

Annual report 2009



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Text: Ana-Maria Schweitzer, Ștefania Mihale

Graphic concept: Dan Crăciun, Square Media

Editing: Nicoleta Iacob

Contribution: Monica Frangeti

Photos: Vanghelița Beca, Smiley Pool,
Florin Gheorghe, the Baylor Team

Community consultants: Mihaela Andrei, Alin
Vintilă, Lucian Pascu, Matei Cătălin, Liviu
Leca, Ileana Gheorghiu, Dan Crăciun

Founder's letter



These children would get little treatment and Romanian doctors had reached despair. Kline returned to Romania in February 1996. "I thought I had seen it all, but I wasn't ready for what I was about to see", Kline said. "There were hundreds of weak children, with horrible open wounds. The children were crowded in the AIDS ward and left to die. After two weeks in Romania, I thought: My conscience won't let me turn my back on what I had seen. I developed the draft for an international pediatric program on my flight home"
 (Prof. Mark Kline on his first experience in Romania)

Dear All:

I am writing to thank you for your dedication to the mission and vision of BIPAI over the past year. Thanks to the commitment and hard work of each and every one of you, we are bigger and better than ever before, and our future has never been brighter. About 53,000 children and families currently receive care across the BIPAI Network, almost double the number that were in care at the end of 2008. Most would not have access to lifesaving medical treatment if not for you. Over the past year, BIPAI has provided HIV voluntary counseling and testing to about 130,000 men, women and children; more than 350,000 outpatient clinic visits have been reported and over 12,000 local health professionals have been trained. All of this is the result of your commitment and hard work.

We have an exciting year ahead. We will be opening new satellite clinic facilities in Lesotho and Swaziland, and we will dedicate two new Children's Clinical Centers of Excellence in Tanzania. We will launch a new clinical program in Angola, which will include a pilot program to screen newborns and treat infants and children for sickle cell disease. We hope to announce the start of construction on a new Children's Clinical Center of Excellence in Kisumu, Kenya. And here at the BIPAI home base at Texas Children's Hospital, we will be announcing the creation of a new Center for Global Child Health, with new and expanded activities in HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, malnutrition and pediatric cancer. In July, we will welcome our first-ever residents to a new landmark four-year Residency Program in Global Child Health.

Thank you for the difference you are making in the lives of some of the world's least fortunate children. It is a blessing and privilege to know and work with you.

I wish you the best of good health, happiness and success in 2010. Very best wishes,

Mark W. Kline
 J.S. Abercrombie Professor and Chairman
 Department of Pediatrics
 Baylor College of Medicine
 Physician-in-Chief
 Texas Children's Hospital

What did 2009 bring us?

