





ABOUT US

The Charitable Association Fr Mladen Hrkac is a charitable and non-governmental organization established in Croatia in 2012 that helps people with health problems. The Charity is open to all people treated in hospitals in Zagreb, whether they come from Croatia or from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Charity organizes comprehensive care, both for the patients and for the accompanying family members, and takes care of their accommodation, transport and food. It supports the families in coping with administration, provides psychological and spiritual help and provides a hospital e-school programme.

The Charity helps everybody free of charge and irrespective of age, gender, type of illness, social status, nationality and religion. So far, it has helped more than 5.500 people who had to stay in hospitals in Zagreb.

The Fr Mladen Hrkac Charity is the only organization in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina which can organize all of the necessary social services for the disabled. This also applies to people who need to be isolated in a particular stage of treatment and must live in a sterile environment.



ACCOMMODATION

The beneficiaries of our services are accommodated in fully-equipped apartments, located in the immediate vicinity of the largest hospitals, equipped with the necessary food, hygiene articles, household appliances, bed linen, towels and everything else a household needs. Two of the apartments are fully adapted to the needs of a particular group of users - people with disabilities, as well as people who need to live isolated and in a sterile environment in a particular stage of their treatment.

In order to adapt these apartments to their needs, the Charity has invested over 130.000 euros (208.780 AUD). However, this investment has paid off - 45 people can be accommodated at the same time, so that patients-beneficiaries and their families have stayed overnight more than 33.000 times in the apartments so far.



MEALS

The Charity provides all the food so that our beneficiaries can prepare meals for themselves and their diseased family members who are treated in hospitals. However, there are situations when none of them can cook. The Charity helps in these cases too by providing ready-made warm meals three days a week from restaurants in the vicinity of the apartments. To date, more than 102.000 such meals were delivered.



TRANSPORT

The Charity has not forgotten that patients also need transport: in cooperation with many bus companies, free bus tickets are provided to the patients and their accompanying relatives or friends. In case a patient cannot travel by bus, the Charity pays part of the fuel and toll costs. In the case of the disabled, the Charity's own special van with a ramp for wheelchair users comes to collect the patient. This special vehicle costed 32.000 euros (51.392 AUD). Over the past six years, more than 2,950 free bus tickets have been provided. Also, a total of 52.700 litres of fuel and 190,000 kilometres of motorway tolls have been financed.



ASSISTANCE IN COPING WITH ADMINISTRATION

Long-term recovery and treatment are not easy and often a variety of documents are needed, which have to be submitted to certain offices. It becomes even more complicated if the patients are not Croatian citizens. In these cases, the Charity helps the patient to fill out the documents, hand them over to the right office in good time and to get what they are entitled to, which significantly affects their quality of life and considerably reduces the treatment costs. Most of the cases are related to health insurance, further treatment abroad, rehabilitation, medication, orthopedic appliances and the like. Unfortunately, a patient may also die. In such cases too, the Charity assists families by regulating the documentation and taking care of the transport of the deceased person to their home.



PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SPIRITUAL AID

In collaboration with a number of external staff, the Charity also provides psychological help through individual therapy, discussions and workshops. Many specially trained volunteers are helping people with disabilities, showing them how to help themselves in their new environment. These volunteers also travel with them during the transport in the special vehicle. We know that in addition to practical help, spiritual support is also of great value, and therefore the priests of the Herzegovinian Franciscan Province give our beneficiaries spiritual guidance through prayers and conversations on their way to recovery.



VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS

The team, which supports the work of the Charity, includes more than 300 active volunteers and 1000 members from all over Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, who are indispensable for the functioning of everyday activities of the Charity: they welcome our beneficiaries and accompany them into the apartments, they visit the patients daily, bring cooked meals, organize workshops and art therapies for diseased children, help students to overcome the teaching material, help the young in their school tasks and assist their family members in all the issues during their stay in Zagreb.



PROJECT “e-SCHOOL IN HOSPITALS”

Our young patients are often hospitalized for weeks and months. The project called Hospital e-school allows children and young people from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, who have to spend a certain time in one of the hospitals in Zagreb or in one of the apartments of our Charity to follow the lessons of their school programme, and thus helping them with catching up with their school programme once they return home. The inclusion of children and young people in the work of the e-school in hospitals contributes significantly to their psychological, emotional and social recovery, so that a supportive environment is provided and the children remain connected with the everyday life outside the hospital.



THE FR MLADEN HRKAC CHARITY IN THE WORLD

The Charitable Association Fr Mladen Hrkac is supported by more than 175,000 private persons and legal entities from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, the USA, Australia and the rest of the world, who follow us in our work and help us with donations in the form of products, services and payments.

