

Annual Report

2001

Polish Humanitarian Organization Foundation

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The greatest accomplishments in 2001

Flood in Poland – providing assistance and investing in the future

The greatest challenge for the PHO in 2001 was flood in Poland. The scope of the tragedy and the expectations and hopes that Polish society has placed on the organization required effective and efficient emergency response. PHO because of its limited capability paid a lot of attention to develop new methods to improve the overall assistance to the emergency in Poland. These were: Internet database which made co-ordination of the response of different actors much easier, sharing the know – how with the local governments and other institutions and developing long term co-operation with key public institutions responsible for which would improve the effectiveness of the response in the future.

Flood in Siberia – Polish society trusts PHO

In 2001 there was also a flood in Siberia. Polish Humanitarian Organization began its response after a clear demand from the Polish public – many individuals called PHO or have written letters asking the organization to do something about it. For PHO it was a positive signal. Since the beginning of its existence the organization tried to influence Polish public to become sensitive to the needs of people in other countries. Public response to the flood in Siberia not only demonstrates the maturity of Polish society but also the trust it places in the PHO.

Kosovo Field Mission – Strengthening local communities and reconciliation between the Serbs and Albanians.

The year 2001 was also a year when the two PHO Field Missions: one in Kosovo, one in Chechnya became fully stable. The activities undertaken in 2000, when the Missions have been opened have been continued and new activities have been developed. In Kosovo the main attention has been paid to strengthen community ties and guarantee the future development and this is why a lot of attention has been paid to cultural activities, sport activities and education. PHO also worked on the reconciliation of the Serbian and Albanian communities. The greatest success of the mission was a basketball match, where Serbian and Albanian teams met for the very first time playing a game.

Chechnya Field Mission – working with UN Agencies and Local staff to fulfill basic needs and ensure future development

The PHO Field Mission in Chechnya has undertaken new programs: Potable Water Distribution and Sanitation. The programs have answered the most pressing needs of the inhabitants of Grozny. The strength of PHO programs in Chechnya is large proportion of local staff. They do not only gain a source of income but also participate in decision making the programs more suitable to local needs. They also gain know-how – an investment can be used after PHO withdraws from there. PHO also strengthened its co-operation with UN Agencies especially UNICEF and international organizations.

First „click to donate” web site in Poland www.pajacyk.pl serves the Wooden Puppet Campaign

The Wooden Puppet Webpage is the first one of that kind in Poland. By clicking in the Wooden Puppet belly, a person activates a small part of donation of a sponsor, whose banner appears on the screen. The money is used to finance a supplementary feeding program for children from the poorest regions in Poland. The web site has reached enormous popularity not only fundraising for Wooden Puppet but also promoting the campaign and encouraging individuals to do something more than just click. An important positive “side effect” of the web site was that other NGOs in Poland have replicated the idea to promote and fundraise for their own programs.

Refugee Counseling Center – four years work with government brings results

The Refugee Counseling Center in the year 2001 has delegated a part of the integration program related to housing to the state institutions. This is a result of a four years work with the government on improving the refugee procedure and co-ordination of the work of all the actors in Poland that deal with refugees.

Humanitarian Education Program – finding new ways of involving the Youth

Humanitarian Education Program has undertaken a new project “We are helping in English” Web site. The web site is an innovative project that combines English language learning with humanitarian themes, increasing the attractiveness of humanitarian ideas to Young people in Poland. The web site will be available to the public in 2002.

PHO has new publications – Humanitarianism and Repatriates’ handbook.

The books have been written and published by the PHO. The first one is a collection of lesson scenarios that can be used both by the teachers and the students in the framework of Humanitarian Education Program. The second book help Polish repatriates from former Soviet Union understand the realities of present- day Poland, includes information on their rights and aid their integration to main stream society.

Fundraising: from donors to partners

The Fundraising department has improved their methods of working with companies and undertook partnership programs. The example of such partnership in Let's bring the joy back, a projects in the framework of flood in Poland Assistance run by PHO, Coca-Cola Company and Gruner and Jahr publisher. In this project all partners take active part in the decision-making shaping and developing the assistance.

The structure of this report

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Chapter 1

General information about the PHO Foundation

Name of organization:	Polish Humanitarian Organization
Address:	Szpitalna Street 5/3, 00-031 Warsaw
Tel/ Fax:	(0.22) 828 90 86, 831 99 38, 828 88 82
e-mail:	pah@pah.ngo.pl
Internet site:	www.pah.ngo.pl
PHO Bank and account number:	BPH PBK IV Branch in Warsaw 11101109-401100001906
PHO Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council of Sponsors• Board of Directors• Auditing Commission
Registration date and number:	December 20 1994, Warsaw, Regional Court for City of Warsaw, XXI Commercial Court - Commercial Registration Department Registration transcript no 4443
REGON (Head Office for Commercial and Institutional Statistics) NR:	010849302
Board of Directors:	President: Janina Ochojska, Board Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Włodzimierz Sarna• Grzegorz Gruca• Agnieszka Marcinkowska• Aleksandra Rezunow

The PHO mission

The mission of Polish Humanitarian Organization is to help victims of war and natural disasters as well as victims of structural poverty both abroad and in Poland, and to assist refugees coming to our country. PHO organizes and supports initiatives that contribute to the development of an open and responsible society, which is capable of helping itself and others.

Polish Humanitarian Organization:

- provides aid to the victims of war and natural disasters, children in the poverty stricken regions
- runs a Refugee Counselling Center
- promotes ideas of humanitarianism and tolerance through the Humanitarian Education Program

Organizational Structure - regional offices

- 90-423 Lodz, Piotrkowska Street 85, tel. 630 34 28; tel./fax 630 34 27
- 87-100 Torun, Wielkie Garbary Street 2, tel./fax 652 13 74
- 31-010 Kraków, Rynek Główny 29, tel./fax 421 5771, fax. 422 08 19

Remuneration:

1. Average annual number of posts: 32,8 (32,65 employees)
2. Gross remuneration: 246,501.04 USD¹
3. Expenditures on commissioned contracts: 37,681.24
4. PHO employees received no additional financial awards, bonuses nor any such like in year 2001.
5. PHO Board of Governors members receive no remuneration in virtue of their work for the PHO.

Additional Financial Information:

1. PHO conducts no economic activity
2. Bank deposit as for December 31 2001: 842,075.26 USD in PBK, IV Branch in Warsaw
3. Purchase costs of capital assets in year 2000: 12,061.01 USD

¹ 1 USD = 3.97 PLN

4. Value of foundation assets: 2,078,101.09 USD

EMPLOYEES

Warsaw Office

President
Managing Director
2 employees - secretarial staff
6 employees - PHO missions
1 employee - Flooding in Poland 2001
2 employees – fundraising
6 employees - Refugee Assistance Center
2 employees - Humanitarian Education Program
2 employee - PR
1 employee – East Department
1 employee - Polish Hunger Site
2 employees – storehouse
4 employees - accountancy

Lodz Office

2 employees - Program Officers
4 employees - PHO Day Care Center

Torun Office

4 employees - Program Officers

Krakow Office

1 employee - administration
3 employees - Program Officers

Chapter 2

Humanitarian assistance: Helping victims of natural disasters

In this chapter reports on the assistance provided to the victims of flood in Poland, Siberia and Ukraine can be found as well as report on the assistance to victims of the earthquake in India.

Assistance to flood victims in Poland

In July and August 2001, as a result of torrential rains, 6 voivodships in Poland suffered from floods. Hundreds of families found themselves without a roof over their heads.

PHO immediately came forward with relief for those affected, through:

- providing information
- organizing immediate relief
- assistance in house construction, reconstruction and fit out
- assistance to children

1. First stage of the assistance program - relief actions

Jointly with Klon/Jawor Association, on 27 July PHO launched a database in the Internet for exchange of data on needs, shipments and planned relief at www.powodz.ngo.pl. The service included information about 2,905 assistance points for flood victims (collection and distribution of aid, etc.). By end of September 2001 39,290 users had visited the site. Moreover, 214 news items were posted at www.ngo.pl/wiadomosci between July and August 2001

Immediate relief – shipments of most essential goods directed to local governments and Social Welfare Centers in areas affected by floods. Next, communes and Social Welfare Centers distributed the aid among citizens. Between 12 July and 8 November 2001 PHO sent 102 shipments, 1,129 .5 tons, valued 931,622.15 USD, to 49 villages and communes. 155 collections of money organized by the PHO added up to 82,084.43 USD

The Flood Relief Program included the following projects:

- The grant from HELP Foundation (80,122.60 USD) financed 1000 household hygiene kits for families from 4 municipalities.
- The grant from the US Embassy (26,379.37 USD) financed 572 kitchen kits (pottery) for families in 4 gminas

Over 300 volunteers supported the Flood Relief Program. In the Warsaw PHO office 2 volunteers were running the program.

