

PHILOPTOCHOS

More than \$100,000 Given for Aid to Greece, Cyprus

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society Inc. has announce that, on July 3, its executive board approved disbursements totaling \$115,000 for aid to the people of Greece and Cyprus, as follows:

- \$10,000 to Lyreio Paidiko Idryma- SS Anargyroi, an ecclesiastical entity under the care of the nuns from the convent of Holy Trinity in Mati, Attiki.

- \$10,000 to Demetreion Center of Apostoli in Moshato, Greece, an after-school program Greece for the care of underprivileged children.

- \$20,000 to Apostoli, a nongovernmental, nonprofit organization founded by the Social Services Department of the Holy Archdiocese of Athens for food and support of families.

- \$10,000 to the Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans for humanitarian assistance to deprived, expatriated Greeks of Constantinople.

- \$30,000 - \$10,000 to each of three partially or entirely refugee Metropolises of Cyprus, for food and assistance with utility bills, housing and medical

expenses, etc.

- \$20,000 to the Holy Metropolis of Mytiline to provide assistance to the villages destroyed by the very recent earthquake in Lesvos (Mytiline), Greece.

- \$15,000 to Syndesmos Gia Atoma me Aftismo (Association for Children and Adults with Autism) in Limasol, Cyprus.

Since the start of the financial crisis, the severe economic conditions have continued unabated, causing food shortages and lack of housing and medical care. These conditions have impacted not only the physical needs of the people, but also the spiritual and emotional well-being of our brothers and sisters in Greece and Cyprus. This latest disbursement brings the total aid provided by National Philoptochos to the people of Greece and Cyprus to \$789,120 since 2012.

To support the National Philoptochos Aid to Greece and Cyprus Fund, please log on to

<http://bit.ly/1MpMsF3> to make your donation.

Anita Baglaneas at Children's Medical

The National Philoptochos Society is pleased to announce that Anita Baglaneas Devlin, an advocate for addiction recovery, will be the guest speaker at the 16th National Philoptochos Children's Medical Fund Luncheon. The luncheon, which is being hosted by the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos, will take place on Saturday, Nov. 11 at The Venetian in Garfield, N.J. Ms. Devlin, and her son, Michael Jr., are the co-authors of S.O.B.E.R., a book chronicling their family's journey from addiction to recovery. A Greek-American and a daughter of a Greek Orthodox priest, Ms. Devlin's compelling story demonstrates that no one is immune from addiction and there is 'no room for judgment and shame because we are all God's children.'

"We are so happy to have Anita Baglaneas Devlin as our honored speaker at the Children's Medical Fund Luncheon. Opioid and heroin addiction are sweeping across the country, especially in the northeast. This timely presentation by Anita will

National Philoptochos Giving \$30,000 for Hurricane Harvey Victims

The stewards of the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, committed to making a difference in the world, are limitless in their compassion for serving the victims of disasters. Once again, National Philoptochos answered the call in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Harvey's historic flooding in Texas. Fifty-five inches of rain fell, depositing 24.5 trillion gallons of rainwater on the affected areas. This is three times the amount of water that Hurricane Katrina produced.

On Aug. 31 the National Philoptochos approved a \$30,000 disbursement to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) as an immediate and initial contribution to benefit victims. As the needs of the communities are better identified in the coming weeks and months, Philoptochos will continue to provide aid and comfort locally with hands-on support on the ground and nationally with additional support. Since 2004, National Philoptochos has

distributed over \$600,000 around the world to victims of disasters, including:

- Floods in Iowa, Nashville, Pakistan, Mississippi, Serbia, Louisiana, West Virginia, and Texas

- Earthquakes in Haiti, Nepal, and Mytiline in Greece

- Florida Hurricanes, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Sandy, and Hurricane Matthew

- Fires in Greece and San Francisco

- Tsunami in Japan

- Taiphoon in Hong Kong

- Tornado at Ionian village

- The October Philoptochos chapter commitment for the National Philoptochos Emergency Fund makes it possible for Philoptochos to respond with immediate aid when disasters strike.

Contributions to the National Philoptochos Emergency Fund can be placed at: <http://bit.ly/1MpMsF3>.

Giving Our Best at t

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The rain and flooding from Hurricane Harvey had not receded when Hurricane Irma took aim at Florida, the southeastern United States, once again inflicting historic destruction. Hurricane Irma was the longest lasting Category 5 hurricane in history with sustained winds of over 185 mph.

Did you know?

Fifty-five inches of rain fell in Texas, depositing 24.5 trillion gallons