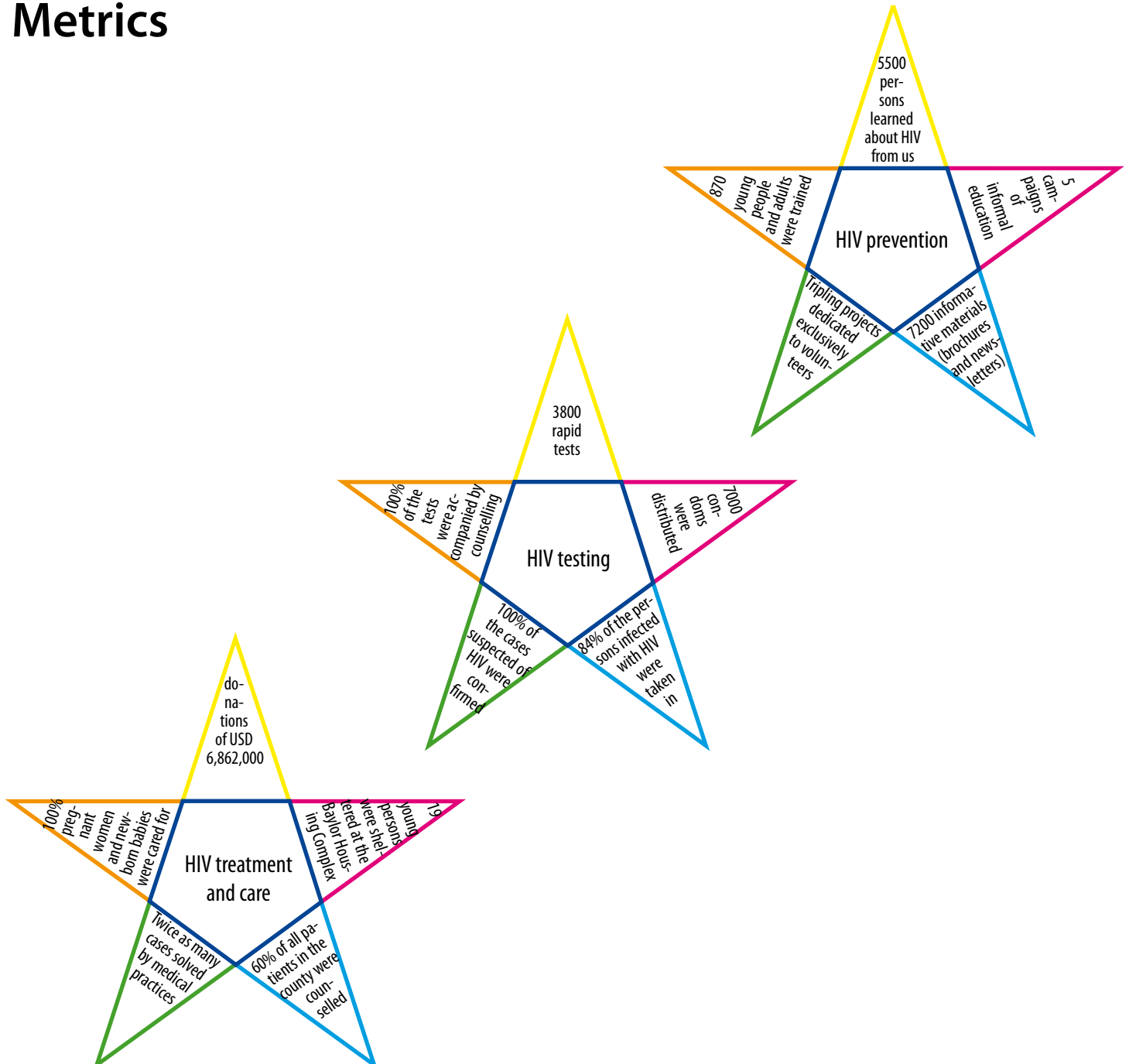


If I were to think back on the year 2009 for Baylor Romania, I am sure that, however hard I may try to be objective, I would not succeed. So I decided to admit from the very beginning that I would list the top 5 events that in my opinion contributed with a sense of novelty and consistency to the organisation I am part of.

1. We celebrated 5 years of existence as an independent organization, so we had a party surrounded by our friends and thought back on some of our achievements: opening the Centre of Excellence dedicated to all HIV patients in the county and their families, creating our own medical services (dentistry, gynaecology, pneumo-phthisiology), creating the country's first rapid HIV testing centres in Constanta and Tulcea, transforming the Flower House into a protected housing complex for homeless youth . . .
2. We pondered on our mission and experience and we understood that many of the things we learned in the past years can be transferred to the field of other infectious diseases. Therefore, we widened our mission and started to prepare programmes for the prevention and testing of B- and C-type hepatitis.
3. Baylor's experience in the world, including in Romania, was illustrated in the case study manual from Alliance for Case Studies for Global Health, together with good practices models from the entire world.
4. We achieved our first short film telling the story of a teenager who is unaware of his HIV diagnosis and which hopefully answers many of the questions a young person may have. The film gives us the excellent pretext to approach anyone in the community about prevention, testing and healthy living.
5. The number of people touched in any way by the Baylor programmes was significant: double number of HIV patients in our care, including pregnant women, new-borns and partners, over 5,000 young and adult people informed about prevention, over 900 people trained in teaching courses, almost 4,000 people tested for HIV.