2. Second stage of the assistance - long term measures

“Before the Winter comes”: It is a joint initiative with Gazeta Wyborcza (the largest daily in Poland), whereby PHO helps in construction, purchase and refurbishment of houses and flats, including provision of furniture and domestic goods. The campaign has been going on since August 2001 and will last until April 2002; covering 343 families in 20 localities in 6 voivodships. Overall, nearly 1 300 000 USD will be spent for reconstruction

Based on the agreement between the PHO and Gazeta Wyborcza, the PHO continued collect the data the flood-affected areas. The program “Before the Winter Comes” is an effect of this. Its aim is to restore homes to the largest number of flood victims.

Selection criteria for families granted assistance at renovating and building new homes: At selection of families the PHO was guided by interviews conducted at Social Welfare Centers and with local authorities, as well as its own understanding of the situation. In all communities covered, PHO employees and voluntaries visited the affected families on multiple occasions. As a result, 142 families were selected for house construction/reconstruction program (the remaining 201 families received domestic goods donated to PHO by companies).

The house-rebuilding project has been directed to 25 families. They were selected according to material

situation of the family and the fact if it had children. Elderly and single persons, in need of a new place to live were offered the purchase of new flats (11 were purchased). One small house was purchased as an exemption. If a flooded flat or house was suited for refurbishing, then the PHO granted construction and finish materials. The PHO also sponsored the execution of the refurbishment for the elderly single people.

Rebuilding homes for the flood victims: The PHO employed one construction specialist to coordinate the house-rebuilding project. 20 projects of houses were donated to the PHO by Archon. These houses were built partly from prefabricated elements. Local companies produced the foundations and the roofs. The project as for December 2001:

- 14 houses build and commissioned
- 12 flats and houses bought
- 12 houses under construction
- 95 refurbishment's completed

Up to the end of March, 184 washing machines and 185 refrigerators, worth 105,311.34 USD, were handed over to flood victims. These items were donated to the PHO by commercial enterprises (Polar and Whirlpool) The house construction, purchase and repair program in 2001 cost 881,307.72 USD

“Let's bring joy back”: This was a program uniting the PHO, Coca-Cola and the “Gala” and “Naj” magazines (Gruner &Jahr) supporting schools and children aged 7-14 in the flood affected regions of southern Poland. The program included the following components:

- handing over 2 school buses to local authorities amounting to 64,693.90 USD
- handing over sport kits for students in 2 schools worth 7,301 USD
- handing over sport equipment to 4 schools worth 7,948.60 USD
- 988 children from 5 schools received daily for 1 semester fruit juice with vitamins.
- 1 008 children from 11 schools received Christmas presents worth 12,727.10 USD
- 155 children from 3 schools participated in sponsored field-trips

Flood aid expenses: Up to 31.12.2001 the PHO income on its flood relief account amounted 1,690,373.80 USD The total cost of the Flood Relief Program carried out by PHO in cooperation with “Gazeta Wyborcza” (Poland's largest newspaper) amounted to 1,145,165 USD. The total cost of the “Let's bring back joy” program amounted to 87,789.29 USD

Who supported flood aid: Many people and companies supported the flood relief program. 8021 persons donated money to PHO account.

Assistance to flood victims in Ukraine

February 2001 severe flooding affected border regions of Ukraine and Hungary. PHO participated in a humanitarian aid convoy organized by the National Rescue and Civic Protection Center. 12 tons of donations worth 13 850 USD were provided (cleaning supplies, blankets, water buckets). PHO convoy reached Uzgorod (Ukraine)

Aid for the victims of the flood in Siberia.

After the 2001 flood in Siberia, PHO arranged support for 82 victims of the flood in Russia. A representative of the PHO visited affected families.

- 67 families received tool kits (valued at 150 USD each) for the reconstruction of their houses (electric and combustion engine sawing machines, drillers, water pumps.)
- 12 families received building materials (cement, beams, boards, roofing, floor panels, paints) and tools valued at 400 USD,
- an elderly woman had her house refurbished (500 USD)
- a new house was purchased for a family of six whose house had been devastated (680USD)
- purchase of a new house to another family was co-financed by a transfer worth 500 USD.

Aid for the victims of the earthquake in India.

Following the earthquake in India PHO has made an appeal for joining the relief fundraising. After the fact-finding mission, PHO decided to support aid for the Jamnagar Region, which is where 500 Polish children found shelter during World War II. Jamnagar's most urgent need was reconstruction of the 28-km water supply system and the water tower.

Under the agreement of August 20, 2001 between the City of Jamnagar and PHO, the latter one has transferred the amount of USD 24,000 for the reconstruction of Jamnagar's water supply system. On August 19, 2001, the wife of the Polish Ambassador to India - Mrs Alicja Albrecht-Mroziewicz laid the foundation stone.

Chapter 3

Humanitarian Assistance - Helping Victims of Armed Conflicts

In this chapter assistance to the victims of armed conflict is described. The first report covers the activities of Kosovo Field Mission; the second one, activities of PHO Mission in Chechnya and Ingushetia. The chapter also includes description of the assistance to Chechen Orphanage evacuated to Lithuania. In addition to that solidarity campaign with the victims of terrorist attack in NYC is covered as well as the first stage of assistance to Afghanistan.

PHO Assistance Program in Kosovo - PHO Field Mission

Mission to Kosovo exists from February 2000. In the first year, the program involved among others refurbishing of a Culture House in Kacanik as well as constructing and equipping of an Internet Club in Strpce. In 2001 one Polish national was employed in Kosovo. Apart from that PHO Field Mission employed local translators, trainers, construction workers etc.

PHO Mission to Kosovo was financed through the following sources:

Foreign Ministry - 'Development of Local Communities', project, stage II in two Kosovo communes: Kacanik and Strpce. The value of contribution amounted 58,149.62USD the implementation of the project consumed 58,157.25 USD. The project consisted of the following activities:

- Playgrounds for children - creation of children friendly zones UNMIK and UNICEF
- Integration initiatives for children and youth
- Vocational and personal development courses

Ford Foundation - 'Supporting Serb and Albanian communities in Kosovo' project. The value of contribution amounted to 100,000 USD. The implementation of the project consumed 100,246,76 USD. The project consisted of the following activities:

- Supporting cultural and sport activities
- Youth initiatives coupled with Polish youth volunteering
- Supporting numerous initiatives of other NGO's on location

PHO funds stemming from Kosovo aid collection

Grants for the playgrounds from UNICEF: 9 000 DEM; UNMIK- 6 000 DEM

Majority of the above-mentioned projects was directed to children and youth. Equally important was assistance provided to women. PHO was particularly sensitive to the fate of displaced people (semi-holiday camps, day clubs). Special premium was put at the equal distribution of aid both to the Albanian and Serb communities. PHO activated local communities and local organizations in the implementation stage of its projects (co-running of courses and school papers, setting up playgrounds)

In the framework of the Kosovo field mission following programs have been undertaken:

- Playgrounds: creation of children - friendly places
- Integration activities for children and youth
- Activities in the area of culture
- Educational initiatives
- Sport initiatives
- Other projects

1. Playgrounds: creation of children - friendly places

PHO set up 11 playgrounds both on a Serb and Albanian side. The local community from day one enthusiastically welcomed playground project. Until then, there had been no safe place for children to play. The new playground is always full of children enjoying seesawing, gliding and climbing. In a Serb commune Strpce, 3 playgrounds were set up. One was constructed on an unoccupied downtown ground, another one in a Lahore Refugee Center and yet another one in a village called Brod located within the Strpce commune.

In a Kacanik commune, PHO set up 8 small playgrounds located within the school compounds of Gorance, Hani, Elezit, Stagova, Bitcec, Runjeva, Stary Kacanik, Belograce, Bob. All of them were set up by the local people themselves.

2. Integration activities for children and youth

Training of volunteers for foreign missions: In June 2001 PHO carried out training for 27 prospective volunteers of international missions. The training encompassed topics such as: humanitarian aid system, cross-cultural studies, humanitarian and international law, teamwork, team building, personal safety. PHO trained volunteers went on to work with a mission in Kosovo in July and August where they run semi-holiday -camps and English courses, and to Romania, where they worked with children in orphanages.

In December 2001 a post-match meeting was organized to discuss summer missions' results with all participating volunteers. All of them described their mission experiences as very valuable and rewarding and reconfirmed their readiness to further support PHO initiatives abroad.

Volunteering with the PHO in Kosovo: In January 2001 PHO sent a photographer-volunteer who was to collect photographic documentation of the PHO activities in Kosovo.

