

About THI

The Hellenic Initiative (THI) is a global, nonprofit, secular institution mobilizing the Greek Diaspora and Philhellene community to support sustainable economic recovery and renewal for Greece and its people. Our programs address crisis relief through strong nonprofit organizations, led by heroic Greeks that are serving their country. They also build capacity in a new generation of heroes, the business leaders and entrepreneurs with the skills and values to promote the long term growth of Hellas.

THI Vision / Mission Statement

Investing in the future of Greece through direct philanthropy and economic revitalization.

We empower people to provide crisis relief, encourage entrepreneurs, and create jobs.

We are The Hellenic Initiative (THI) – a global movement of the Greek Diaspora



A Letter from the Executive Committee

Greetings friends. This year we will begin our message with best wishes for you and yours as we navigate perhaps the strangest year in our lives. We hope that you are well and in the best of everything despite the great challenges we face as individuals, families, communities, and countries during the pandemic.

On the occasion of our Gala the entire board wishes to express its appreciation for your joining our 1st ever virtual gathering. Through the years, each year, you have made our Galas, in New York and in London, the most successful and substantial events in the world for helping our common cause. This year was no different and together we raised \$1.6 million, for which we cannot thank you enough.

Now, to the present and the future. For all of us, given our nature as entrepreneurs, professionals, and community leaders, the future is always about rising to challenges and opportunities. 2020 presented some we never imagined, but as Hellenes, we have some advantages. Our history and DNA connects us with some of the most remarkable men and women in human history. What made them special, however, was not just their minds and abilities, which were indeed amazing, but the indomitable spirit with which they confronted dangers and uncertainties even greater than what we now see.

This year Hellenes celebrated two great anniversaries: the historic and heroic battles at Thermopylae and Salamis. Those are not just a couple of items on the lists of history's great battles. They were amazing testaments to Hellenes' thirst for freedom, and their heroism made possible the great cultural flowering that changed the world.

Before those battles, our ancestors faced as bleak a future as any people have – and they not only overcame adversity and preserved their world, but they made it incomparably better. That is what the people of Greece have been doing since the economic crisis, and that is their ambition during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In that spirit, this year, thousands of Greeks and Philhellenes around the world answered the call with donations through THI at an unprecedented level that enabled THI to continue to provide record levels of humanitarian aid and entrepreneurial support during the pandemic.

The THI Venture Impact Awards, which is a new program that offers cash prizes to Greek companies producing returns while also having a measurable impact on society.

Through our work since we were established in 2012 we managed to:

- Create 3,500 permanent jobs
- Provide 150,000 hours of job training
- Invest directly over \$10,000,000 in promising Greek startups
- Engage with over 55,000 entrepreneurs and job-seeking millennials
- Unlock indirectly \$100,000,000 in investments and \$10,000,000 in salaries

Among the organizations we have supported and worked with for crisis relief are: Agigma Zois, Galilee, Together for Children, ELPIDA, HOPEgenesis, Ark of the World-Kivotos, Ladies Union of Drama, and METAdrasi.

To promote economic development and job creation in Greece we have helped fund and have cooperated with ReGeneration, VentureGarden, Cyprus Seeds, and Envolve Entrepreneurship, and we were excited to see The Venture Impact Award launch with the support of the Helidoni Foundation and the Estate of Charles C. Condes.

As we always try to convey, our mission is simple: to connect the Diaspora with Greece in ways which are valuable for both, to help Hellenes in need, and to invest in the New Greece.

You can learn more about those wonderful people and organizations in this year's annual report.

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Dimitris Georgakopoulos, James Neary, Michael Psaros



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We thank all of our donors, great and small, who from 2012 to the present have made our mission to Greece possible with their generosity and confidence in our transparency and accountability.

