# HealthProm

### Annual Review 2022-2023



### About Us

#### Who we are

HealthProm's mission is to support vulnerable children, women and families disadvantaged by poor health, disability or social exclusion. We have carried out our work in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Afghanistan and the UK since we were first established by British doctors and allied health professionals in 1984.

#### How we work

HealthProm works with and through local partners in Afghanistan, Belarus, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Tajikistan to promote the overall well-being of vulnerable women, children and families. We use a distinct method of delivering comprehensive services that cover health, social care, and education to our beneficiaries.

#### What we offer

HealthProm's extensive regional expertise, combined with access to an established network of technical specialists in the UK, Europe and Central Asia, enables us to connect professionals and share best practice. We have proven expertise in safe childbirth, the de-institutionalisation of care, palliative care for children, support for families of children with disabilities and inclusive education. We help our local partners improve their capacity, prepare funding proposals, design new projects abroad. In the UK, we offer comprehensive well-being and educational services to migrants and refugees from the regions where we work.

#### **Our values**

- Commitment to local engagement and partnership
- Respect for human rights
- Empowering individuals and communities
- Commitment to learning, innovation and exchange
- Promoting inclusion and equality across sectors



### Foreword

HealthProm's ability to pursue its mission in 2023 was severely affected by the political and security effects of the war in Ukraine and its wider impact in the region. Sanctions and due diligence also raised new operational challenges as we sought to support our local partners.

We are proud nevertheless in 2023 to have been able to continue our operations in Belarus, Afghanistan and Tajikistan and to have built new programmes in the UK to support Afghan and Ukrainian refugees. Details of results and impact are set out in this report.

As part of a five-year planning cycle, HealthProm is reviewing its future strategy. We will be considering how to consolidate, maintain effective support to local civil society groups, adapt to new political and security realities and forge new partnerships.

Identifying and mobilising the financial support to underpin these plans will continue to be a central Board priority.

We appreciate the close collaboration with our local partners. We are thankful for the generosity of our many donors named in this report. We are grateful for the public response to our fund-raising appeals and to all those who have given us their voluntary support and pro bono advice.

We look forward to this continuing in 2024.

Simon Ray

Chair of the Board of Trustees

### Belarus

Our work with local partners in Belarus is aimed at protecting the rights of children with severe disabilities and life-limiting conditions and building strong family and local networks.

#### **Funders**

- The European Commission
- The British Embassy in Minsk
- The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust

#### **Our Impact**

- The Belarussian Children's Hospice project team supported 1,068 children with severe disabilities and life-limiting conditions and their families in six regions of Belarus
- The Association of Parents of Premature Children "RANO" project team offered information and advocacy support to 22 families with premature babies at risk of disability, with 144 home visits, 272 phone consultations, and 581 online consultations
- The Belarusian Children's Fund in Mogilev engaged and built the capacity of local parents of children with severe disabilities, adding 28 new members to their New Horizons parent community, which now has 112 active participants

#### **Partners**

- Belarusian Children's Hospice,
- Mogilev branch of the Belarusian Children's Fund
- Association of Parents with Prematurely Born Children (RANO)
- Experts from NGO Est Delo
- HealthProm collaborated with Est Delo to develop a monitoring system for children with severe disabilities in state residential institutions. They organized 9 visits, 13 training sessions, and engaged 232 participants in these sessions.
- Est Delo united over 20 organisations in Gomel, Grodno, and Minsk regions, fostering a dialogue with social authorities for sustainable changes in institutions



# Afghanistan

This year we continued to work in the Kaldar district of Balkh Province in Northern Afghanistan to support community-based initiatives that improve maternal, new-born and child health and to support girls' education.

#### **Funders**

- Guernsey Overseas Aid & Development Southall Charitable Foundation Commission
- British Foreign School Society
- Linda Norgrove Foundation
- GV & SJ Britten Charitable Foundation
- Souter Charitable Foundation

#### **Our Impact**

- HealthProm has contributed to the eradication of maternal deaths in Kaldar. There was no maternal death in Kaldar (as of September 2023), down from 1 last year and an average of 16.5 from previous years
- 1,079 women in labour received support with transportation to hospitals or medical facilities
- 1,440 pregnant women had birth plans developed with support from midwives and 1,400 clean birth kits were distributed to pregnant women and young mothers