In May 2001 an IT specialist went to Kosovo with a 10 day mission consisting in improving Internet efficiency, training local people in Internet and Office usage, as well as Windows administration in Computer Centers set up by the PHO a year before.

Furthermore, two groups of volunteers went to Kosovo with monthly missions: one in July (11 people) and the next one in August 2001 (10 people).

Semi-holiday camps for children in Kacanik and Strpce: Within the framework of semi-holiday camps, volunteers run classes divided in two blocks: the morning and the afternoon one, 6 days a week. Classes were run in a Kacanik (homogeneously Albanian) and Strpce communes (heterogeneous, both Albanian and Serb). All participants received certificates and PHO-caps. Following activities were on agenda:

- Sport activities: baseball club, soccer matches, basketball, volleyball etc. tournaments,
- Games and physical exercises, agility and dexterity competitions
- Art classes involving versatile art. techniques
- Block of geography classes: games with national flags, learning about foreign traditions and cultures, geography contest
- Topography classes, exercises with maps and compasses, orientation games, topography drafting

Classes in Kacanik were held for around 150 children. Additional classes were organized in a village of Stagova, where 70-90 children participated. An overall number of around 240 children took part in PHO classes, among them temporarily displaced Macedonian children. In a commune of Strpce classes were organized on three locations: in a village of Sevce, in Strpce and in the Lahor Refugee Center.

Each group consisted of around 30 children. Throughout the period of 2 months approximately 120 children participated. Of special status was work with the children in Lahor, who were suffering from severe psychological war trauma.

English courses: Classes were run 5 days a week in two blocks, the morning and the evening one, technical equipment was provided by POH a year before (VHS overhead projector, and a record player). All participants were also provided with didactical materials (manuals, exercise books and tapes).

In Kacanik 4 groups were created at the beginners and intermediate level, one of them for prospective teachers. In a commune of Strpce, 8 Serb and 4 Albanian groups were created each of them consisting of 7-12 people. A total of 140 people attended summer English courses.

3. Activities in the area of culture

Theatre group A+: Theatre group A+ came to being in Kacanik at the end of 2000, and got together boys and girls aged 15-19 from the entire Kacanik commune. PHO sponsored and managed the venture. The group prepared a theatre performance titled "One apple above, two apples below", which won first prize at the 2001 Amateur Theatre Festival and became a big artistic event in Kosovo. Group A+ went on tour through all major Kosovo towns, which was extensively covered by mass media. At present, Group A+ is working on a new performance titled "Cafeteria" telling a story familiar to all Kosovars, the story on how tough it is to be different from the majority of one's community and live one's own way. Premiere of the new performance is planned for February 2002.

MAKATA group performance: PHO co-organized guest-performance tour of a Polish theatre group MAKATA to 4 cities in Kosovo. The tour was a continuation of a cultural exchange program between Polish and Kosovar groups called "Look out of the window."

Drawing competition: PHO funded prizes for the drawing part of a drawing and literature competition that took place in Kacanik in March. The aim of the competition was to spread the ideals of solidarity and humanitarianism.

Folk group - Stagova, Kacanik commune: PHO provided traditional folk instruments (qiflija, sharkija) and cloth for the traditional female costumes needed by a folk dance ensemble in a village of Stagova. The ensemble consists of 60 people who meet for rehearsals three times a week in a local school. The group gives performances to the communities of Stagova and other villages.

Culture and Art Association in Strpce: Culture and Art Association "Cvetko Grbić" has for many years represented regional folk culture on festivals all around Yugoslavia and abroad. At present, it consists of 40 young people dancing traditional dance and singing old regional Strpce songs. Despite harsh postwar conditions the group is still very active. It is, as before, one of the main attractions of the local festivities, it takes part in folk festivals across Kosovo and Serbia as well as presents Strpce folklore to the visiting international guests. PHO supported ensemble with a donation needed for purchase of accordions and folk attires.

Folk festival: June 11-14 a national folk festival took place in Kacanik. Seven groups from all over Kosovo and one from Kacanik took part. PHO helped to organize the event.

Movie shows: Multimedia projector donated to the Strpce Culture House is used twice a week to stage movie shows. It is also taken for a 'mobile cinema tours' across the Strpce commune.

Adaptation work at the cinema: PHO continued refurbishing an old movie theatre in Strpce - central heating system was finally fixed which will allow for using the theatre throughout the entire year.

4. Educational initiatives

Vocational and personal development courses: One of the most serious problems in Kosovo is lack of qualified work force. The level of education in state institutions is very low and availability of updated manuals is strongly limited. Vocational and other courses are therefore highly appreciated projects enabling participants to improve their qualifications and prepare them for the job market competition. In the framework of this initiative following courses were offered:

- **Computer/Internet courses:** PHO organized 9 courses for the beginners and intermediate level students, among them special courses for women and for teachers. Meetings took place twice a week in an Internet Center set up by the PHO. Participants gained basic knowledge and computer skills including Word processing and Excel. In total, 400 people were trained. PHO paid teachers wages and provided basic study materials.
- **English courses:** In the first half of 2002 sixty students attended courses (4 groups: 3 in Strpce and 1 in Firaji)
- **Tailoring courses:** The first three month long course was organized in Brod (6 hours per week) for 25 young girls who came over from remote, inaccessible places. PHO sponsored instructor wages, workshop materials; sawing machines were delivered by Die Johanniter and Malteser organizations. The course was split in two parts: a theoretical and a practical one. The bulk of clothing sawn during the workshops was donated to the most needy inhabitants of the commune. The second course took place in the Refugee Center in Lahor, for a group of 15 women who then set up a small tailoring enterprise offering its work to local restaurants, companies, KFOR forces and other international organizations on location.

Strpce Internet Center: In year 2000 PHO opened an Internet Centre at the Strpce high school. The centre offers free computer and Internet courses to students and all community members as well as provides an essential connection with the outside world, so important for the Strpce enclave and its people. The Center established co-operation with a Serb organization IAN (International Assistance Network) which uses the Center as a valuable link between Serbs in Kosovo and Serb refugees. Thanks to the IAN equipment (audio-video cameras with the voice transmission option), Serbs from outside Kosovo are updated round the clock on the situation in Kosovo.

World Cleaning action in Kosovo: On an International Earth Day, PHO organized ecological workshops and an open street event with the participation of the theater group's A+ members. The workshops extended over 3

days and introduced subjects such as garbage utilization and environment values. As a culmination of the workshop a common action "Zone pa mbetrurina" (garbage free zone) was organized, during which Kacanik and its surrounding were cleaned and repainted by its inhabitants.

Poland knowledge competition: a Poland knowledge competition was organized as a response to the popularity PHO came to enjoy among the locals. It took place in June in the Strpce high school and consisted of two stages. It became very popular among the Strpce youth that proved very knowledgeable on Polish literature, geography and history.

5. Sport initiatives

Fitness club "Forca": One of the main objectives of the PHO is supporting promotion of sport activities among the Kosovo youth. To this end a fitness club "Forca" was established and equipped by the PHO, and has since enjoyed increasing popularity. Club members pay a token fee of 10 DEM a month which helps cover running expenses (energy, maintenance, etc.) In 2001, first ever culturist contest in Kacanik was organized. 11 contenders from Kacanik, Ferizaj and Polish KFOR took part.

Chess tournament: At the beginning of April an international chess tournament in Kacanik was organized, with 12 contenders from Kosovo, Macedonia, Albania and Poland. PHO supported the tournament financially.

Karate club: PHO also supported a karate club in Stagova donating kimonos, gloves and training bags. Stagova karate club was created in 1997. It associates 60 members- pupils of the local primary school and participates in all-Kosovo competitions.

Basketball - rapprochement between communities: War and events that took place after the arrival of international peace keeping forces inflamed hostilities between Kosovo Serbs and Albanians. Both communities live divided by geographical and psychological cleavages, their mutual contacts limited to an absolute minimum. At present, any projects aiming at re-rapprochement of these communities seemed doomed to failure. Only small tentative steps can be taken. Sport is one of the few areas where philosophy of small steps has been pursued successfully.

PHO financed sport costumes and equipment for the Strpce baseball club, which as the only Serb club from Kosovo participates in all-Kosovo basketball competitions. Matches are always imbued with genuine sport spirit. Thanks to the additional security support provided by KFOR, basketball matches marked -in view of UNMIK and mass media-a first successful stepping stone in the on-going re-rapprochement struggle.

6. Other projects

Day club for Serb children in the Refugee Center Lahor in Brezovica: There are presently 1200 refugees in a Strpce commune. A great majority of them stay in provisional centers created in the local hotels. The biggest of them is hotel Lahor in Brezovica, where 250 people find shelter, 50 of them kindergarten age children. Most of the refugees are unemployed, embittered and feeling hopeless. They know there is no coming back home and no prospects for affording a new one. Their small children soak up in such an atmosphere.