Executive Committee



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Marianna V. Vardinoyannis, Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO, President of the ELPIDA Association of Friends of Children with cancer



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Artemis Kohas
Director of
Community Development



Xeni Kouveli
Social Media Manager



Tina Courpas

Director of
Global Corporate Partners



John Mindala
Design Consultant, Mindala Design



Dean Sirigos
Contributing Editor



Constantine N. Skarvelis
Secretary



Nick Tsismenakis, CPA
Controller

The Hellenic Initiative

135 E. 57th Street, floor 14 New York, New York 10022

+646-926-1972 info@thehellenicinitiative.org

www.thehellenicinitiative.org

- **f** TheHellenicInitiative
- O The_Hellenic_Initiative
- THI_OneGreece
- in The Hellenic Initiative
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#THI

#OliMazi

#GreeksHelpingGreeks

#TheHellenicInitiative

WHAT'S NEW

AT THI

CVID Response Campaign



Hundreds of contributors from around the world including the United States, the UK, Canada, Australia, Germany, Holland, Portugal, Italy, and Greece responded to the appeal of the leadership of The Hellenic Initiative (THI) and donated \$100,000 to the COVID-19 THI Emergency Relief Fund. THI invited people to help through an online campaign running on its website, newsletter, and social media channels. The COVID-19 pandemic has put many children and families under extreme stress and the elderly and the chronically ill also face difficulties. Many startups that THI has worked with are faced with critical problems as well.

THI's response though the funds raised targeted all these problems, offering relief when it was most needed. The recipient organizations include: 'Mazi Gia to Paidi' – Together for Children, Agigma Zois, which helps cancer patients, and Galilee, which assists the elderly and the terminally ill.

Funds raised from this campaign will also support THI's Venture Garden program, which helps Greeks, especially young entrepreneurs, grow new businesses.

COVID RELIEF RECIPIENT ORGANIZATIONS



TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN (TFC)

Psychological support to vulnerable families



AGIGMA ZOIS

Helping people with weak immune systems



GALILEE

Helping the elderly and the chronically ill



VENTURE GARDEN

Helping young entrepreneurs grow new businesses



Together With You Yesterday • Today • Tomorrow



Digital Speaker Series

Last Spring THI launched its Digital Speakers Series. A New Leaders initiative, the inaugural program featured a discussion moderated by Chris Goulakos, New Leaders' Co-Chair, with Dr. George Yancopoulos and Dr. Christos Kyratsous of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, the company whose efforts applying 30 years of scientific and technology expertise to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic are currently being spotlighted by the media.

The new series stems from the Speakers Series that was begun two years ago, and both give THI supporters a unique opportunity to connect with and be inspired by successful Diaspora Greeks. The event is free on Facebook live and Zoom with registration available on Eventbrite, search: THI Digital Speaker Series.

The series has presented a fascinating assortment of Greek and Greek Diaspora heavy hitters, including Andrew Liveris, former Chairman & CEO of The Dow Chemical Company and founding Chairman of THI. He addressed the economic impact of COVID-19 globally, and Moderator Nicholas Logothetis, Executive Board Member/Vice Chairman at the Libra Group and Co-Founder/Chairman of the Board of Concordia, did an excellent job navigating these intricate topics with Mr. Liveris.

The London chapter was excited about hosting an event and they arranged for Ioanna Dretta, CEO of Marketing Greece, and Andreas Andreadis, CEO of the Sani/Ikos Group of resorts and president of Marketing Greece, to have a conversation about the future of tourism in Greece moderated by journalist and London New Leader Sylvia Klimaki.

The series also presented Athens' new mayor Kosta Bakoyannis in a wide-ranging conversation with Peter Zervakis, anchor and reporter at the NBC Network affiliate in Milwaukee.