Ana-Maria Schweitzer,
Executive Director

Metrics



Psychological-social services

Availability of psycho-social services to patients and their families

- ★ 73% of the patients solicited some form of psychological or social support
- ★ 89% of newly diagnosed cases were also supported from a psycho-social standpoint

Compatibility between the current needs of beneficiaries and the support programs offered by Baylor

- ★ "You, me, us" an educational brochure for present or future couples
- ★ 26% of the patients helped by the psychological-social team also received home visits
- ★ A psychotherapeutic camp model was introduced for the patients who have difficulty in following the treatment

The 8 team members focused on caring for patients who face challenges and they solved:

- ★ psychological issues after learning the diagnosis, due to the inability to accept it
- ★ social problems due to a lack of awareness about the social rights of HIV positive people.

By counselling and testing as many couples and partners of HIV positive persons as possible, our goal was to prevent the transmission of the HIV infection, as well as unwanted pregnancies.

We focused on good collaboration with the local institutions, but we also pointed out at all times any irregularities, delays, postponements which were to the detriment of our beneficiaries, even solving such situations whenever possible.

Although one of the Baylor principles is to teach our clients to stand on their own feet, it was however necessary to grant emergency material support to 16% of the assisted patients.



Medical services

Ensuring the right to treat other health issues along with HIV for HIV positive patients

- ★ Continuing – for the third year – the dental, gynaecologic and pulmonary care of patients from the Centre of Excellence
- ★ Preventing medical discrimination situations by accompanying and representing the patients

Increasing the quality and life expectancy for patients

- ★ 60% of all patients were consulted by a pneumo-phthisiologist
- ★ 39% received dental care
- ★ 60% of the HIV positive women from the centre were assisted by a gynaecologist

The activity of medical offices is focused on the treatment of health issues, as well as on the prophylaxis of diseases for patients with low immunity. A unique aspect is the direct connection between medical offices and the team of psychologists and social assistants.

The team of the gynaecology practice helps with the birth of healthy children, the identification of female patients with risk of cervical cancer and the diagnosis of sexually transmitted infections. Couples are assisted to choose the right contraceptive methods, focusing on the use of condoms – the only method which also ensures the prevention of HIV transmission.

HIV positive patients with low immunity are very vulnerable to lung diseases such as TB or various types of pneumonia. As a result, it was a priority for our team to teach patients about the prophylactic treatment and how to quickly diagnose lung diseases. Moreover, our team constantly made sure that the treatment administered by the respiratory care practice also took into consideration the other treatments given to patients, by working along with infectious diseases doctors.

Baylor doctors not only treat, but also educate: which is why they spend time with each patient to teach him/her the rules of group living. Thus, the HIV positive patient can avoid exposure to certain infections and the surrounding people can be better protected.

A healthy and beautiful dentition is just as important to an HIV+ patient as it is to the rest of the population. Consequently, the dental care team has not only solved emergencies, but has also achieved complex dental procedures.



Rapid HIV testing

Promoting a healthy lifestyle among the people who get tested

- ★ 100% of the tests were accompanied by counselling before and after the testing
- ★ 84% of the HIV+ patients within the program received psychological and medical support from Baylor after diagnostic
- ★ 7000 condoms distributed for free

Increasing the interest of the general population in HIV testing

- ★ 100% of the tests remained free throughout the entire year

We believe that the testing program in Constanta and Tulcea is unique due to the team's dedication and respectful attitude toward the tested person.

The testing team observes at all times the obligatory standards of carrying out an HIV testing in every detail: the informed consent of the tested person, the pre-testing and post-testing counselling, the information offered to the client regarding the exposure risks to HIV.

The passion of the personnel involved in this project is also reflected by the fact that a large part of the work is carried out by volunteers.

A great number of clients who pay a visit to the practice come from within the community, after finding out about this opportunity from various sources. What encouraged us particularly is the fact that more and more doctors from the county hospitals of Constanta and Tulcea have sent us patients for testing all throughout 2009; in this way, we have also contributed to the correct diagnosis and treatment of these patients.

The success of this program and the interest in the health of our community made us decide to prepare the inclusion of testing for B and C hepatitis as of 2010. The reason is that there are obvious similarities between the transmission of HIV and that of the B and C hepatitis virus, as well as similarities related to lifestyle and needs.