These circumstances, a day club for children aged 2-6 run by Polish volunteers in the summer time provides friendly environment for 50 refugee children. Their parents pay merely a token fee. Children can spend their day time meaningfully, playing games, learning, watching movies etc. An equally important aspect of the venture is the fact that 8 otherwise unemployed refugees find employment paid by the Serb Ministry of Education. The club occupies 7 newly refurbished and fully equipped (toys, furnishing, TV and VCR sets) rooms.

Bakery in a village of Firaja: Bread for the Albanian A part of Strpce commune is delivered from the neighboring communes. In winter, due to the harsh weather conditions, bread frequently can not be delivered on time. That is why people of Strpce initiated building of their own bakery. PHO co-financed the bakery project with a sum of 3000 DEM as well as offered organizational and logistic assistance. It took care of delivering a proper oven from Serbia. Money collection was undertaken by the Women's Forum. The new bakery will become a steady source of income for 57 people, most of them women. Women's Forum is planning a daily, free of charge bread distribution to the most needy inhabitants of Strpce. The bakery has recently been constructed and equipped and is expected to open in March 2002.

PHO Assistance Programs in Ingushetia and Chechnya

Permanent PHO Mission

Permanent PHO mission to Ingushetia and Chechnya is up and running from April 2000 with its head office in Nazran (Ingushetia).

Mission's staff consisted first of 2, and from the second half of 2001, of 3 officers from Poland who were responsible for the project preparation, fundraising activities to finance them, project management and auditing. Local people were hired as field program officers, they coordinated and supervised the mission in the field. In total 148 people worked for the mission - Chechen nationals and Chechen refugees in Ingushetia.

In 2001 PHO launched the following assistance programs

- Kindergartens in Ingushetia (July 2000- December 2001)
- Supplementary Nutrition program in Grozny (November 2000 -July 2001)
- Children program in Grozny (November 2000 -August 2001)
- Sanitation program in Grozny (from December 2001)
- Water production and distribution program in Grozny (from September 2000)
- Stoves for Grozny

Sources of finance for PHO missions to Ingushetia and Chechnya

UNICEF - programs: children , nutrition , sanitation , water. - 306 664,94 USD
CCFD - stoves for Grozny - 20 452,06 USD

1. Kindergartens in the Chechen refugee camps in Ingushetia

In 2001 around 100 thousand Chechen refugees were still dwelling in Ingushetia refugee camps.

From June 2000 till December 2001, PHO run two tents - kindergartens in the refugee camps. Over 200 children found shelter and care. Classes were run in 4 different age groups by tutors recruited from amongst camp dwellers. Children would spend couple of hours every day playing games in a friendly environment. Older age groups would be taught pre-school subjects. All special events were prepared with the parental help. Parents would help at setting up bowers, sandpits, fences, at maintenance tasks etc.

Furthermore, a permanent first aid point financed by PHO was established in the camp compound. Every day camp dwellers could receive nurse attendance, twice a week they could be examined by a doctor. First aid point provided also basic medical care to children attending kindergarten. The project was fully financed by PHO collection money.

At the end of 2001 PHO decided to focus its activities at Grozny aid and camp-kindergartens were handed over to the Czech Caritas Internationalis.

2. Nutrition program: warm lunch meals for patients in Grozny

Nutrition program in Grozny was launched in co-operation with the Russian branch of UNICEF. It consisted in cooking and distributing warm lunch meals for hospitals in Grozny.

Kitchen was organized in a building within the compounds of the number 9 hospital, refurbished by the PHO in 2000. Hospital number 9 had the most patients (approx. 150 beds) and needed help most urgently. Next to the kitchen the wash-up station, an office, small staff room and a storeroom were set up. The terrain around the hospital was de-rubbed and cleaned. Running current and gas were installed, all rooms were equipped with the indispensable furnishing.

Every lunch meal consisted of two courses, bread and tee. Bread was baked by on of the local bakeries working on a contract for the PHO. PHO people distributed meals to all hospitals in 20-liter thermos-buckets and had a hospital director sign for the meals distributed. Approx. 800 warm meals and 25 dried food portions were distributed to 8 hospitals every day. One time aid consisting of a month ration of flour, sugar, vegetable oil and salt was provided to 300 patients of the Tuberculosis Hospital, which due to severe war damages was forced to switch into home-care.

PHO created 10 full time jobs for the duration period of the project: 7 cooks, a dietetic-specialist, a driver and a coordinator posts.

3. Children program-Child Center- Safe Zone

Safe Zone project was organized basing on a co-operation agreement with the Russian branch of the UNICEF signed in 2000. It aimed at a meaningful free time management for children and youth of Grozny.

The project was realized in a 34th high school of Grozny for the most devastated town quarters. PHO partly reconstructed the school building: 8 classrooms, gym and the main hall. All rooms were repainted, gym was roofed and broken window glass replaced and new doors fixed.

The center was arranged in various interest groups, where children could spend time developing their skills and pursuing their personal interest. PHO purchased versatile equipment such as: sawing machines, an overlock machine, a current generator, sawing kit, sport paraphernalia and costumes. Tutors were provided with the didactic manuals. Stationary, threads, needles, fabrics were supplied on the go.

In the summer time classes were held 5 days a week. Sport section was active 6 days a week in two shifts, the morning and the afternoon one. In total, 160 children and youth from the Oktibrskij neighborhood participated in the project, and 12 people, tutors and assistants were employed.

4. Sanitation program in Grozny

Due to the war devastation there is no properly working sanitation system in Grozny. Garbage has not been taken out of town and utilized for years. Sanitary conditions are catastrophic and the danger of some epidemics is very likely. In November 2001 PHO signed an agreement with the UNICEF on execution of an appropriate sanitation program in Grozny. The program was co-financed by the ECHO. In the frame of the project, PHO was in charge of garbage collection, setting up brick latrines and hygiene education. 8 construction workers and one coordinator were working on the project.

5. Potable water production and distribution program for citizens of Grozny.

General information: Pumping stations as well as the entire water supply system had been destroyed in the wake of war. Some quarters are still limited to rely on hand-pumps only, but the so obtained water is often not safe. Some quarters have no access to water whatsoever.

Project objectives: Main project objective was production and delivery of universally available, free potable water to the citizens of Grozny, schools and hospitals in particular.

Cleaning and distribution system was developed according to the following schedule:

- 10.2000 - opening of the first water station WNS 1: one filter and four cisterns
- 06.2001 - water station WNS 1: two filters and seven cisterns
- 10.2001 - opening of the second water station SSMP: two filters and six cisterns

From October 2000 to December 2001 PHO run production and distribution of potable water to most of the hospitals, kindergartens, schools, as well as private sector recipients of Grozny. Using two water stations, 13 cisterns delivered water 6 days a week. In December 2001 PHO delivered 263.5 cubic meters of water a week to public sector and 1,667 cubic meters of water to private sector recipients. In total, 316.5 cubic meters of water were delivered daily in December. Towards the end of December 2001 PHO filled up 113 water bladders at 102 different locations across the entire town.

Free potable water: PHO put particular premium at the quality of water and its conformity with the WHO standards. An agreement with the Sanitary-Epidemiological Station in Grozny was signed whereby SES took responsibility for a daily control of the water quality in bacteriological and chemical terms.

Quality of the purified water was good from the very beginning, and improving in the course of the project development. In October, November and December 2001, all 137 samples were up to the WHO standards.

19 drivers, 4 filter operators, 4 water bladders-maintenance workers, 2 coordinators, 1 storehouse worker, 4 guards and 60 people in charge of bladders were employed.

6. Stoves program for the citizens of Grozny

In Grozny people try living in severely demolished buildings. Plastic and wood are basic building materials. No heating system operates. PHO began installing stoves, being at the same time a source of warmth and a basic cooking oven.

First step of the project, production and installation of stoves, started in April 2001. 202 stoves in 12 schools, 8 hospitals and 6 private homes were installed. At the turn of 2000 and 2001 PHO produced and installed 729 stoves, mostly to individual recipients. Stoves were provided to the dwellers of partly inhabitable multi-stories houses, the handicapped, lonely mothers and elderly people in particular

A Transmaz factory in Grozny and Chechen refugees in Nazran produced all stoves. The project was co-financed by the CCFD. Transmaz employees, 5 refugees in Nazran, 4 installation-workers and 1 coordinator were involved with the project.