- Evan Cornish Charitable Foundation •

#### Partners

- Health for All Delivery and Service Organisation (HADSO)
- 18 Community Health Workers received regular supervision and medical supplies to provide primary health care for their communities
- 22 Safe Motherhood Groups and 22 Men's Support Groups have been active across the programme area
- Through the Girls' Education Project, over 103 girls of primary age were able to continue their education

### Testimonial

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Agha Gul, a 30 year old pregnant woman from Sarpata village, shared her story and experience with HealthProm:

"The Midwife was not sure if I would have normal delivery as my baby was overweight and I was anaemic too, but luckily with support by [HADSO] in Kaldar everything went well and I also got some medicines from the Community Health Workers. Now, I returned home with my baby, and I cannot thank HealthProm and the team in Kaldar enough."



# Ukraine Emergency Appeal

Following the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, HealthProm launched an emergency appeal to support our partners working with children with disabilities and their families. HealthProm continued and successfully completed its emergency appeal for our partners in Ukraine this year.

#### **Our Impact**

- HealthProm supported local NGOs and communities since the start of the war in Ukraine
- We raised £18,544 through an emergency JustGiving appeal to support our partners in Ukraine
- We distributed the JustGiving emergency funds to six local NGOs in Ukraine



- With our support, our partners provided financial aid to 41 families of children with disabilities
- We supported our partners' work providing temporary shelter to families with children with disabilities
- In Zaporozhie, our support helped the community organisation Aware Autism Parenting distribute humanitarian supplies for children with disabilities and their families

#### **Partners**

- Open Hearts in Vinnitsiya
- The Dzherelo Centre in Lviv
- Aware Autism Parenting
- The National Assembly of People with Disabilities of Ukraine (NAIU)
- Association of RHETT Syndrome Ukraine
- The Union of Parents of Youth with Disabilities



# Tajikistan

HealthProm works to support local partners in Tajikistan to transform institutional baby homes into community-oriented Family and Child Support Centres.

#### Partners

- Hayot dar Oila
- Sarchashma
- Iroda
- UNICEF
- Local and national government bodies

#### **Our Impact**

- We transformed all traditional baby homes in Tajikistan into Family and Child Support Centers. Provincial Governments enacted laws to sustain these changes. This year, we're continuing to shift from institutional care for babies and young children in closed settings to open, inclusive community support for families
- We're introducing our proven family support model to a residential home in Dushanbe for children aged 4 to 7 with disabilities through the "Hayot dar Oila" project. The goal is to enable more children to live safely at home with their parents and to impart family support skills to the care staff



- We're developing a project to safeguard women and girls, in partnership with Sarchashma and Hayot dar Oila
- Our network of supporters, including Mellow Parenting, Falkirk Council, and Social Work Scotland, actively assist our Tajikistan partners by providing professional support and raising funds for the "Families Together" initiative. This directly benefits families in crisis in Tajikistan

#### **Funders**

- St. James's Place Charitable Foundation
- British Embassy in Dushanbe

# UK - Ukranian refugee project

After the invasion of Ukraine in 2022, HealthProm began its Open Doors Ukrainian Refugee Project to support refugees arriving in the UK. We provide holistic services including mental well-being support, English language support and employment advice. This year we continued and expanded our initiatives.

#### **Our Impact**

- HealthProm has emerged as the leading charity providing services to Ukrainian refugees in the Islington and Camden areas
- 148 people attended our free weekly English classes, online and on site. We offered two levels of English classes for our beneficiaries to improve their command of the English language.
- We organized regular youth club activities for 63 young Ukrainians to help them find community in London

#### **Funders**

- Google
- Islington Council
- Society of Holy Child Jesus
- Big Lottery

- We had more than 20 art therapy sessions in our office and outdoors to help our beneficiaries find avenues for expressing their experiences
- We held more than 60 sessions for mental health support counselling: peer support, mindfulness, yoga therapy and art therapy
- We began our employment services programme in January 2023 and helped 54 people with one-to-one support on their CVs and with job searches

### Testimonial

Taina Zavora came to London under the "Homes for Ukraine" scheme in April 2022. She sought advice from HealthProm for ways to get involved in the local community in London.

'Despite looking for employment, my difficulties speaking English fluently made this process difficult. HealthProm provides multifaceted support to people, including Ukrainians. At one of the HealthProm meetings, Lena [Project Coordinator] advised to volunteer. On that day, I applied to volunteer, registered and after a few weeks I started volunteering...I am eternally grateful to everyone who helped me find this opportunity.'