GEORGE YANCOPOULOS, MD, PHD

Co-Founder, President and Chief Scientific Officer, Regeneron



CHRISTOS KYRATSOUS, PHD

Vice President, Research, Infectious Diseases and Viral Vector Technologies, Regeneron



DIANA DOUKAS

Manager for Economic Impact for U.S. Policy Programs, Facebook



IOANNA DRETTA

CEO, Marketing Greece



DR. ANDREAS A. ANDREADIS

CEO, Sani/Ikos Group, Honorary President SETE



ANDREW N. LIVERIS

Former Chairman and CEO, The Dow Chemical Company



NICHOLAS LOGOTHETIS

Moderator; Executive Board Member/Vice Chairman Co-Founder/Chairman, Libra Group



GEORGE P. STAMAS

Introduction; Board President, The Hellenic Initiative



KOSTAS BAKOYANNIS

Mayor of Athens



PETE ZERVAKIS

Moderator; Anchor and reporter at WTMJ-TV, the NBC affiliate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Monthly International Newsletter

Our monthly newsletter features news from all around the world. It helps keep THI's community connected by presenting stories and profiles of THI's friends and other people of interest, and of groups, including young entrepreneurs, that have benefited from its programs, and supporters who contribute THI's efforts in various ways.

You can subscribe to THI's newsletter via: thehellenicinitiative.org
The New Leaders have also begun producing a monthly newsletter that
shares news about what New Leaders have been up to and opportunities to
get more involved. Each month, it will also highlight a volunteering opportunity and a New Leader who is doing great things within their community.



THI UK Charity Status

THI is in the process of submitting an application to obtain a UK charity status. This means that we will be able to establish a THI UK entity soon! THI has very active members in the UK and has been organizing Galas in London for the past four years. We would like to thank Reed Smith UK for all the assistance provided for the application process.



THI's Trademark

THI is now the official owner of The Hellenic Initiative's trademark. The Certificate was obtained with the help of Reed Smith's U.S. office.



THI Obtains Consultative Status with the UN's Economic and Social Council

Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council provides NGOs with access not only to ECOSOC, but also to its many subsidiary bodies, the various human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, and special events organized by the President of the General Assembly.

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ANNUAL GALA





Since it's inception in 1984, The Coca-Cola Foundation has given back more than \$1 billion to enhance the sustainability of local communities worldwide.

The Coca-Cola Foundation is the Coca-Cola Company's primary international philanthropic arm.

The Hellenic Initiative was proud to honor the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Company for its leadership and support of ReGeneration.

Since its launch in 2014 ReGeneration has created over 1,100 internships working with 400 of the country's companies. It has received 8 awards, provided over 125,000 hours of training and last but not least 15,000 hours of community give back work partnering with nonprofits on the ground. These efforts have made ReGeneration Greece's premier internship program.



THE 7TH ANNUAL GALA

7th Annual THI Gala Crowned by \$1 Million THI / Coca-Cola Donation

The Hellenic Initiative's 7th Annual Gala held in New York City on September 27, 2019 raised more than \$2.2 million and more than 900 guests attended from the U.S., Canada, UK, Europe, and Australia, making it the year's most successful fundraising event in the Greek Diaspora globally.















"This \$1 million donation represents
an intensified commitment to ReGeneration.

It will be used to help alleviate tragic unemployment in Greece
by creating more jobs exponentially beyond the
1,100 already generated by the program."

-Peter Poulos, Executive Director

The Coca-Cola Foundation was honored with THI's Leadership Award, and during the Gala THI and the Coca-Cola company announced a new \$1 million donation to ReGeneration, Greece's largest internship program, which has engaged with more than 400 companies.

George Stamas gave the welcoming remarks, pointing out THI's many achievements over the previous year. He also honored the passing of beloved philanthropists Nikos Mouyiaris and Alexander Navab with a moment of silence.

Among those present were Greek government officials, including the Minister for Development and Investment Adonis Georgiadis, Deputy Minister of Labor Domna Michaelides, and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Hellenes Abroad Antonis Diamataris, as were leading Greek-American business persons including John Calamos, John Catsimatidis, Harry Wilson, John Koudounis, and Michael Psaros.

Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, who was introduced by Psaros and offered the opening prayer, said "this evening is a manifestation of love, of the commitment and the power of the Diaspora, Hellenes, and Philhellenes alike, a love for our homeland ... The Hellenic Initiative is leading the way with its two-fold mission of compassion for human suffering and its development of human potential."