The Chechen family-based orphanage in Kaunas, Lithuania

The project's objective is to support education of a group of 12 orphans from Chechnya, who found their new home in Lithuania. The children are being brought up in family-based orphanage, previously located in Grozny. Part of the orphanage has been evacuated to Lithuania due to security reasons related to the conflict in Chechnya. The Lithuanian authorities have provided a municipally owned flat in Kaunas, which has been housing the orphanage. The children have also been provided with individual tuition in a Russian language-based school. When given the opportunity to make up for the lost time, some skilful kids are able to take two or three grades yearly. They also do sports and learn the life in a state of law. PHO pays for the housing and co-finances running costs of the orphanage.

Solidarity with the victims of the terrorist attack in the USA

After the terrorist attack in the USA, PHO has joined the demonstration of solidarity with the victims of the attack and their families. The European Union has declared September 14, 2001 the European Day of Solidarity with America. PHO has been among the initiators of solidarity marches held in Warsaw and Krakow, and appealed for lighting candles in widows after 7 p.m. 5 thousand people attended both marches.

Aid for Afghanistan

1. Photography exhibition "America, Afghanistan... Human stories"

A photography exhibition "America, Afghanistan... Human stories" was organized by the PHO in co-operation with the sponsors: Pfizer and Bank PKO BP. The exhibition was operating under the auspices of His Excellency the American Ambassador to Poland. It featured 52 photographs taken by photo reporters of AFP, REX, GETTY IMAGES and SIPA PRESS. The photographs were delivered free of charge by East News.

The exhibition was first shown in the foyer of the Grand Theatre of Warsaw during a concert staged on November 18, 2002. On this occasion, the beginning of the fund-raising project for children of Afghanistan ("A Zloty for children from Afghanistan") was announced. After the concert, the exhibition was moved to Warsaw's main railway station, Warszawa Centralna. By the end of 2001, the exhibition was shown in three cities.

2. Fact finding team's visits to refugee camps in Afghanistan.

Between November 1 and 7, 2001, representatives of the Polish Medical Mission and PHO explored the current situation in Iran and in the Iran-Afghan border zone. They also held several meetings with the officials from Iran's Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrant Affairs, Iranian Red Crescent Society, UN agencies as well as Iranian and international NGOs involved in actions for refugees. On November 5, 2001 the refugee camps located at the Afghan side of the border were visited. Following the expedition, PHO decided to launch a refugee aid program.

3. Project for children in Afghanistan (A Zloty for Afghan children)

After the outbreak of the war in Afghanistan, Polish Humanitarian Organization immediately launched fund-raising activities and initiated the "A Zloty for Afghan children" project to help children, victims of the war.

The project was meant for secondary and higher education students, its aim being to make people aware of the necessity to bring help to those afflicted with unexpected disasters. The campaign "A Zloty for Afghan Children" symbolizes the philosophy of small steps, which, if multiplied, may bring some outstanding results. Thus the project included an essential educational approach. The Humanitarian Education Department of the PHO worked out didactic handouts for teachers. The texts were written by top journalists and experts, Wojciech Jagielski and Marek Smurzyński. Teachers have shown remarkable interest in humanitarian issues and willingness to introduce them at school.

A great number of schools responded to PHO's initiative, both from big cities and rural areas. Large as well as many symbolic sums of money were donated. By the end of 2001, as many as 1585 schools made contributions totaling 100,000 USD. The project was completed in February 2002.

Chapter 4

Humanitarian Assistance: Helping the victims of structural poverty

In this section "The Wooden Puppet" Campaign – supplementary feeding is described. The program is run in Poland but a similar one has been operated by PHO in Lithuania, and report is also included.

Supplementary feeding project - "The Wooden Puppet"

The "The Wooden Puppet" project is a supplementary feeding scheme conducted at schools, mainly in the areas where collective, state-owned agricultural units used to operate. The project has been on PHO's agenda since 1998. Supplementary feeding scheme features daily distribution of meals among children from poor families.

Most funds for The Wooden Puppet came from a nationwide fundraising campaign run by the Warsaw PHO Office. Additionally the local PHO offices have organized public collections in their hometowns.

The cost of supplementary feeding for one child for a whole school year in 2001 was 125 USD. In total 292,823 USD were spent on the program.

In the school year 2000/2001 the PHO supported: 4402 children

In the school year 2001/2002 the PHO supports: 4903 children

The PHO receives annually 250-300 application forms from schools. Data provided in the applications indicates that the number of children who require supplementary feeding increases rapidly.

Where is "the Wooden Puppet" project executed?

In many regions of Poland entire families have been out of work for many months or, in some cases, even years and the children in these families suffer from malnutrition. In areas where collective farms were closed down the unemployment rate may reach even 80%. Local authorities, although obligated by law to run food programs, do not attend to all children in need because of tight budgets and rigid eligibility criteria. PHO strives to fill in this gap, or at least a small part of it.

School selection and children recruitment procedure

The information concerning the rules and the application form are sent to the applying school. Based on the returned information (the technical connotations of the school, its social environment, number of children and the cost of one meal) the PHO makes a decision about the value of the grant. An agreement is signed between the PHO and the school. It includes the name list of the children included in the program and the rule of money transfer. The list of names is not available to the public (only for PHO internal use), in order to protect the privacy of children. The PHO has the right to monitor the program (information and expenses)

Sources of finance in 2001

- Collection of bonus points at the BP petrol stations-BP partner club program
- Banks for Children – fundraising campaign among banks, under auspices of the President of the National Bank of Poland
- A two win campaign with Pryzmat co –fundraising for the Wooden Puppet and recycling used cartridges
- Pay-roll
- donation from ERA GSM (250,000USD)
- donations from firms, selling products with the 'WP' logo
- donations from firms showing their banners on the polish Hegersite www.pajacyk.pl

Polish Hunger Site – www.pajacyk.pl

On 19 February 2001 the Foundation launched the Polish Hunger Site - www.pajacyk.pl, which is meant to collect funds for the food program and provide information on Wooden Puppet campaign.

The site features banners inserted by Wooden Puppet sponsors. In that way we reward the companies who supported the campaign with major contributions. A donation is equivalent to the cost of meals for one child throughout the school year.

Since its creation, the site has been enjoying a great interest and popularity among Internet users. Currently, about 15 thousand people access it each day. Overall, more than 4 million Internet users have clicked on the wooden puppet's belly to date.

The banner site has featured 87 companies, some of them more than once. This provided the PHO with a total of 52,062.50 USD.

The media campaign created by Saatchi&Saatchi with participation of TVP1 Radio Zet and Gazeta Wyborcza, as well as over 6,000 web sites that have placed links to the site, provides the donors with an additional opportunity for countrywide promotion

Assistance in Lithuania

1. Supplementary feeding programs in Lithuania's schools.

The program has been carried out since March 1997 and includes financing of hot meal distribution to the school children from poor families. The program has been extended to those who, for some reasons, have failed to properly substantiate their poor financial status as well as to the families whose income per person is slightly above the social minimum. 14 schools from the Salcininkai District and a school from the Svencionys District have been supported so far. All these are former collective farms regions with a high rate of unemployment. In 2001, the total of 38,674.24 USD was spent, all of which came from public fund-raising.

2. Convoy to Lithuania

In September 27th 2001 a transport of gifts for Lithuanian schools was dispatched. Soletshnik Education Department was supplied with books, videocassettes featuring education programs, school satchels and student kit sets. Gifts of an overall value of 8,353 USD were delivered to 14 small country schools in the region, first class pupils received free student kit sets.

Chapter 5

Helping the refugees and repatriates

This chapter includes report on the Refugee Counseling Center, assisting the refugees in Poland as well as the Repatriate Integration Program directed to the Poles from Kazakhstan.

Refugee Counseling Center

Poland adhered to the Geneva Convention on Refugees only in 1991. From that moment on the country's legal and social system began adapting to its new international obligations. The protracted efforts of both the government, the UNHCR representative and NGOs (Caritas-Polska, PHO) notwithstanding, to date a comprehensive and efficient refugee treatment system does not exist. Many foreigners still do not know their rights, do not know how to avail themselves of such, or are prevented from doing so.

The lack of lodging, immense difficulties in finding employment, low and irregularly paid wages are among the most severe problems of those who receive refugee status. The fact that the same problems also afflict millions of Poles is small comfort to them. Since Poland adhered to the Convention, almost 20 thousand foreigners (including citizens of the US, France and Germany!) had applied for refugee status, and 1,412 actually were granted it.

Polish Humanitarian Organization started its refugee relief program in the fall of 1993. Initially most of the refugees in Poland originated from Bosnia, and came under MedEvac or under the intergovernmental agreement on granting 1,500 Bosnian women and children refugee in Poland. Since 2000 most applicants are Russian citizens of Chechen ethnicity: some 2,800 have applied and almost 450 were granted refugee status.

1. Basic social assistance

191 refugee status applicants and refugees asked for RCC help in 2001. In total, 400 foreigners were staying under RCC care in 2001.