Improving adults' knowledge

Encouraging appropriate care for HIV positive people within different community institutions

- ★ 12 training courses for professionals
- ★ 94% of the course takers consider that they have improved their knowledge
- ★ 80% say that their attitude towards HIV positive people has changed for the better

Promoting good practice to guide the activity of professionals for patient assistance

- ★ Adding three new themes of training: disclosure of unfavourable diagnoses, understanding the law on patient rights and preventing the transmission of infectious diseases at the workplace

After 25 years since the diagnostic of the first HIV cases in Romania, there are still problems related to the support offered to these patients within the various institutions in the community. At first, Baylor used to offer courses mainly to doctors and nurses, but in 2009 the courses were also attended by psychologists, biologists, biochemists, chemists, dental technicians and representatives of non-profit organizations.

What makes these courses special is that they include psychological, social and legislative elements related to the caretaking of patients, along with the specialized medical information, as well as examples resulted from our experience as an organization.

The final goal of these courses is not only to have open services for HIV positive patients in the county, but also for us to gain allies in our mission.

To that effect, for the past five years we have been assisted in organizing these courses by valuable people, experienced lecturers who offer us their accumulated experience.



Protected housing

Supporting HIV-infected young people without family support and without shelter in view of social integration

- ★ 9 young people are independent
- ★ 3 require constant monitoring

Ensuring minimum living conditions to keep them healthy

- ★ 19 young people assisted throughout the year

The protected housing complex was intended to assist young people with HIV who face difficulty and lack family support. Inside the two buildings of the complex, the young people receive free lodging, support and guidance for an independent life (how to manage their budget, how to maintain and repair their house).

One of the criteria for admission into the house is related to seeking and keeping a job or to continuing studies. We always take into consideration the motivation of young people to make efforts for a better life. Thus, at the end of 2009, 25% of the housed people were employed, 34% were taking training courses, 17% were still attending school and 9% were seeking employment while volunteering at Baylor.

Throughout 2009, Baylor also temporarily assisted: mothers with newborn babies and couples in difficulty.

The lodging period at the complex varies depending on the specific needs of the young person and on his/her availability to make real efforts to change his/her situation.



HIV infection and the youth

Raising the youth's awareness about the effect of HIV on the community

- ★ Organizing – for the third consecutive year – a march in memory of the lives lost to AIDS
- ★ Adapting the messages of written, video or online materials to directly reach young people

Direct involvement of young people in community projects

- ★ 30 high school or college volunteers were actively involved in the projects
- ★ 3 large projects were achieved and developed with the help of youngsters up to 70%

In order to reach the community with the Baylor message, we try to create a tradition by celebrating a number of special events (such as the Candlelight Memorial, December 1st – World AIDS Day) with the participation of young people. We believe that the march of young people through the town of Constanta, held in May of each year, is such an event.

The young people are an inexhaustible resource: they contributed to writing the script and acted as extras in a short film which depicts the concerns of a teenager who gets an HIV testing. They also organized sound photography exhibitions, thus offering the public the story behind photos.

Our projects give volunteers the opportunity to use their fullest potential: wrapping condoms with messages which promote HIV testing, taking photos, getting involved in fundraising campaigns.

The event known as the “Living library” was a premiere in Constanta – a library whose books were represented by people willing to share their life experiences. The direct contact between us and the “living books” also brought us a direct benefit – gaining supporters from within the very community.

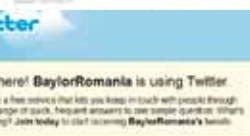


Press center

Media appearances

Written press	TV	Radio	Online
24	6	8	89
Total: 118			

În 2009 they supported us: Radio Constanța, Radio Sky, TV Neptun, CTV, Cuget Liber, Telegraf, Adevarul, Replica, Observator de Constanța, Ziua, Atitudinea, Obiectiv Tulcea and the websites: www.lumbuna.ro, www.galasocietatiicivile.ro, www.stiriong.ro



Management and financial administration

Financial system according to IFRS and USGAAP standards

- ★ Implemented and functional since 2005
- ★ Quarterly issuance of a censor's report
- ★ Annual independent auditing
- ★ Implementation of the financial manual according to the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston

Harmonizing the procedure for performance assessment with that of other Centres of Excellence from the Baylor network

- ★ Implementation of the SCORECARD system drafted by BIPAI for supervision and assessment

