

ST. JOHN ASSOCIATION AND BRIGADE
ST. JOHN ASSOCIATION LTD
ANNUAL REPORT
2013

1. Our Identity

We are in Cyprus since 1926 and operate under the Law on Charitable Institutions, Chapter 41 and on the basis of our new Constitution adopted in 2003. The Association and Brigade of St. John (the Brigade), upon recommendation of The *St. John Order*, proceeded in 2005 in the establishment by guarantee of the company *St. John Association Ltd* (hereafter the Company) which began operation in 2009. It was later recognized by the Ministry of Finance as a Charity. A consequence of this recognition is the exemption from payment of income tax. The inextricable link between the Brigade and the Company should be noted, main proof of which is the fact that only persons proposed by the Brigade may be elected as Directors of the Company.

As a movement we aim at the encouragement of every humanitarian and charity project for the mitigation of human suffering and the promotion of the overall health of the public without any discrimination, social, racial or other. This is why our logo is "In the Service of Humanity."

II. OUR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The authority that defines the objectives, *modus operandi*, and generally any matter relating to the Order and the Company is the Executive Committee, which is composed of six (6) Commissioners with the right to appoint up to four (4) additional non-voting members. Towards the end of last year and based on the provisions of the Constitution of the Brigade, elections were held for the members of the new Executive Committee for the next five years, from 2013 to 2017. The elected members, during their first meeting of 2013, were set up as a body as follows:

Dr. Nicos Spanos, President
Mr. Andreas Giannakou, Vice President
Mr. Achilles Callimachos, Vice President
Mr. Panos Koutourousis, Secretary
Dr. George Pantelas, Treasurer
Mr Andreas Chimarides, Commissioner General

The following were appointed as Members of the Committee for the same period:

Mr Andreas Skotinos
Dr. Christodoulos Kaisis
Dr. Andreas Tanos

Directors of the Company for 2013 were the members of the Executive Committee and Secretary Mr Koutourousis .

Along with the Executive Committee there are two collective bodies: *The Advisory Body*, which addresses broader policy issues and which performs an essential role in the selection process of the members of the Steering Committee; and *the Education Committee*, which addresses issues affecting the educational activities of the Order.

Finally the assumption of the Presidency of Limassol District Committee by Dr. Chrysostomos Andronikou should be noted.

III. Our contribution

During the year under review, eight (8) ordinary sessions were held of the Executive Committee of the Order and of the Directors of the Company at which various issues were discussed, the main ones of which were:

- The prevailing economic downturn and its impact on the activities of the Order,
- «hair cut» of deposits and the impact on the capability of the Order for new office buildings for Nicosia and Limassol with simultaneous temporary abandonment of the idea for a building for Famagusta district,
- the reduction of salaries of personnel and of the compensation of trainers with the simultaneous discounting on all invoices,
- the offering of free training in first aid through the programme for infants and toddlers to women's and other mass organization; this as a result of the prevailing economic downturn,
- the need for comprehensive training in first aid for lifeguards,
- the need to introduce legislation covering the entire range of first aid,
- the approval of the annual report and the final accounts for 2012,
- the updating and upgrading of our website.

In numerical terms there is a data reduction in 2013 compared with those of 2012 by 16.1% which reflects the state of the Cyprus economy and society in general. Also to a lesser extent there persist the effects of matching of the provisions R 198/2009 to the 3-years validity of the First Aid Certificate.

The comparison of the information in **Table I** below with that of the corresponding previous year reveals:

TABLE I

District	PROGRAMMES								Number of Programmes
	Full Programme 30 hrs	FAW & AED 21hrs	FAW 18hrs	FAW-EP 6 hrs	Certificate Renewal 12 hrs	A.E.A 6 hrs	First Aid for toddlers & infants 12 hrs	TOTAL	
Nicosia	36	42	13	337	70	14	31	543	53
Limassol	36	15	54	76	73	45	-	299	32
Larnaca	-	-	31	5	11	7	-	54	6
Pafos	-	-	-	23	11	-	-	34	4
Total	72	57	98	441	165	66	31	930	95

- reduction of its training activities in first aid in all districts except Limassol where there is a marginal increase from 275 to 299 people,
- reduction of trainees in all programs except the programme Emergency First Aid at Work .The explanation for this phenomenon is the short duration of the programme and the fact that the provisions of R 198/2009 are met for quite a number of companies by this programme . In other words there is a shift to more short-term programmes,
- complete absence of Famagusta district from the training activities,
- reduction of the number of programs from 127 in 2012 to 95.

The dissemination of first aid among young people is a key objective of the Order in view of the dynamics that are expected to generate in future for these diffusion to wider sections of society. During the year 2013 a total of 6925 students of the 2nd form of the Gymnasium attended first aid training, of which 5237 passed the exam and obtained the relevant certificate.

The corresponding figures for the students of private secondary schools are 346 and 323.

Table II below shows the activity of 3 of the 4 Independent Brigades; that of the Central Bank did not show any activity. In this regard it is stated that during 2013 all preparatory actions were taken for establishment and operation of an Independent Brigade at the private company of PHC Franchised Restaurants Public Ltd.

Table II

BRIGADE	PRFOGRAMMES						Number of Programmes
	Full Programme 30 hrs	FAW & AED 21hrs	FAW 18hrs	FAW-EP 6 hrs	Certificate Renewal 12 hrs	TOTAL	
Elect.Auth. Cyprus	-	-	-	-	450	450	37
Plce/Fire Brigade	132	-	-	-	1408	1540	83
Civil Defence	356	90	28	-	-	474	46
Total	488	90	28	-	1858	2464	166

Comparison of the data in this table to those of the respective table of the previous year shows:

- Increase in the number of trainees of the order of 14.9 % despite the reduction in the number of programmes from 188 to 166 ,
- increase of activities regarding the Police and EAC and decrease of the Civil Defence,
- complete lack of training in the use of Automated External Defibrillator although last year also its presence was imperceptible,

- no activity on the part of EAC in the Full Programme and First Aid at Work; this may be due to non-recruitment of new personnel as a result of the economic situation of the country .

The Executive Committee with the start of its new period of service for 2013 - 2017 has set as one of its main objectives the reactivation of the Uniformed Volunteers Section. The Committee has proceeded with the necessary organizational changes which are expected to bring about the desired result.

The Annual Seminar of Trainers of the Brigade was held on April 13. A particular feature of this Seminar was the presentation, by two Inspectors of the Department of Labour Inspection, of work accidents and the subsequent critical examination, in working groups, of the first aid which was advisable to be given in each particular incident.

During the first week of September two refresher seminars were organized for Trainers. The first was attended by 135 First Aid trainers of the Police and Cyprus Fire Brigade and the second by 346 P.T.Coaches - First Aid trainers of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

IV. We and the Environment

The first component of this chapter is the Public Relations with our most important activity the issuance and circulation of 5,000 copies of the booklet " First Aid in emergency situations", sponsored by the CHARALAMPIDISKRISTIS company . A second publication is a brochure with comprehensive information about the Brigade, focusing on the volunteering aspect. In parallel, collaboration with the CyBC continued in order to produce films under simulated emergency conditions, to be shown to the public. Also important was the updating and improvement of the website of the Order.

On the occasion of the retirement of Mr. P. Zachariades a special ceremony was held, at which he was presented with a commemorative gift, accompanied by a letter of thanks.

In the field of Public Relations, the harmonious cooperation with *The St.John Order* and *Johannitter International* continued through the exchange of information, particularly of an enlightening nature.