Thanks to a representative office in Siroki Brijeg, the Charity is present in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well. Through a cooperation agreement with the humanitarian organization "St. David's Relief Foundation" from Mansfield, Texas, the Charity has also spread in the United States. Currently a Foundation Fr Mladen Hrkac is being set up in the Federal Republic of Germany, too, which will make it easier for the representatives of the Fr Mladen Charity to provide support for a much larger number of people coming to Zagreb for treatment.



PRICES ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We were awarded several times for our work and received many prizes for our services and our mission. We will single out only three:

- Prize of the European Parliament "European Citizen" for the year 2016 for outstanding contributions to the promotion of European values
- Acknowledgement "Didak" for humanitarian work on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the rescue of starving children from Bosnia and Herzegovina initiated by Fr Didak Buntic
- Vecernjakov pecat 2017 in category Humanitarian work given by Vecernji list daily newspaper





*“THE FR MLADEN HRKAC
HOME”*

The public tender for the conceptual architectural-urban design of the Fr Mladen Hrkac Home was completed in December 2017. Five-member jury presided by Angel Garcia Alvarez (Madrid, Spain), an architect specialized in hospital architecture, has chosen the best conceptual design developed by the architects Roman Vukoja and Jurica Sinkovic.



“THE FR MLADEN HRKAC HOME”

In December 2016, the City of Zagreb granted the Charitable Association Fr Mladen Hrkac the right to build the Fr Mladen Hrkac Home on the City's property in the Gojko Susak Avenue in Dubrava, Zagreb.

On a land plot of 5000 m², located in the vicinity of all major hospital centers in Zagreb, a modern, functional and nearly zero energy object will be built to accommodate people who are temporarily staying in Zagreb for the purpose of their own medical treatment or the treatment of members of their families.

The Home will be able to accommodate 220 persons at the same time. Almost 9000 m² of gross area, with 6000m² of net (usable) area will offer facilities for nursing and therapeutic needs, along with other accompanying facilities and 55 different accommodation units:

- isolation accommodation units for people who underwent organ transplantation and for oncology patients*
- accommodation units for people with disabilities*
- quarantine accommodation units*
- basic accommodation units for all other severely diseased patients*
- accommodation units with more beds for families with many children where one of them is ill*



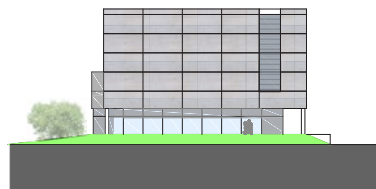
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The construction of the Home will provide high quality and innovative social services at a European level; therefore, this is a project of national interest which is officially supported by many respectable institutions and individuals from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatian Diaspora and abroad.

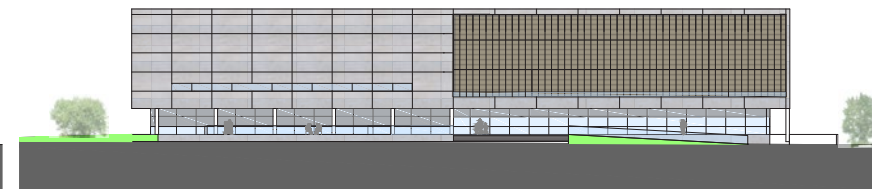
The project is developing under the high auspices of Ms. Kolinda Grabar – Kitarovic - the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Dragan Covic - Chairman and Croatian Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Gordan Jandrokovic - President of the Croatian Parliament, and the City of Zagreb headed by the Mayor Mr. Milan Bandic. The Government of the Republic of Croatia has already supported numerous individual actions and fundraising events with a purpose of building Fr Mladen Hrkac Home.

The project is funded through the Fr Mladen Hrkac Foundation, founded in July 2017, with the aim of building, equipping and maintaining the Home. According to the plan, the Home will be ready to open its doors to the ill and the needy on 10th anniversary of the founding of the Fr Mladen Hrkac Charity in June 2022.

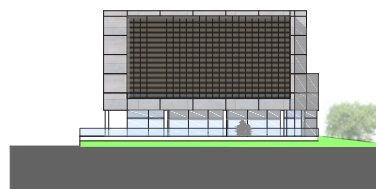
WEST FACADE



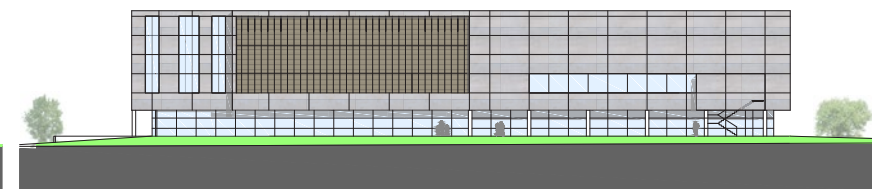
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