# UK - Afghanistan Refugee Project

HealthProm successfully launched the new Gateway to Education Project. The goal of the project is to provide Afghan children in London educational assistance with their essential subjects such as English and Maths to help them not fall behind in their studies.

#### **Funders**

- British and Foreign School Society
- Afghan Association of London

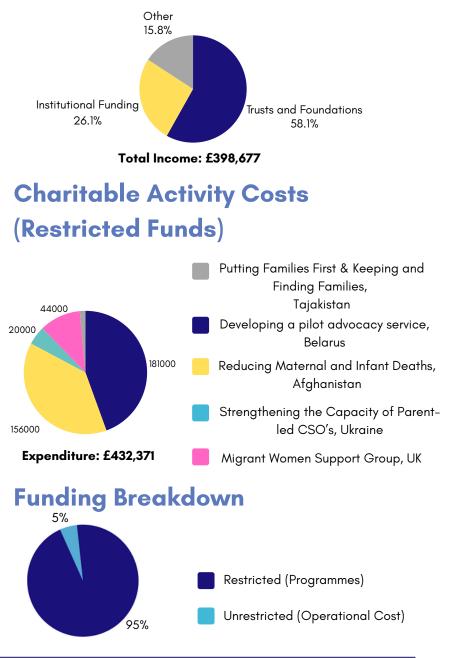
Partners

#### Progress

• Following a review of the community's needs, we launched the project in April 2023 with a first cohort of 11 students.



#### Income 2022-2023



### Thank you to our supporters!

The Trustees would like to thank HealthProm's partner organisations, funders, staff and volunteers. Without their support, HealthProm would not be able to carry out its projects and help its beneficiaries.

- British and Foreign School Society
- Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust
- Camden Giving
- Charities Aid Foundation
- The London Community Foundation (Citi Foundation nomination)
- European Commission
- Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
- Fulmer Charitable Trust
- Google/Tides Foundation
- Islington Council
- Leus Family Foundation
- Linda Norgrove Foundation
- Marsh Christian Trust

- Overseas Aid & Development Commission of the States of Guernsey
- Pignatelli Foundation
- RA and VB Reekie Charitable Trust
- Raindance Charitable Trust
- Society of Holy Child Jesus
- Souter Charitable Trust
- St. James's Place Charitable Foundation
- The Big Lottery Fund
- The GV & SJ Britten Trust
- University of Edinburgh
- W F Southall Trust

The Trustees would also like to thank HealthProm's members, anonymous donors and many other individuals who donated to our general causes and/or appeals to help us carry out our vital work.



# How to get involved

#### Make a donation

Regular giving provides essential support to our projects and running costs. Please contact us for further information if you'd like to set up a regular donation. You can also donate online at justgiving.com/health-prom. Any gift, no matter how small, helps us to continue our work helping vulnerable populations.

#### Volunteering

HealthProm has a wide array of volunteering opportunities. Please contact us if you are interested to learn more about how to donate your time. If you're interested in volunteering, check with your employer—they might donate to HealthProm in return for your volunteering time.

#### Legacies

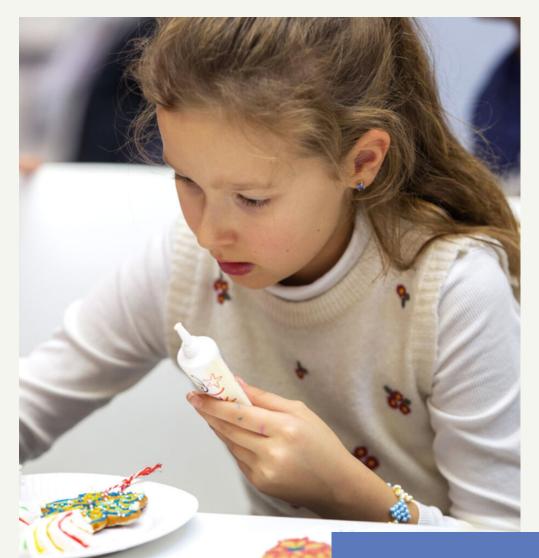
Bequests in Wills can help provide funding for HealthProm's work in the future. To find out more about how your legacy could help, please contact us.

#### **Corporate partnerships**

If your company is interested in sponsoring events on our behalf or nominating us as charity of the year, please get in touch.

#### **Contact Us**

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Registered charity number 1100459

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