributions for staff	16,732,800.00	13,472,392.00	80.51
Expenditures for materials and services	12,927,212.00	13,511,300.00	104.52
Functional (programme) expenditures	94,579,145.00	164,005,324.00	173.41
BALANCE	0.00	63,631,794.00	

INCOME

DESCRIPTION	Own sources of income	Income from organs/donors	Budget 2021	Realized from own sources	Realized from organs/donors	Realized in 2021	%
74 TRANSFERS AND DONATIONS							
741 Ministry of Labour and Social Policy							
- programme activities	9,075,000.00		9,075,000.00	6,000,000.00		6,000,000.00	66.12
741 Blood donation (Ministry of Health)		8,000,000.00	8,000,000.00		10,002,644.00	10,002,644.00	125.03
742 Social humanitarian programmes	2,000,000.00	3,300,000.00	5,300,000.00	1,807,400.00	35,078,085.00	36,885,485.00	695.95
742 Organizational development	200,000.00		200,000.00			0.00	100.00
Fund for development and projects	1,728,000.00		1,728,000.00	140,070.00			100.00
5% for procurement and software development and equipment	297,000.00		297,000.00				100.00
742 First Aid	5,500,000.00		5,500,000.00	6,939,020.00		6,939,020.00	126.16
742 Health preventive programmes		4,012,794.00	4,012,794.00	398,500.00	21,179,297.00	21,577,797.00	537.73
742 Development and work with youth	450,000.00		450,000.00				100.00
742 Disaster preparedness and response		11,229,254.00	11,229,254.00	2,755,189.00	33,176,795.00	35,931,984.00	319.99
742 Disaster Relief Fund	1,728,000.00		1,728,000.00				0.00
742 10% for programme activities for disasters preparedness	594,000.00		594,000.00				0.00
742 Dissemination and IHL		152,400.00	152,400.00				0.00
742 RCA-PHV			0.00				0.00
742 Public relations			0.00				0.00
742 Visibility fund	1,404,000.00		1,404,000.00				
742 Tracing service		589,909.00	589,909.00		666,332.00	666,332.00	0.00
742 Project operation and Mobilization of funds	3,690,000.00		3,690,000.00				0.00
742 Human resources, monitoring and evaluation			0.00				0.00
742 Creations of policies and management of volunteers and members		250,000.00	250,000.00				0.00
72 UNTAXED INCOME							
725 From RC branches (cotization fee)	1,770,000.00		1,770,000.00	2,118,042.00		2,118,042.00	119.66
725 Donations from natural persons	200,000.00		200,000.00	29,940.00		0.00	0.00
725 Donations from legal persons (sale of vehicles)	600,000.00		600,000.00			0.00	0.00
725 Additional post stamps (RC Law)	100,000.00		100,000.00	29,940.00		29,940.00	29.94
723 From rent of office space / other income/ / income from sale of capital assets	1,918,800.00		1,918,800.00	1,031,939.00		1,031,939.00	53.78
725 From registration of vehicle (RC Law)	10,800,000.00	49,200,000.00	60,000,000.00	12,694,497.00	57,830,488.00	70,524,985.00	100.00
725 Other income/income from rent/ income from membership/ refund of office materials/ returned bank deposit			0.00	7,230,002.00		2,536,291.00	100.00
725 Solidarity Fund			0.00		6,054,243.00	6,054,243.00	100.00
725 From courses for lifeguards	50,000.00			14,000.00			
725 Balance brought forward from the previous year	5,400,000.00		5,400,000.00		42,255,129.00	42,255,129.00	100.00
TOTAL INCOME	47,504,800.00	76,734,357.00	124,239,157.00	41,158,599.00	213,462,211.00	254,620,810.00	204.94