2. Basic social-legal counseling

RCC provides foreigners with legal counseling and information on their rights and duties. Thanks to the donations granted by UNHCR and a network of medical practitioners-volunteers RCC can also provide medical help. Furthermore, RCC mediates between refugees and state officials, assists at preparation of documents and exchange of letters.

3. Integration program

Integration program is available for refugees with a legal refugee status. Within its framework PHO employees help refugees adopt to the new independent life in Poland. 210 people benefited from the integration program in 2001. Social, legal, and integration help programs were realized with the financial backing worth 154,149.874USD, provided by UNHCR and Social Affairs Department of the Warsaw Province Office.

Assistance at finding and renting a housing place: After being granted refugee status and the travel documents the refugees can stay in the refugee camp for the period of 3 months. Most of them wish to start a 'new life' as soon as possible, learn Polish, and find a job. The biggest problem for them is to find a new place to live. Lack of any governmental integration program, law social aid and difficulties at obtaining housing registration, which in turn is a vital precondition to applying for social aid, all translate into a very difficult starting point. Towards the end of 2000 RCC received additional finance from the Mazovia governor to subsidize refugee-housing rental in year 2001.

Polish courses and children education: Thanks to the donation from the Mazovia governor, 38 refugees participated in language courses organized by the Institute of Education for Foreigners. Volunteers were also assisting children at homework tasks (classes were held at homes of 7 refugee families)

Help at improving professional qualifications and job searching: RCC employees assisted at job searching for refugees. In 2001, 43 refugees found jobs and 1 person registered its own commercial activity (trade).

Integration day club: 50 refugee and 15 Polish children attended integration meetings organized throughout the year by PHO volunteers and students of Social Psychology College.

Family reunions: In the framework of the family reunions program, RCC/PHO helped one Somali refugee bring his wife and a son over from Yemen. On April 13 2001 his family joined him in Poland.

4. Refugee Shelter at Marywilka Street 44

In 2001 RS was functioning thanks to donations from the Department for Social Affairs at Mazovia Governor Office and UNHCR.

RS inhabitants do basic maintenance themselves, they also organized a Christmas reception for which all RS friends and representatives of institutions involved in RS project were invited: UNHCR, Department for Social Affairs at Mazovia Governor Office, Helsinki Human Rights Foundation and PHO.

In 2001, RS inhabitants volunteered for money collection project organized by the PHO in the wake of floods in Poland.

The average living cost per capita per month totaled 112.46 USD. Running costs for the entire RS totaled 29,850,98 USD in 2001.

5. Integration camps for children and youth

Summer holiday camps were organized from 12 - 26 July in one of the schools in Goldapia (Mazurian Lake District), one of the beneficiaries of the PHO nutrition program "Wooden Puppet". 30 refugee children aged 6-14 and 12 Polish children from Lisiecki Grandpa center in Goclaw participated in the camp. Children were taken care for by qualified tutors, a camp manager, 5 volunteers and one coordinator. Total costs of the camp run at 7,366.07 USD.

The educative aim of the camp was getting to know each other's cultures, inculcating children with the notions of tolerance, respect for different nationalities, openness etc. The project was financed by the UNHCR, Ministry of Education and donations granted by the "Coty" company as well as Reiffeisen Bank.

6. A Refugee Day

In June 24 2001 r. PHO in co-operation with UNHCR organized a Refugee Day. Several thousand Warsawites took part in the event. NGO's and other refugee friendly institutions and companies presented their activities and initiatives to the public at large. An additional attraction of the gala were Africa stands, with African cuisine and art. A twelve hours long concert was staged, during which also refugee groups presented their ethnic music. The visual setting of the event (posters, info-packages, flyers, project and printing) was prepared by the Bates company. The event was backed financially by donations from the Greater Warsaw District Office.

Repatriate Integration Programs.

A poll carried out by the PHO among the newcomers from Kazakhstan shows that the repatriates are faced with a number of problems in Poland. Due to the ignorance of the Polish law, failure to obtain essential information and a poor command of the Polish language, repatriates turn out to be a socially excluded group, even though they are granted Polish citizenship on arrival. They still have problems with finding jobs; they also find it difficult to interact socially. PHO Program is design to assist their integration with the mainstream society, and make this process less painful for the repatriates. So far in the framework of the program repatriate handbook has been published and family support project has been undertaken.

1. Repatriate handbook

In July 2001, PHO published the handbook for repatriates entitled 'Poland for You', a bilingual guideline which is meant to assist repatriates in their contacts with official bodies and public administration units. The guideline familiarizes repatriates with their rights and duties and tells a few words about today's Poland. The book is similar in layout to previously published guideline for refugees and is another one in the series.

An overall number of the copies was 4000, thousand of which were handed over to government administration units all over the country and 500 were sent to Poland's embassies in the eastern countries.

2. Family support project

At the end of December 2001, an introductory project featuring a family support system for repatriates from Kazakhstan was launched, project's aim being to train a group of volunteers whose responsibilities would cover encouraging repatriates' self-reliance' under the new circumstances.

Chapter 6

Humanitarian Education Program

This chapter covers the report of the humanitarian Education Program, created in the 1994 and responsible for working with the youth towards the goal of open and helping society.

The need for humanitarian education

It was only recently (since 1989) that Poland became a free country where serious human rights violations do not take place and where ordinary citizens do not have to rely on humanitarian aid from Western Europe or the USA to help them survive. Because Polish people, having been dependent on such aid for long period of time, do not have a tradition of humanitarian aid, the newly formed non-government organizations have difficulty finding volunteers.

Aims and practice of humanitarian education

Since 1993 when the PHO was founded, it has been our goal to install in Polish society a sense of responsibility and democracy. Humanitarian Education is a program that offers interactive workshops, encourages free expression through writing, and creates opportunities for hands-on experience through participation in PHO's humanitarian campaigns.

At the core of the "Humanitarian Education" Program, is the belief that young people can take an active role in shaping their society. In order to prepare them for such a role, we organize various educational events providing information about the necessity of humanitarian aid, particularly in areas affected by war or natural disasters or stricken by poverty. Through this kind of education we are building tolerance and fighting prejudices and stereotypes.

Humanitarian Education means however more than information about current events. It encourages and helps young people to take action. We are working with them to find solutions, helping them to start new initiatives or run campaigns for the benefit of people in need. This is a quite new approach in social education in Poland. In fact, the term "Humanitarian Education" was invented at the PHO.

Humanitarian Education Program description

Traces of the communist mentality are particularly visible in schools where teachers still use old methods of education that allow minimal interaction and open discussion between student and teacher. Such a system of education inhibits creativity and participation on the part of the students. The existence of the current system is not necessarily the fault of the teachers because both training of new faculty and introduction of new educational tools is difficult and often expensive. There are not enough ideas, materials and examples of good practice.

Thus, through its Humanitarian Education Program, PHO has created opportunities for teachers and students alike to learn and benefit from new developments in educational theory. For more than six years we have been striving to create a responsible, open and caring society.

The Humanitarian Education program is centered mostly around schools and offers special programs for teachers and their students. In our work we also target and collaborate with volunteers and other organizations.

PHO program aims to encourage more group-work during school lessons, more space for creativity for individual students, and the use of new technologies within schools and universities. Through workshops, we introduce teachers to new teaching concepts and techniques, which are easy to integrate into existing curriculum. We provide the teachers with access to new resources, especially those addressing the issues of refugees, tolerance and humanitarian aid in general.

In 2001 the Humanitarian Education Program has run following projects:

- A network of PHO trainers-volunteers
- "Humanitarianism" – an optional school subject
- Teachers training
- We are helping in English
- A refugee's suitcase

1. A network of PHO trainers-volunteers

Since 1999 r. a nationwide network of PHO trainers-volunteers is operating. They aim to run workshops in schools and in youth centers in their hometowns. Due to this network in 2001 the PHO reached approximately 10 thousand young people in Poland.

This group runs among others: workshops, seminars, educational projects, events and awareness campaigns. The workshops are aimed at primary, lower and upper secondary school students. In total, 212 workshops took place in 2001. The most frequent themes were:

- “Racism – an everyday problem”
- “Human dignity – cliché or basics”
- “The volunteer – the hero of our times”
- “Refugees”
- “Human Rights”
- “Humanitarian aid for Afghanistan” (as part of the “One zloty for the Children of” project)

Additionally many educational projects were organized such as: antiracism happening (Warsaw), The European Day Against Racism (Białystok, Wrocław, Opole), exhibitions on refugee issues (Wrocław, Słupsk), educational project “Something in Common – getting to know ethnic cultures of pre WWII Poland”.

2. “Humanitarianism” – an optional school subject

In the framework of incorporating humanitarian education into schools the PHO has developed a new school subject called “Humanitarianism”. Since June 2001 the PHO offers the handbook “Humanitarianism”.

