



# Annual Impact Report

2023



**INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
GEORGIA**

Est. 1996

# History & Mission

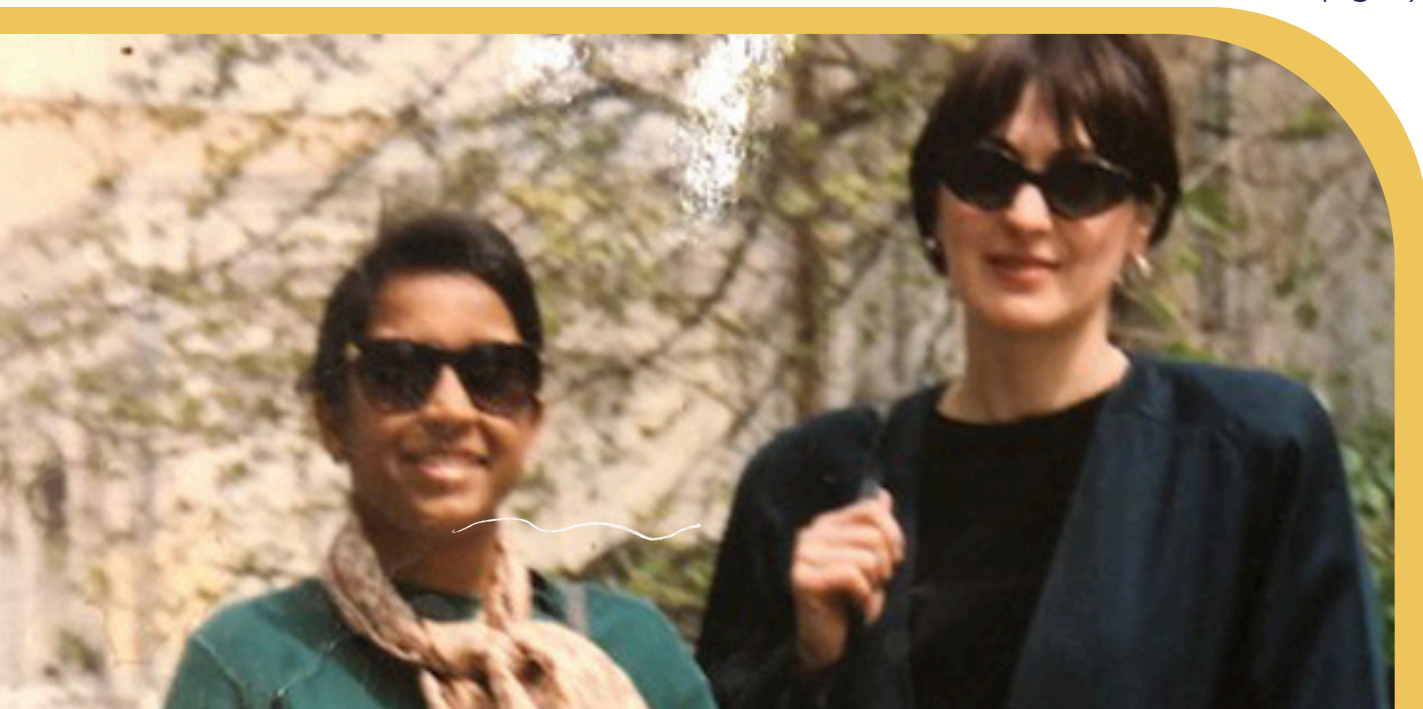
IWA Georgia was initiated in 1996 by a group of expatriate and Georgian women living in Tbilisi. Since then, IWA Georgia has supported women, children and elderly people who are at risk due to poverty, poor health and disabilities.

In spring 2017, IWA Georgia obtained official charity status which confers to the Organization a stronger position as an officially recognized, serious and well managed organization.

Currently, the Organization continues to function as:

- a safety net for expatriate women who arrive in Tbilisi, helping them to settle down, explore their interests, mix with Georgian women and learn about the culture and richness of their hosting country
- a charity NGO supporting grass roots organizations and individuals, with focus on women and vulnerable groups of Georgian society

*Founders of IWA Georgia:  
Renuka Matagne (left) and Nana Dvali  
(right)*



# President's Message

Dear Benefactors,

Thanks to your generosity and dedication to our many charitable causes, we are pleased to present to you in the following pages the fruits of a successful year 2023.

Without your patronage and support, this would not be possible.

As you may be aware, all income from our events goes directly to impactful projects in Georgia that have been submitted and meticulously considered. This improves communities' and individuals' lives in large and small ways.