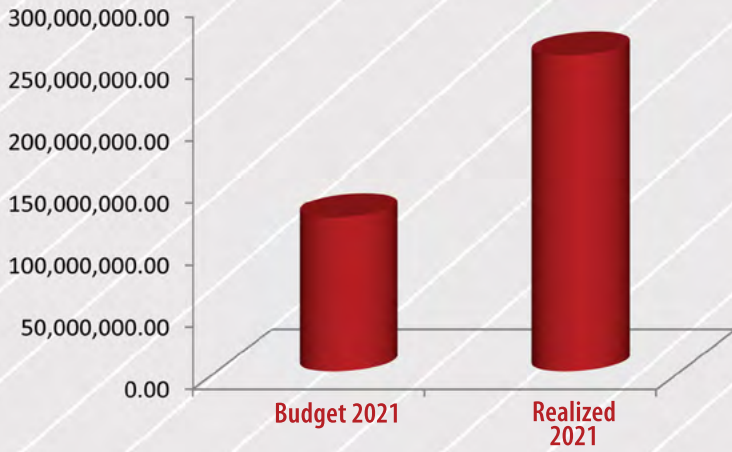
EXPENDITURES

DESCRIPTION	Own sources of income	Income from organs/donors	Budget 2021	Realized from own sources	Realized from organs/donors	Realized in 2021	%
401 BASIC SALARIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS	14,401,176.00	1,007,488.00	14,512,000.00	9,223,547.00	3,071,539.00	12,295,086.00	84.72
402 CONTRIBUTIONS ON SALARIES AND PERSONAL TAX				410,135.00		410,135.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR SALARIES	14,401,176.00	2,331,624.00	16,732,800.00	9,573,224.00	3,899,168.00	13,472,392.00	80.51
420 TRAVEL AND DAILY EXPENDITURES	250,000.00	0.00	250,000.00	161,423.00	381,504.00	542,927.00	217.17
421 COMMUNAL FEES	798,000.00	0.00	798,000.00	1,058,085.00	117,878.00	1,175,963.00	147.36
422 HEATING	480,000.00	0.00	480,000.00	408,389.00	0.00	408,389.00	85.08
423 COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT	1,679,000.00	0.00	1,679,000.00	1,969,113.00	1,591,236.00	3,560,349.00	212.05
423 MATERIALS	2,354,000.00	2,023,000.00	4,377,000.00	5,160,759.00	4,967,347.00	10,128,106.00	231.39
424 RUNNING MAINTENANCE	966,000.00	0.00	966,000.00	851,891.00	581,808.00	1,433,699.00	148.42
425 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	8,573,512.00	11,261,763.00	19,835,275.00	3,460,400.00	19,798,614.00	23,259,014.00	117.26
426 OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES	100,000.00	50,000.00	150,000.00	5,620.00	45,842.00	51,462.00	34.31
463 TRANSFERS TO NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS	4,282,000.00	64,950,382.00	69,232,382.00	0.00	90,038,156.00	90,038,156.00	130.05
TOTAL RUNNING EXPENDITURES	19,482,512.00	78,285,145.00	97,767,657.00	13,075,680.00	117,522,385.00	130,598,065.00	133.58
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
483 PROCUREMENT OF FURNITURE AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT	86,400.00	600,000.00	666,400.00	2,432,003.00	2,552,685.00	4,984,688.00	726.21
483 PROCUREMENT OF VEHICLES		3,690,000.00	3,690,000.00	0.00	3,142,530.00	3,142,530.00	85.16
481 BASIC AND SPECIAL MAINTENANCE	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	0.00	84,000.00	84,000.00	84.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	186,400.00	4,290,000.00	4,476,400.00	2,432,003.00	5,779,215.00	8,211,218.00	183.43
TOTAL DONATIONS AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSISTANCE, DONATIONS AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	1,186,800.00	4,075,000.00	5,262,300.00	20,000.00	38,687,341.00	38,707,341.00	735.56
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	35,256,888.00	88,982,269.00	124,239,157.00	25,100,907.00	165,888,109.00	190,989,016.00	153.73

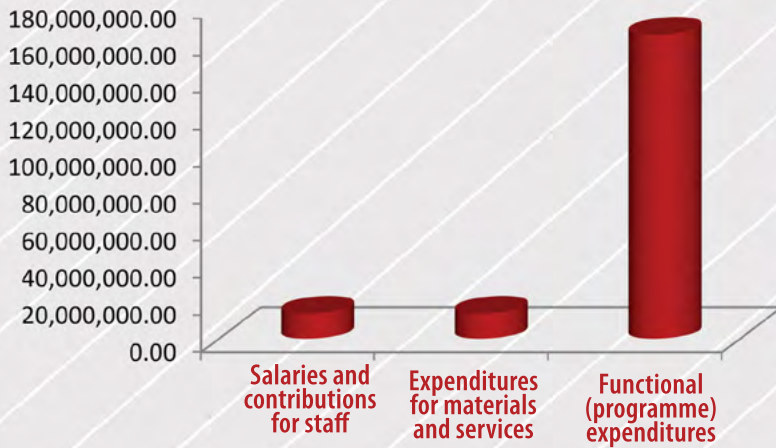
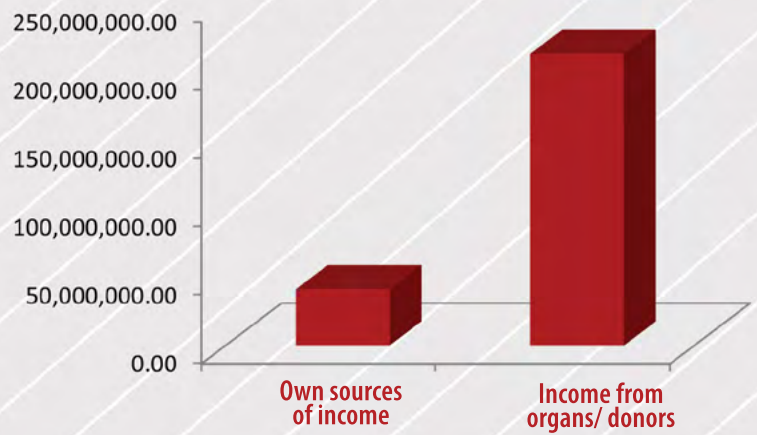
Finance Department and revision
Zaklina Popovich

