

Press Release

Ioannina: third stop of the social initiative "proSfEEroume"

Athens, 13 March 2017 -. As part of the social initiative "**proSfEEroume**" ("we give"), a delegation of SFEE visited the city of Ioannina, conveying a message of hope and optimism through the donation of pharmaceuticals and consumables to the seven (7) structures of the Social Care Centre of the Epirus Region. The "**proSfEEroume**" project, a shared vision of the **Hellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Companies** (SFEE) and the **Hellenic Red Cross** (HRC), began its journey in late 2016, starting from Rhodes and Florina, and aims to cover needs for medicines, medical supplies, essential goods and consumables.

1

The visit of "**proSfEEroume**" to Ioannina was accompanied by a health education course, offered by Aikaterini Ramioti, Social Worker from the Ioannina Regional Department of the HRC, and addressed to children and teachers at the structures of the Social Care Center of the Epirus Region. Moreover, a first aid and emergency course was offered by HRC nurses and instructors Aikaterini Kavlakoudi and Eleni Galanopoulou.

During the visit, HRC and SFEE Presidents, Dr Antonios Avgerinos and Mr Paschalis Apostolidis respectively, gave a joint press conference at the offices of the HRC Ioannina Regional Department, aimed to raise awareness among local authorities and the public. They also had the opportunity to hold meetings with the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Ioannina, Mr. Maximus, and with representatives of local and regional authorities, to discuss the prospect of future cooperation in areas of mutual concern (targeted humanitarian actions and interventions to support vulnerable groups).

The social initiative "**proSfEEroume**" was implemented in Ioannina thanks to the kind donations from the SFEE member companies: **Bayer, Novartis, Pharmaserve-Lilly,**

Press Release

Vianex, as well as from the **Association of Health – Research and Biotechnology Industry (SEIV)**.

At the press conference held on the occasion, the **President of SFEE, Mr. Pascal Apostolides**, stated: "In a difficult time, by the "**proSfEEroume**" initiative we have opened our arms to encompass every fellow citizen in need. The journey continues, and we look forward to our next stops: Drama, Komotini, Kavala, Xanthi, Kastelorizo, Limnos."

The **President of the HRC, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos**, stated: "The third stop of "**proSfEEroume**", Ioannina, makes us very happy, as we have managed to unite the whole country in such a challenging mission."