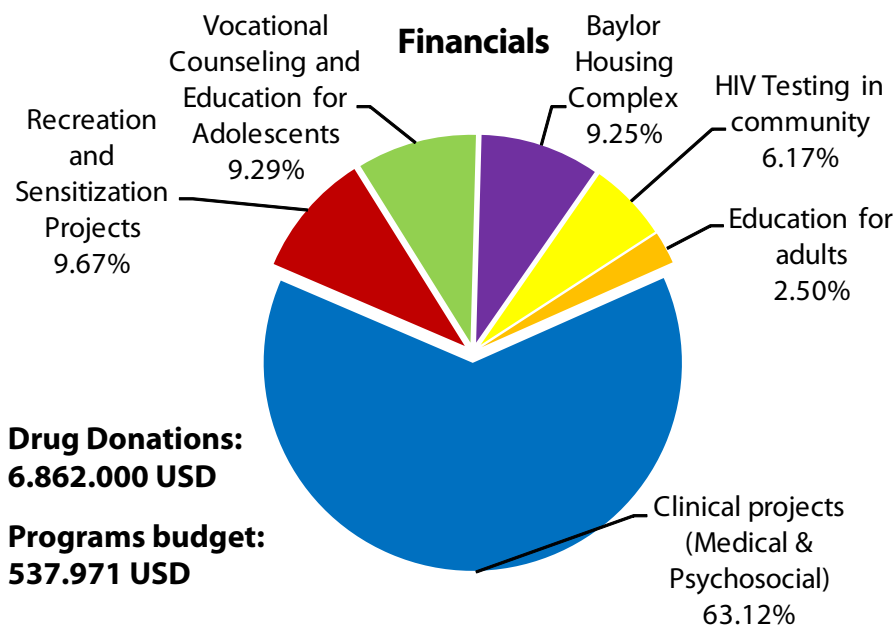
We are aware that we have a double responsibility: on the one hand, to the clients we work for, and, on the other hand, to our donors and sponsors. The manner in which we run our organization, as well as the way we manage our funds, ensure our credibility and professionalism.

We take pride in the fact that the independent audits say about organization that it "observes the terms of the financing agreements" and that "the funding sources were used for and served the purpose of the project".

In order to understand how efficient our activity is and what may not be working properly, at the beginning of each year we set for ourselves clear and detailed goals which we compare with the results obtained every month. Since 2009, our organization has assigned a person who analyzes all the activity reports, monitoring and assessing the impact of our work.

Thus, we constantly assess a series of indicators related to:

- ★ The satisfaction of our partners and the reputation of the organization
- ★ Operational excellence and innovative management
- ★ Financial stability and sustainability
- ★ Developing the organization in order to make it a desirable workplace for employees



Baylor's image

What do the volunteers say

"The Baylor Black Sea Foundation, where I volunteer, has given me the opportunity to discover a hobby, namely photography, by means of the "Picturing Hope" project.

Volunteering gives me the chance to learn new, interesting and very useful things, by offering me a variety of opportunities and satisfactions. It is a part of my life." *Elmira Menlivuap – student*



"My involvement in the activities of the Baylor team began with an innovative project for the community of Constanta: "The Living library". From the very beginning I found the concept to be fascinating and what took place afterwards proved to be so alive, dynamic and original that the personal benefits I gained from this experience gave me an extremely motivating perspective on volunteering for this organization. In short, I felt valued and I shared the satisfaction of putting together an authentic, well-done, intelligent and heartfelt project with the other persons involved." *Mihaela Andrei – editor, Radio Constanța*



"I have been volunteering for BBSF as a research consultant for a project focusing on increasing adherence to medication. We have developed this project together and it has been a rewarding experience for me, both professionally and personally. As a health psychologist, putting to good use my experience where it is really needed is very fulfilling. Moreover, I feel very lucky to be part of a team that is committed to excellence. We are now collaborating with top researchers worldwide on this project, and their positive feedback reassures us that our work is at the forefront of this area of research. Personally, it is a pleasure to work with such wonderful people and learn from them." *Alexandra Dima – PHD Student, Health Psychology, The University of Edinburgh*



"The enthusiasm of the Baylor Foundation personnel, their desire to make a change for the better, the good organization and respectful interpersonal relationships I witnessed when I took part in the International School have given me the desire to offer my services to this foundation for which I hold great admiration and appreciation.

