

**A HISTORY OF A PROGRAMME OF HEALTHCARE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN  
AND GIRLS, NEWBORN INFANTS AND CHILDREN IN BOSNIA AND  
HERZEGOVINA FROM 1994-2013**

**IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CHARITY**



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[www.mcai.org.uk](http://www.mcai.org.uk) and [www.ihpi.org](http://www.ihpi.org)

*Programme Director in Bosnia: Armin Alagic*



*Honorary Country Director in the UK: Dr Brigid Hayden*



*Faculty meeting for a MOET course led by MCAI's Chair of Trustees Dr Brigid Hayden (first on the left)*



**MAIN DONOR:**

LCIF – Lions Club international Foundation  
Lions Club 105 MD British Isles and Ireland



*Phil Nathan the director of LCIF Gift for Living Appeal in Sarajevo*

**OTHER DONORS:** The Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG). [www.alsg.org](http://www.alsg.org)

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Southampton Primary school Princess Diana appeal

Numerous small private individual one-off donations, e.g. from the Parish Church in Steventon village, UK



*Fund raising event by the international EU team. Armin Alagic the only one not in shorts.*

## Short history of MCAI's work in Bosnia and Herzegovina

1994 – 1998 Wartime and postwar – emergencies, general pediatric treatments and assistance for field hospitals/refugee camps, hospitals including medical evacuation of 42 children and newborn infants with life-threatening medical or surgical problems that could not be treated in Bosnia within a safe time period to hospitals in the UK for treatment.



*Jasmine medically evacuated to the UK for treatment during the armed conflict in Bosnia*

A publication in the Lancet described this project in detail: <http://www.mcai.org.uk/#!armed-conflict-emergencies-and-refugees/c1e8p>

**Hospitals and departments in which MCAI implemented essential renovation, delivered essential basic equipment to treat emergencies occurring in pregnant women and girls, children and newborn infants and the provision of essential medical and surgical supplies**



*Dr Mary Limebury and Dr Uni Waryer consultant paediatricians from MCAI helped to set-up and worked in the NICU and PICU of Sarajevo Children's Hospital*



*Visit by MCAI Chair Clifford Bellamy (far right). Also from left to right: Dr Mary Limebury, Dr. Beba Kalkan, Armin Alagic, Baby treated in the PICU.*

**1994 – 2010**

1. **Sarajevo Pediatric Hospital** – including the establishment of national paediatric intensive care unit (PICU) and neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), including long term training for doctors and nurses in hospital paediatrics, obstetrics and neonatology.
2. A **national paediatric department** for the treatment of cancer in children in Sarajevo hospital
3. **Sarajevo Maternity Hospital** (a tertiary neonatal department)



*High quality equipment in the PICU of Sarajevo Hospital purchased with funds from LCIF*

*1996– 2004*

1. **Mostar East Children’s Hospital Brankovac**  
Establishment of PICU and NICU
2. **Mostar West Children’s department Bijeli Brijeg**  
Establishment of PICU and NICU

*2004 – 2006*

**Gorazde Children’s department -**

*2006 – 2008*

**Bihac Children’s department**

*2008– 2010*

**Banja Luka Children’s Hospital - establishment of PICU and NICU**

*2010 –*

**Sarajevo Maternity Hospital – ongoing work in the maternity department**



*Dr Mary Limebury with baby treated in the PICU*

### **Training**

Since 1994 educational input for doctors and nurses, helping Bosnia medical professionals to raise the standard of emergency care. More than 100 MCAI/ALSG UK professional volunteers attended Bosnia to undertake the following work:

- 1) The introduction of the UNICEF Child Friendly Healthcare Initiative. See the following website for details on this: <http://www.mcai.org.uk/#!child-friendly-healthcare-initiative/c1bny>
- 2) Courses on Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Paediatric Life Support (APLS), Management of Obstetric Emergencies and Trauma(MOET), and a comprehensive long term training of doctors and nurses in paediatric and neonatal intensive care.



*Bosnian and UK ALSG instructors teaching on APLS course*

**1997 – 1999 Sarajevo Oncology department** –Training the management of cancer in children in Sarajevo and in Alder Hay Children’s Hospital Liverpool

This training included specialized input into the insertion of Hickman catheters for long term intravenous drug administration.

**1997 - 1999 Mostar East and Mostar West training of doctors and nurses in** paediatric and neonatal intensive care.



*Bosnian instructor showing candidate how to insert a cannula into a vein to give life saving intravenous fluids*

**1998 – 2006 Sarajevo Children’s Hospital training of doctors and nurses in paediatric and neonatal intensive care.**

**2004 – 2006 Gorazde Children’s department training of doctors and nurses in basic paediatric and neonatal care.**

**2006 – 2008 Bihac Children’s department training of doctors and nurses in basic paediatric and neonatal care.**

**2008– 2010 Banja Luka Children’s Hospital training of doctors and nurses in paediatric and neonatal intensive and basic care**



*Candidates being taught life saving resuscitation by Bosnian instructor*

***2000 to the present and future***

BLS Basic Life Support and APLS Advanced Paediatric Life Support training for all children’s departments in Bosnia including field hospitals (Sarajevo Children’s Hospital; Sarajevo State Hospital, Sarajevo Casualty department, Sarajevo Maternity Hospital, Travnik and Novi Travnik, Goradze Children’s department, Mostar East, Mostar West Children’s hospital, Banja Luka, Bihac, Children’s department in Cazin, Buzim, Tuzla , Lukavac, Foca)

***2010 to the present and future***

**MOET - Managing Obstetric Emergencies & Trauma**

Maternity Children’s Hospital Sarajevo including doctors from all Maternity hospitals in Bosnia

**2013 – In progress POET – Pre-Hospital Obstetric and Emergency and Trauma training.**  
To be organized for Sarajevo Hospital Emergency Department for March 2014.





*Preparing for a MOET course in Sarajevo*

**A small indicator of some the many additional activities performed as part of the Bosnian programme**



*Work undertaken with children in the school for the blind in Sarajevo*