In the handbook the teachers and students can find 19 lesson scenarios divided into three themes: human rights, tolerance, social activity. The handbook has been published due to the donation from the Ministry of Education. The teachers, who actively participate in “Humanitarianism” proposed new issues to be covered: unemployment, drug-addiction, AIDS, euthanasia, helping the elderly, corruption. The teachers also proposed the use of Internet in the program.

3. Teachers training

Since February 2000 the PHO has been training teachers who are willing to run humanitarian education workshops.

In 2001 the PHO has organized 6 training sessions for 143 teachers. In addition 17 teachers’ trainers have been prepared for their job.

4. We are helping in English

“We are helping in English” is an educational website, which the PHO is creating in cooperation with Pearson Education Poland. Its aim is to combine teaching English with humanitarian themes. It will be accessible to the public in June 2002.

5. A refugee’s suitcase

The PHO runs an educational project “ A refugee’s suitcase” in partnership with the UNHCR. It includes 4 stages. In the first stage a film about refugees who arrived in Poland, produced by the PHO is shown. It lasts 25 minutes. The second stage is an 1,5 hour workshop. It explains who are refugees and why they have to flee from their homelands. The third stage is a poster exhibition. The fourth stage is a stimulation game “Passages”. The goal of this game is to increase awareness, compassion and to motivate participants to undertake concrete actions to help the refugees.

Chapter 7

Those who help the PHO - volunteers and companies

In this chapter information on PHO volunteers can be found as well as on companies co-operating with the PHO, including the strategic donors.

Volunteering with the PHO

There are people of various age, background, skills, knowledge and experience among the PHO volunteers. PHO initiatives are supported by school youth, college students, pensioners as well as active professionals, top class experts, IT specialists, translators, lawyers, artists and others. Some volunteers get involved in the short-term projects demanding more people, and there are others working with the PHO on a constant basis, coordinating various programs or co-operating with project officers. All PHO activities are supported by the input from very many volunteers.

Partnership based co-operation in an age diversified environment enriches both the young and the elderly ones. Volunteering is not only inherent to the philosophy of the PHO work, it is also a necessity. Without volunteers PHO would be unable to carry out most of its projects.

The difference between a PHO employee and a PHO volunteer consists merely in the fact of being vs. not being remunerated. All other rules and principles concerning scope of responsibilities, in charge areas etc. are alike

Fundraising Department

Fundraising Department is in charge of winning financial, service and gift donation for the PHO initiatives. Commercial companies provide main source of finance.

Main objective of the fundraising department is winning regular supporters and donors for the PHO initiatives that would co-operate either on a given program or on a basis of regular contributions to the running administrative costs of the organization. Strategic PHO Donor is a title awarded to companies that regularly contribute to the administrative costs incurred by the PHO.

At present there are 7 Strategic PHO Donors:

- Schenker limited liability company - free of charge rent of a store house in Warsaw, co-operation from 1997 onwards
- PTK Centertel limited liability company - free of charge usage of 14 mobile phones including 480 minutes bonus per month, co-operation from February 1999 onwards
- Servisco limited liability Company - free of charge transport services within Poland, contract signed in 1996.
- TUIR WARTA joined stock company - full range insurance on PHO activities, both within and beyond Poland.
- PLL LOT joined stock company – a package of free LOT airline tickets for PHO staff people donated annually
- Esselte - supplies PHO offices with stationary, co-operation from 1999 onwards
- TuiR Daewoo - car insurance on PHO Polonez Truck donated by FSO Daewoo.

Examples of co-operation with commercial partners:

Collection of bonus-points for lunch meals at British Petrol stations- BP partner club program

Co-operation with BP for the sake of the “ Wooden Puppet” project started in June 2000. BP partner club program offers a possibility of receiving various gifts for the points collected while tanking at the BP stations. From 2000 on, BP clients, instead of collected points can opt for donating them to the benefit of the “Wooden Puppet” campaign. 100 BP points equal one lunch meal for one “Wooden Puppet” sponsored child.

In 2001, BP clients donated 182 thousand lunch meals (114,643.32 USD), which translated into 910 children receiving one meal every day throughout the entire year.

Inter Mind company - “Give the emptied one to the Wooden Puppet” campaign

Inter Mind Company deals among others in recycling of used laser printer cartridges. In December 2000, Inter Mind signed an agreement with the PHO on transferring part of its profit from the products sold in January 2001 and proposed financial support in exchange for help in gaining back used laser printer cartridges.

In 2001 PHO received from Inter Mind a donation of 25,188.92 USD for the “Wooden Puppet” project. Co-operation with the Inter Mind is still continuing.

Payroll

The payroll system is not very well known in Poland yet. It is a voluntary declaration of a regular monthly contribution from the employees of a given company in form of an automatic wage deduction transferred to the PHO account. Any participating company can withdraw from the payroll agreement or change the amount of deduction or its use at any point in time. Some companies, in appreciation of their employee’s involvement into charity actions, decided to double the amount of donations to the PHO.

In 2001, thanks to the payroll system PHO account was augmented with the following donations:

- Nestle Poland joined stock company – 7,079.34 USD (employees)
- BISE Bank joined stock company – 8,380.35 USD (out of which : 4,190.18 USD employees and 4,190.18 USD the company)
- ING Silesia Bank joined stock company – 6,035.26 USD out of which 3,423.17 USD employees and 2,612.09 USD the company)

Chapter 8

Reports of the regional branches and local groups of volunteers

This chapter is a collection of reports on the activities of PHO regional offices in Krakow, Lodz and Torun, as well as the group of volunteers from Wroclaw.

Report by the Regional Branch in Krakow

In 2001, there were, two persons employed on a full-time basis, and one on a part-time basis in the Regional "Wooden Puppet" Branch in Krakow. In their daily work, they were assisted by 5 permanent volunteers – involved in particular tasks, and by around 170 volunteers involved in supporting *ad hoc* projects (e.g. money collections).

1. Participation in nation-wide PHO actions

Through organizing collections the Regional PHO Branch in Krakow participated in relief operations for the victims of: an earthquake in India, a flood in Siberia, as well as in providing aid for Afghanistan, in the 'Hope' effort and the 'Wooden Puppet' project.

Flood-victims relief action in Poland: The flood affected region of Malopolska (a voivodeship with the provincial capital in Krakow) in July 2001. Krakow PHO branch immediately undertook relief measures for flood-affected residents.

First stage of relief– direct relief: In the period from July 26 to September 27, the regional branch in Krakow sent out 22 relief convoys for flood victims. For the period of the flood, PHO received a free of charge storage space in Trzebina from the LM Company.

Second stage of relief – long-term relief: The basic form of relief coordinated by PHO Krakow was assistance in renovating damaged buildings and in independent construction projects conducted by the flood victims. The operation was co-run by a Krakow division of Gazeta Wyborcza one of the leading Polish dailies.

Humanitarian Education: There were 58 workshops and meetings conducted at schools and other institutions in Krakow and in the voivodeships of Krakow (region of Malopolska) and of Rzeszów within the Humanitarian Education program in 2001. Humanitarian education was also provided at schools where supplementary food scheme 'Wooden Puppet' was operating. In two schools, workshops were run periodically for a second semester of the 2000/2001 academic year.

2. Regional actions

Assistance for an orphanage in Romania: The regional PHO Branch in Krakow has been running an assistance program for Romania since 1999. Its recipient is a 'Pro Vita' Foundation, which provides care for 200 people. These are children from both pathological families, and from families incapable of providing for them, as well as street children, pregnant women, and girls who have been expelled from orphanages at the age of 18.

PHO volunteer camp at an orphanage in Valea Screezii: In July 2001, nine PHO volunteers: students majoring in medicine, psychology, law and political science; two Polish Medical Mission volunteers – specialist MD's and a Romanian interpreter (a PHO volunteer, too), along with a PHO-appointed coordinator spent 14 days at the orphanage. Everyday, the following were held: occupational therapy for mentally deficient teenagers, hygiene-related and medical care-related training, training on how NGO's operate, and joint medical consultations of Polish physicians and a Romanian doctor.

Training of "Pro Vita" i "Angelus" volunteers in Poland: In October 2001, as part of the implementation of the project 'Training program for the activists and volunteers of the non-governmental organization Pro Vita', a training of the Romanian volunteers was held in Poland. The stay in Poland was designed to solidify the knowledge acquired during the training in Romania. The project's implementation was funded by a donation from the Polish-American Freedom Foundation in the amount of 6,297.22 USD

Music-and-painting workshops for Roma and Polish children: The workshops, which lasted from 25 May to 1 June, engaged Roma children from Poland and Slovakia, and children from a local school in Bukowsk. The

project was co-financed by the Batory Foundation, and by the local legislature of Krakow Voivodeship (Parliament of the region of *Malopolska*) (755.67 USD).