Among the many successes, we were able to fund NGO Mkurnali, Education Development and Employment Center, Hospice "Peristvaleba" and many more organizations and individuals in Georgia.



*Johanna Mühlmann  
President 2021 - 2023*



*Maria Fischer  
President 2023 - ongoing*

These projects have directly enhanced education, social cohesion, and overall well-being in the communities we serve. Additionally, we invest in the healthcare of the needy, ensuring their access to essential medical services and improving health outcomes for disadvantaged individuals and groups. Your contributions have made a tangible difference in these communities and individuals' lives, empowering them to build a brighter future.

Please note that IWA has official Georgian charity status and as such submits all financial paperwork for an official annual audit. Moreover, the entire IWA team works voluntarily and gratuitously. Your unwavering support has contributed significantly to the success of IWA's yearly events. In 2023 we were able to raise **168 705 GEL** and distribute it in a variety of way throughout Georgia. You will be able to delve into the details of these and more projects, as well as the auditor's conclusion.

We are profoundly grateful for your commitment. We thank you once again for being an integral part of our mission and look forward to achieving even greater milestones together.

*SOCO Foundation Project*



# Charity Projects Committee

Through the Charity Project Committee (CPC), IWA contributes to the social development of Georgia through the funding of a number of projects that are carefully reviewed, selected and monitored.

All supported projects must have a direct, positive effect on Georgian citizens. The money collected by the fundraising activities of IWA Georgia, mainly the annual Winter Fair 2022, is spent with responsibility, care and through strict processes and control. CPC work undergoes a yearly auditing!

The CPC team is pleased to share with our donors and supporters the projects we worked on during 2023 and we all look forward to future collaboration!

In the following pages, you will find the project list of 2023 which we present with pride and gratitude for our financial and working partners!



*Margret Schmidt  
CPC Chair 2020- 2023*



*Marianna Sofianou  
CPC Chair 2024 - ongoing*

## Principles of CPC

The work of the Charity Projects Committee (CPC) is to provide grants to organizations and individuals who apply to IWA for funds in support of various projects in Georgia.

The grants we provide, aim to improve the lives of women, children, and the elderly, as well as persons who are vulnerable, disabled, sick, or have a specific need. We respond to emergencies that affect the well-being of individuals and we also support prevention programs. All our projects fall into one of these areas of interest and must have a direct, positive effect on Georgian citizens.

Applications are open to everyone (Georgian citizens), there is no limitation in this, as our primary goal is to reach those that might be excluded from all other similar opportunities – individuals usually apply for grants to help with medical care, these are generally people/children with low incomes, often at poverty level, who need help to cover treatments and have exhausted all other options, so we often support their life saving treatments.

Organizations often apply for educational projects, for projects that empower women, or those that live with different disabilities.



Community Projects



Dedicated Projects



Individual Projects

# Dedicated Projects Program

In 2022, our Charity Projects Committee (CPC) launched the Dedicated Projects Program to provide companies and donors with better control over how their donations are allocated.

In our regular CPC operations, donations from companies and supporters are pooled into a joint CPC budget and distributed throughout the year to support various projects across different fields.

This approach works well for companies that do not have strict limitations on the types of charitable projects they can support. They can confidently contribute, knowing that our dedicated team will carefully select deserving applicants, whether individuals or organizations, from a wide range of fields.



*Sara Modzmanashvili-Kemecsei*  
1st Vice-President  
Fundraising Chair  
2020- ongoing

The Dedicated Projects Program, however, offers sponsors or companies the option to support a specific project or focus on a particular area they are passionate about. This allows for a more tailored allocation of donations, ensuring that a sponsor's preferences are met. We understand that companies often have different focuses within their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives—some may prioritize education, while others may support projects related to the elderly or the environment. Our Dedicated Projects Program ensures that these preferences are reflected in how their contributions to IWAG are used.

If you are interested in this form of sponsorship, please contact our Fundraising Team, and we will provide you with the necessary information to get involved!