Secretary General
PhD. Sait Saiti

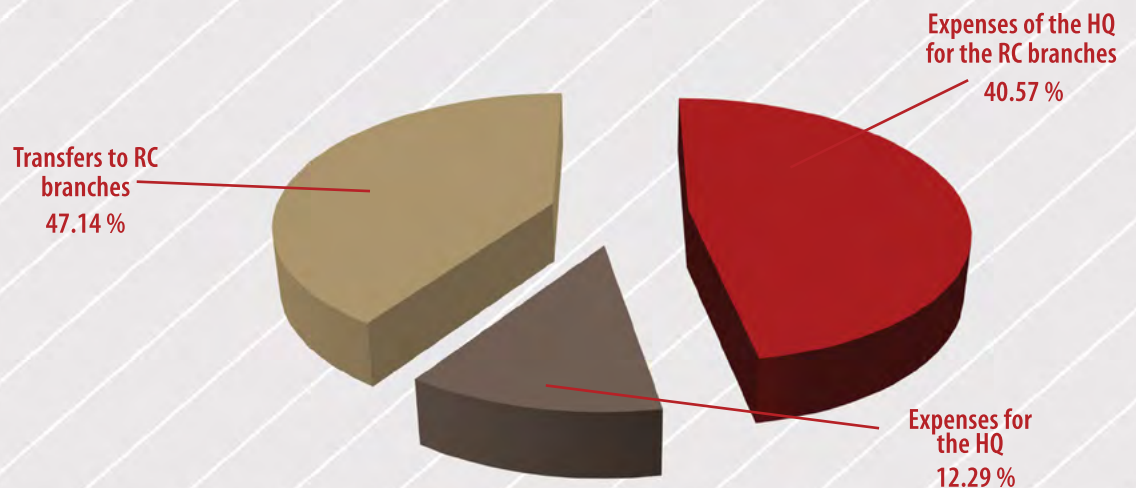
		%
Transfers to RC branches	90,038,156.00	47.14
Expenses of the HQ	23,466,028.00	12.29
Expenses of the HQ for the RC branches	77,484,832.00	40.57
	190,989,016.00	100.00



**REALIZED
TOTAL INCOME 2021**



**REALIZED
TOTAL EXPENDITURES 2021**





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1000 Skopje
Republic of North Macedonia

To:
The Management of
RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
SKOPJE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of "RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA" give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Organization as of 31 December 2021, as well as the operating results and the changes in the funds for the year than ended, in accordance with the Accounting Law for Non-profit Organizations and standards for reporting under the cash basis of accounting.

Skopje, 10 March 2022

Certified Auditor, Managing Partner

Dragan Dimitrov



KORISTENI KRATENKI

Црвен крст на Република Северна Македонија - **Црвен крст на РСМ**

Република Северна Македонија - **РСМ**

Општинска организација на Црвен крст - **ООЦК**

Црвен крст на град Скопје - **ЦКГ Скопје**

Меѓународна Федерација на друштва на Црвен крст и Црвена полумесечина - **МОЦК/ЦП**

Меѓународен Комитет на Црвен крст - **МКЦК**

Светска здравствена организација - **СЗО**

Европска унија - **ЕУ**

Министерство за труд и социјална политика - **МТСП**

Црвен крст во акција - Промоција на хумани вредности - **ЦКА-ПХВ**

SHKURTESA TË PËRDORURA

Kryqi i Kuq i Republikës së Maqedonisë së Veriut - **Kryqi i Kuq i RMV**

Republika e Maqedonisë së Veriut - **RMV**

Organizata Komunale e Kryqit të Kuq - **OKKK**

Kryqi i Kuq i qytetit të Shkupit - **KKQ Shkup**

Federata Ndërkombëtare e Kryqit të Kuq dhe Gjysmëhëna e Kuqe - **Federata Ndërkombëtare e KK/GJHK**

Komiteti Ndërkombëtar i Kryqit të Kuq - **KNKK**

Organizata Botërore e Shëndetësisë - **OBSH**

Unioni Europian - **UE**

Ministria për Punë dhe Politikë Sociale - **MPPS**

Kryqi i Kuq ne aksion - Promovim i vlerave humane - **KKA-PVH**

ABBREVIATIONS

Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia - **Red Cross of RNM**

Republic of North Macedonia - **RNM**

Red Cross Branch - **RCB**

City Red Cross of Skopje - **CRC Skopje**

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - **IFRC**

International Committee of the Red Cross - **ICRC**

World Health Organization - **WHO**

European Union - **EU**

Ministry of Labor and Social Policy- **MLSP**

Red Cross in Action - Promotion of Human Values - **RCA-PHV**

www.redcross.org.mk