The children worked in three groups: a dance-and-song group, a painting group, and a computer group. Pastime activities were run in the school playground, the teams intermingled. In addition to running the workshops for the children, the instructors also conducted workshops for local teachers, instructing them in methods of working with children. In *Mielec*, the participants of the workshops presented their capabilities at European Integration Week. In the Jewish Cultural Center at Krakow, a show of the exposition took place. In addition to presenting the paintings created at the workshops, the exposition included previous paintings by Slovakian children. During the meeting, the Jagori band and a Polish-Roma band performed. On 1 June, Krakow saw a debate on 'The Roma in Poland – our Own or Strangers'.

Report by the PHO Regional Branch in Lodz

The principal agenda of the PHO Regional Branch in Lodz is to provide assistance to children. The Lodz Branch is carrying out a pilot program 'The gallery of touch' intended for the community of blind and visually impaired children. Its objective is providing access to 'watching' paintings and graphic arts.

1. Participation in nation-wide PHO actions

Through organizing collections the regional PHO branch in Lodz participated in relief operations for the victims of the earthquake in India, the flood in Siberia, as well as in providing aid for Afghanistan and the 'Wooden Puppet' project. The branch also conducted actions assisting those affected by the flood.

2. Regional actions

A day care center of children: The Regional PHO branch in Lodz has, since 1997, provided a therapeutic treatment in a day care center for children from the poorest dysfunctional families. In 2001, PHO expanded the center by further 8 rooms. The center is a facility for 80 children, working with who are: a psychologist, a child educator, a counselor, and a therapist. 20 volunteers – students of pedagogy, sociology and psychology, do 'Auxiliary' work. Children receive an afternoon snack, do their homework, play, and attend therapy and computer workshops in the computer room. 'centre-goers' attend winter and summer-break camps, trips, and take part in extracurricular activities organized for them during winter vacation. They visit museums, and go to cinemas and theaters.

The activities of the 'centre' are made possible by donations from institutions, firms and private persons, *inter alia*: Co-operating Netherlands Foundation for Central and Eastern Europe, The City of Lodz Social Services Center, City Hall – Department of Education and Sports, Division of Civic Affairs

Report by the Pomeranian Branch in Torun

In 2001, in the Pomeranian PHO Branch four persons were employed and a conscript who was substituting community service for military service. Beside the activities enumerated below, the Pomeranian Branch coordinated efforts, and acquired donations, which were subsequently passed on to various Torun institutions.

1. Participation in PHO Poland-wide actions

Through organizing collections the regional PHO branch in Torun participated in relief operations for the victims of the earthquake in India, the flood in Siberia, as well as in providing aid for Afghanistan. PHO in Torun launches numerous periodic activities. In May, it organized a collection of stationery, games and minor sporting equipment. While fundraising for children's summer camps, it organized a 2nd Picnic of PHO sympathizers; it was able to acquire money and gifts for Christmas parcels during Christmas Gift Lottery and a Christmas fair.

Wooden Puppet's campaign – supplementary food at schools: The Pomeranian branch of PHO coordinates the effort to provide supplementary meals to children.

A country teacher as volunteer: In September 2001, the Pomeranian PHO branch in Thorn acquired funding from the Batory Foundation for training teachers from the *Warmia-Mazury* region (a *voivodeships* in northern

Poland). The program sought to prepare its participants for an independent search of donations for comprehensive child assistance. Over 20 teachers from 9 schools participated therein.

Flood relief action in Poland: In the first stage, the Pomeranian PHO branch in Torun coordinated all flood relief effort. The Thorn PHO sent 36 shipments with aid for those affected by the flood; in addition, financial projects funded by the German Foreign Ministry, and by a donation of the US Embassy were implemented (see: p). In cooperation with the Coca-Cola Company, 1030 Christmas packages were prepared for children of flood-victims.

Humanitarian Education: As part of the humanitarian education, workshops were held for eight schools.

2. Regional efforts

PHO Child Care Center: The 'lounge' has been operational since January 2001 five days per week. Classes were held for 50 kids aged 7-13. Children do their homework and take part in sport, computer, dance, and music activities as well as in speech therapy. Funding for the operation of the lounge was acquired from sponsors.

In 2001, working in the 'lounge' were three teachers-'guardians', a dance instructor, a sports coach, a therapist and foreign language teachers. As part of volunteer work, there were also speech therapy workshops, individual therapy, games, and sports activities. The volunteers were also involved in preparing meals.

A Happy Summer Recess to the Children of Torun: The Pomeranian PHO branch provided summer camps for 82 children. Participants spent 11 days in one of the schools in Goldapia where meal distribution had been set up. The activities included sight-seeing tours in the *Mazury* and *Suwalki* regions, a safari, a camp-fire, as well as painting, dancing and theater classes. Psychological help was also extended to children.

Family-Assistance Center – Social Information Office: From June 2001, the Pomeranian PHO Branch began preparation for the opening of the Office of Social Information. The function of the Office will be spreading information and legal assistance to people residing in Torun or its vicinity who have found themselves in a difficult life situation. At the Office, they can inquire about the rights they are entitled to, and places where they may receive help.

Following training, a group of volunteers (lawyers, educators, psychologists, financial advisors, medical doctors, and social workers) committed themselves to providing information for petitioners, free of charge. The Office of Social Information will begin operating in January 2002.

After school activities: In March 2001, the Torun PHO began implementing the 'Schooling after class' project, the purpose of which was to provide extra funding for extracurricular activity at schools. A workshop for 130 teachers was organized, free of charge, on writing applications for grants; a webpage <http://strony.wp.pl/szkolapolekcjach> was set up; 300 petitions were assembled and donations appropriated. PLN 80,000 was divided up among 49 applicants. Project in progress. Financing of the project provided by the Batory Foundation.

Training of volunteers-guardians for handicapped university students: In collaboration with the Representative for handicapped persons at Nicholas Copernicus University (Thorn), a series of training periods was instituted for 31 student volunteers, who offered to assist handicapped students. After completion of the course, the students, as instructed by the University Rector's Representative for handicapped students, are helping their fellow students who are handicapped.

Wroclaw PHO Volunteer Group

In 2001, the Wroclaw PHO Volunteer consisted of 23 permanent volunteers who created common agenda teams Participation in the nation-wide PHO actions.

1. Flood victims relief: In 2001, the Wroclaw volunteers participated, through organizing collections, in relief operations for the victims of the earthquake in India, the flood in Siberia, as well as in providing aid for Afghanistan, in the 'Hope' effort and in relief action for those affected by the flood.

2. 'Wooden Puppet' project – providing supplementary meals for school children: In order to collect funds for feeding children at school, volunteers organized a number of actions under the banner 'December – the month

of Wooden Puppet in Lower Silesia'. Among the efforts launched, was a Review of the Short Theater Genre, concerts and fundraisers at institutions of higher learning.

3. Humanitarian Education: In 2001, 40 workshops were run in Wroclaw middle and high schools on the theme 'Refugees', 'Rasism, an everyday problem', 'Human dignity – a cliché or a fundament?' 'Human rights'. During the days 16-21 March, a European Week against Racism was launched, during which various debates and film screenings were held.

4. Refugee assistance

- **Refugee day:** As part of Refugee Day, on 21 June an exposition was organized at the Lower Silesia Photography Center Gallery along with a series of workshops in Wroclaw middle schools.
- **Individual work with refugees:** The Wroclaw PHO Volunteer Group has, since October, been giving Polish lessons to a Kurdish refugee family, and helping them in everyday routine – shopping, handling red tape in various institutions and government agencies, etc.

Chapter 9 Financial Reports

Fundraising

In 2001, PHO organized or facilitated organizing 230 money collections for various campaigns, thanks to which it was able to assemble 137,887.66 USD

Financial Reports for the year 2001

1. Revenue and donations	5 283 826,08
Including:	
Donations in kind	1 557 629,05
Donations in cash	2 694 444,63
Services contributed	94 796,92
Financial revenue	76 815,18
grants	860 140,30
Including, <i>inter alia</i>:	
UNICEF	66 026,04
Polish Foreign Ministry	58 149,62
UNICEF	108 624,99
The Ford Foundation	205 161,26
The Batory Foundation	2 015,11
Foundation for Democracy (Poland)	6 297,23
The Holand Foundation	208 022,17
The Batory Foundation	24 942,07
The Batory Foundation	1 385,39
Help (Germany)	80 728,06
Philips Company	16 692,75
UNHCR	106 728,37
2. Expenditures	4 280 618,93
Fulfilling statutory purposes	3 894 326,22
Administrative costs	258 514,91
Remaining costs	127 777,80