*NGO Mkurnali Dedicated Project 2023  
One of the youngest residents of the shelter - despite her difficult living circumstances she has achieved great successes in gymnastics, representing Georgia in several regional competitions already.*



# Community Projects

# Details

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The Union “Parent’s Support”

Training of four people to be confident to teach beneficiaries (skills for independent life)

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Hospice “Peristvaleba”

Supporting professional education of palliative care professionals and caregivers in Georgia

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Naambobi

Sex and stereotypes’ information campaign via internet and Facebook

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EDEC Baghdati Center

Purchase of furniture and equipment for sensory therapy for children with disabilities in rural Georgia

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*Hospice “Peristvaleba” Project*



# Community Projects

## Details

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SOCO Foundation

Support of the Daycare Center for children with special needs in Zugdidi

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NGO Child and Environment

Purchase of special developing equipment and children's furniture

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The Union of Parents of Persons with disabilities in Sighnaghi

Equipment for rehabilitation center in Sighnaghi

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Lanchkuti Information Center

Supporting children with buying groceries after flooding in Lanchkuti, Guria Region

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TEMI Charitable Union

Renewing the roof of passage between dining room and kitchen that was destroyed by a hail storm

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NGO Tolitskuri

Payment of operational costs for three months for a Daycare Center for children with special needs

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Catharsis

Fund of the NGO's canteen for 450 elderly people for one month

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Development Space - 2023

Purchase of furniture for a new center for adults with disabilities in Tskneti

# Community Projects

## Details

Foundation of Economic Education of Georgia (Kid's Club "Happy Me")

Purchase of Christmas presents for Ukrainian children for Christmas

Oncoline Georgia

New Year's campaign in Kakheti Region

# Dedicated Project

## Details

NGO Mkurnali

Construction and renovation of rooms and bathrooms

*Development Space - 2023 Project*



# Individual Projects

## Details

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Individual T.D.

Chemotherapy for breast cancer

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Individual M.K.

Medication for lung cancer

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Individual B.P.

3 months post operative rehabilitation program under the guidance of surgeon

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Individual G.A.

Purchase of a cochlear implant

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Individual L.M.

Payment of gas bill for a vulnerable family

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Individual N.D.

Medical tests after gall bladder removal

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Individual F.G.

Surgery in Turkey for removal of damaged kidney

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Individual T.A.

Medication to treat pneumonia

Dedicated Project

# Donation from Burns Supper & Gala

## Mkurnali - Shelter for Former Street Children in Tbilisi

In 2023, the Organizing Committee of the annual Tbilisi Gala Benefit Burns Supper and Ball chose to support our work through the Dedicated Projects Program. They selected the specific project they wanted to assist with their donation, and our CPC team handled all the paperwork and monitoring with the chosen beneficiary.

**12 813 GEL**

*Rooftop renovation to create two  
additional rooms*



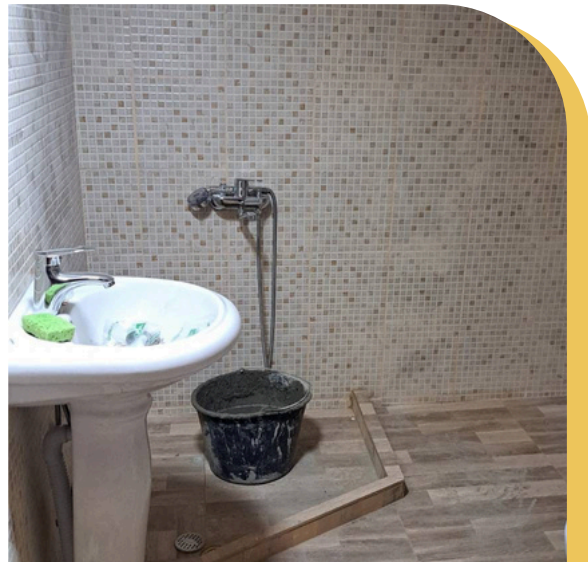
This option provided the Burns Supper Committee with peace of mind, knowing that their donation was being properly tracked and monitored. It also allowed us to support one of our long-standing beneficiaries, the Mkurnali Project.

Mkurnali runs a small shelter for former street children, many of whom now live there with their own families. The project helps its beneficiaries reintegrate into the labor market and develop skills to support themselves and their families independently in the long term.

The shelter's property was in need of serious renovation, and there were also plans to add a small extension to the rooftop area to improve living conditions for the residents. Thanks to the donation from the Burns Supper Committee, they were able to add two functioning washrooms and create two additional rooms, significantly improving both the comfort of the residents and the shelter's capacity.



*Additional bathroom in the works*



*The new washroom in the rooftop area, allowing residents to use an indoor bathroom*

From The Beneficiary's Perspective

# Education Development and Employment Center

EDEC has been a non-governmental organization based in Kutaisi/Georgia for more than 15 years, dedicated to identifying challenges (in)formal education and employment and addressing those through sustainable models.

With IWAG's support, between 2020 and 2023, we installed sensory rooms in Day Care Centers for disabled children in the municipalities of Saguramo, Terjola, Samtredia and Baghdati.



Currently, we are providing sensory integration therapy in these facilities, which allows children and individuals with special needs to process and have an adequate reaction or adaptive response to everyday stimuli received in the natural environment. During these three years, 81 persons, including children, benefited from sensory therapy in all four centers.