I am proud that I was recruited by the Baylor Foundation and that I can take part in projects which involve the organization of courses for health professionals, along with doctors with extensive vocational training." *Ramona Stoicescu – Academic Professor Doctor, PHD from the Pharmaceutical Faculty, Ovidius University Constanța*

Baylor's image



What do the employees say

"I feel that I am part of the Baylor team, I like representing the organization in various environments and soliciting support for our projects. I believe in the cause we support." (*Mihaela Mocanu*)



"What interests me the most is quality. I do not like half solved cases. What concerns me is not only solving the cases, but also educating the beneficiaries to become responsible and capable of helping themselves." (*Luiza Vlahopol*)

"One of the best things about Baylor is that they encourage creativity; you are allowed to come up with an idea and you are not criticized if it is not the brightest one. They never made me feel bad if my initiative was not the best one." (*Raluca Roman*)



What do the visitors say

"Congratulations for what you are doing and for what you are trying to do!"

"It was a true opportunity to take part in such an event. I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of work you have invested. Well done!" (About the "living library")

"It's the most original idea of a photo exhibition I've ever been to. The accompanying stories accurately presented the photographs to the point where you could visualize them with your eyes open." (About the sound photography exhibition)

"A pleasant atmosphere, very well documented speakers, a warm reception. A lot of interesting information. The volunteers were friendly and at our disposal."

"We want to thank you for the time you took to show us your home (the Housing Complex). You are all doing a great, wonderful job. Remember that those who fight and persevere will always be rewarded. It was a pleasure to meet all of you from the Flower House and the Baylor-Habitat House. We thank you for this great tour."

"This course has made me more tolerant toward the people infected with HIV and those in need."

Baylor needs you


It is our hope that you were inspired after reading this report and that you realized that a part of your energy, resources or finances can support one of the Baylor projects.

Donate

Sponsor

Direct 2%

Offer your free expertise



Did you know
that you
can help 5 people
without any efforts?

Direct

2%

of the income tax

Fundația Baylor
Marea Neagră
Cel care se străduiește pot fi ajutat!

With 2% from the income tax that you already paid to the state, we will be able to perform 5 HIV or hepatitis tests

The 2% campaign of 2009

Last year, 19% of the tests used at the centres for rapid HIV-testing in Dobrogea could be procured due to the kind people who redirected 2% of their income tax to Baylor.

It is wonderful when people look after each other!

With 2% from the income tax that you already paid to the state, we will be able to perform 5 HIV or hepatitis tests.

Donors

Main donors



Fondul Global de Luptă
Împotriva HIV/SIDA, Tuberculozei și Malariei prin
Fundația Romanian Angel Appeal

Middle Grants Donors

Matra Kap Program of Kingdom of Nederlanden's Embassy from Bucharest

Governments of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the Financial Mechanism of the European Economical Space; BRD Group Societe Generale along with the Association for the Communitarian Relations

Individual Donors

Marijke Beel; Ioniță Gabriel, Mânăilă Nicolae Robert, Cristache Gabriel, Constantin Eduard, Popovici Nicoleta Lăcramioara, Anghel Lazăr, Popescu Luminița, Constantin Florentina, Sebastian Wanless, Dumitru Liviu Ionuț, Deaconu Daniel, Părvu Ioana Luminița, Năstasă Cristina, Lujanschi Laura Antonela, Arvinte Cătălin, Roisin Gabriel, Ganea Mariana, Radu Nicoleta, Ivan Ion, Ursu Antoaneta, Ionescu Mihail, Lucaci Celana, Dița Mariana, Bumbac Andreea, Dumitru Cristina, Craiu Carmen Iuliana, Jipa Mihai Cristian, Brăiescu Andra Roxana, Macavei Anca, Circu Diana Elena, Ismail Enver, Grigoraș Vasile, Vătuiu Ecaterina, Mogoșanu Marius Florin