The continuous growth of EDEC's programs, such as Civil Society Development, Child Protection, Economic Development and Education, has allowed for the establishment of a new social service-specialized organization.

So, HEAD was established in May 2022 as a spin-off organization of EDEC to focus solely on developing equal opportunities for children and adults with special needs, protecting and implementing the rights of children and young people with special needs, as well as supporting their integration into society.

Today, HEAD runs five Day Care Centers for People with Disabilities in Kutaisi Baghdati, Terjola, Samtredia and Saguramo, and five Therapy Service Centers in Kutaisi, Terjola, Baghdati, Zugdidi, and Saguramo. It is also a pioneer and good example of development standards in working with people with disabilities.

Since 2008, EDEC / HEAD has provided day care services to more than 300 beneficiaries and additional therapy services to about 600 people, always following the latest scientific findings, lessons learnt and requests of beneficiaries, guardians and staff. Nowadays, HEAD works on the construction and opening of a new Day Care Center in Baghdati, especially for adults with special needs.

Success Story

# Hospice Peristvaleba

## Professional Education of the Palliative Care Professionals and Caregivers in Georgia

IWA Georgia supported the much-needed training sessions at the Hospice Peristvaleba learning centre for palliative care nurses, caregivers and patient family members. These training sessions have been designed to help the improvement of care for palliative patients in Georgia.

Hospice Peristvaleba is a non-governmental community with more than 20 years' experience that provides palliative care and spiritual support to patients with incurable diseases at home and in the hospice. The hospice exists within the Transfiguration Monastery and its services are free for the patients who are mostly socially vulnerable. The hospice team consists of doctors, nurses, caregivers, administration members and volunteers.



The project funded by IWA achieved two main goals: (1) spread the knowledge and improved the quality of palliative care in Georgia, and (2) raised the awareness of the need for palliative care, underlining how much quality care improves the lives of patients.

The following training sessions were completed during the five-month project:

- 5 trainings: Palliative care for nurses and caregivers
- 2 trainings: Dementia care for caregivers
- 2 trainings: Dementia care for Family Members
- 2 trainings: Wound management
- 2 trainings: Kinesthetics

The numbers of the project are impressive. 88 nurses were professionally trained to work as palliative caregivers. In Gori, 37 nurses were trained, 18 of them now are employed at the new hospice and homecare service for palliative care patients in the area. Some of the trained nurses got employed at the Hospice Peristvaleba, others continue to work in palliative care in different locations while the rest will take care of family members at home.

Trainings for family members are not common in Georgia, but it is very important and helpful as the support of family members is one of the most important goals of palliative care. Daiva, member of IWA, visited the hospice and noticed that the participants gained nursing knowledge in this project that they would apply to their family members. It was important for all those who participated to find like-minded people with whom they could consult or discuss the situation. She witnessed a very supportive community whose members could do more as a team rather than individually. And all this was achieved with the help of the wonderful Hospice Peristvaleba's staff.

IWA believes that these trained nurses will play their role in improving the quality of life of palliative care patients in Georgia. IWA Georgia appreciates the work of Hospice Peristvaleba and thanks all donors for supporting this important work!

# Individual Projects

IWA Georgia receives applications from individual Georgian people, including women, children, and the elderly, requesting medical support for diagnosis, medicine, treatments and therapies, as well as education costs and scholarships.

The maximum financial support for individual people we can assist with is 5 000 GEL.

A short overview and summary on the kind of individual projects we supported in 2023:

- chemotherapy for breast cancer
- medication for lung cancer
- post operative rehabilitation program
- purchase of a cochlear implant
- payment of gas bill for a vulnerable family
- medical tests after gall bladder removal
- surgery in Turkey for removal of damaged kidney
- medication to treat pneumonia



# We'd like to thank all our **Sponsors:**



# Thank You!

An enormous also goes to the following embassies and IOs. Without the personal involvement of ambassadors and embassy staff, we would not be where we are in our support to people in need.

Armenia		Italy	
Austria		Kazakhstan	
Azerbaijan		Latvia	
Bulgaria		Lithuania	
China		Norway	
Czechia		Poland	
Denmark		Qatar	
Estonia		Romania	
European Union		Slovakia	
France		Switzerland	
Germany		Turkey	
Greece		United Kingdom	
Hungary		UNHCR	



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**TBC Bank**

TBCBGE22

GE82TB7525136080100008 (GEL)

GE24TB7525136180100001 (USD)

GE67TB7525136180100003 (EUR)



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