Donors in kind, services and expertise



Crucea Roșie Română



A complete list of the Baylor Romania's projects in 2009

1. Excellence services for the HIV patients and their families – clinical, psychosocial and medical assistance
2. Counseling for professional integration for the HIV+ people
3. “Steps towards the future” services for the pregnant women and the new born babies exposed to HIV
4. The Life Education Project developed by the professionals
5. The project for sustaining the HIV exposed couples
6. The emergency help project for the Center of Excellence patients
7. Baylor Protected Housing Complex
8. HIV rapid testing and counseling in Dobrogea region
9. Continuous Medical Education for the professionals from the sanitary and social area
10. Project for informing, education and communication in the community with the voluntaries help
11. Camp Hope-formation camps
12. Commemorative Events in the community – The CandleLight Memorial
13. The “I love you positive or negative” project-wrapping condoms
14. The “Picturing Hope” project of photographic art and raising the community's awareness
15. The “YouthBank”-project of developing the philanthropically spirit of the youngsters
16. The “Magic Board” developing instruments for the education in the health department
17. Dental Care at the Center of Excellence
18. Fund Raising in the community
19. Psychotherapeutic camps for increasing the adherence to the ARV treatment, for the HIV+ adults
20. The psychosocial study “Determinants of adherence for the HIV+ patients”



The Baylor Team

Management

Ana-Maria Schweitzer

Psychosocial Team:

Vlahopol Ștefania Luiza • Caravețeanu Elena-Alina • Grigore Caterina • Pop Corina Iuliana • Diaconița Ruxandra • Niculaie Florica • Stochiță Ioana

Medical team:

Richard Sebastian Wanless • Vasiliu Emanoil • Trifescu Eugenia • Paraschiv Mirela • Butuc Angelica • Andrei Anca Georgiana • Bejat Bianca Cătălina

Baylor Complex Team:

Picioarea Stănuța • Dinco Liliana • Popescu Niculina • Moise Rodica

Administrative team:

Monica Frangeti • Leonica Meseșan • Sevastre Cătălina • Țacu Corina Luminița • Marin Nicolae • Schweitzer Carol • Picioarea Ion • Poponete Marius Gabriel • Chiriș Mariana

Projects Team:

Pușcașu Cristina • Iacob Nicoleta • Mihale Ștefania Florentina • Mocanu Mihaela • Roman Raluca Costina

Baylor Centers Constanța

Policlinica 1, 243 office

Mocanu Mihaela • Neacșu Elena Monica • Pop Corina Iuliana • Stochiță Ioana • Negivan Septar

Center of Excellence

Vlahopol Ștefania Luiza • Caravețeanu Elena Alina • Butuc Angela

Baylor Center TULCEA

Eftimie Margareta • Sulea Marcela

Volunteers:

Anca Hornea • Andrada Hurduc • Andrei Butuc • Ana Vlad • Alin Iacob • Alina Anton • Ana Grosu • Andrei Morari • Diana Țățârcă • Eliza Roșca • Elena Vlad • Emanuela Popa • Elmira Menlivuap • Elda Menlivuap • Irina Pitilina • Iuliana Boca • Luca Mateescu • Mariana Constantinescu • Mihai Moșneagu • Mihai Rizea • Miruna Oprescu • Raluca Costiniuc • Răzvan Mocanu • Răzvan Stoicescu • Ștefan Marghiol • Octavian Nistor • Vanghelija Beca



Baylor-Black Sea Foundation

Clinical Center of Excellence

Str.Prelungirea Liliacului, Nr.10, Km.4-5, Constanța, Romania

Tel / Fax: +40 241 691 730; mobil: +40 372 765 200

Email: office@baylor-romania.ro

The Baylor Habitat Complex

Str.Traian Lalescu, Nr.29, Loc. Lazu, Jud. Constanța, Romania

Tel./Fax: +40 241 738 918

Email: office@baylor-romania.ro

Baylor Centers for Counseling and Rapid Testing for HIV and Hepatitis

Constanța

Spitalul Județean

Policlinica nr. 1, cabinetul 243

Tel : 0371 31 22 00

Tulcea

Spitalul Județean de Urgență

Secția de Boli Infecțioase – parter

Tel : 0240 53 23 45

www.test-hiv.ro
www.test-hepatita.ro
www.baylor-romania.ro