THI Chairman of the Board of Directors Andrew Liveris presented the Leadership Award to Beatriz 'Bea' Perez, The Coca-Cola Company Senior Vice President and Nikos Koumettis, The Coca-Cola Company EMEA Group President, who accepted on behalf of the Coca-Cola Foundation.

The guests were thrilled by the announcement of the Foundation's contribution. "This \$1 million donation represents an intensified commitment to ReGeneration," said THI Executive Director Peter Poulos. "It will be used to help alleviate tragic unemployment in Greece by creating more jobs exponentially beyond the 1,100 already generated by the program."

Nikos Koumettis noted that "more than 85 percent of ReGeneration participants have secured full-time employment through the program, and 6,000



young people each year receive customized developmental feedback, strengthening their ability to get a job." It was also noted that ReGeneration is not just an internship program, but a holistic career development program that offers six-month paid employment to young graduates, along with mentoring, professional training and development, and community service opportunities with NGO partners.

Geologist Ioannis Lagiopoulos, EHSQ Analyst, Imerys, and Evi Barouda, HR Assistant, The Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson, were young beneficiaries of the ReGeneration program who spoke at the Gala and expressed their appreciation for the program and its supporters.

A silent auction and a live auction were also held with a variety of items up for bid to raise funds for the cause. Greek singer Panos

Mouzourakis traveled to New York to serve as Master of Ceremonies, delighting with his larger-than life personality.

The spirit of the evening was summed up by Peter Poulos, who said, "this year's Gala was our best ever and it is a testament to the enthusiasm and dedication of the Greek Diaspora who want to connect to and support the Greek homeland."









"The Hellenic Initiative is leading the way with its two-fold mission of compassion for human suffering and its development of human potential."

-Archbishop Elpidophoros















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THIJOB CREATION EFFORTS

Investing in the Future of Greece

THI's Economic Development Activities at a Glance

Since our founding in 2012 The Hellenic Initiative (THI) has invested over \$10 million directly into the Greek economy to train, mentor, and create jobs for Greeks in Greece, to seed and nurture Greek entrepreneurs, to grow small businesses throughout the country and has stimulated tens of millions of dollars of additional support and economic stimulus.

We are proud of the organizations and programs that we support.



In Greece, THI has Created and Funded the Largest and Most Successful:

Job Creation Program



- 1,600 direct jobs created
- · Working with Greece's top 600 companies
- · 150,000 hours of training delivered
- 90% retention rate

Entrepreneurial Education Course



- 2,300 hours mentoring offered
- 1,200 partners from 14 cities
- · 660 business ideas evaluated

Pitching Event

VENTURE FAIR

- Over **60** high growth companies mentored
- Over **500** international investors participated
- Greece's only American-style pitching event

Business Plan Competition



- 8 years supporting leading startups in Greece
- Over 7,000 business plans evaluated
- Over **30,000** entrepreneurs engaged
- Over €5 million in funding awarded

THI Programs' Aggregate Impact on Greek Economic Development and Entrepreneurship



Over €100 million investments unlocked



Invested **\$10 million** in promising Greek startups



Engaged with over **55,000** entrepreneurs and job seeking millenials



Gave back **15,000** hours of volunteer community service

In their own words SUCCESS STORIES



Ladolea

The award-winning LADOLEA products consist of single varietal premium olive oil in hand-made ceramic packaging. They are currently being exported to more than 7 countries. The main target when they entered the program was to gain business knowledge. They were also very interested in networking to communicate their idea and get feedback from people in the same field. Starting a business with little experience can quickly get you lost, as you feel that you walk in the dark.



ladolea.gr

"The program offered us knowledge about entrepreneurship. But the most important thing for us is the people we met and the relationship we developed with them. They supported us with mentoring, funding, marketing plan and sales. What else can you ask from an entrepreneurship program? We know that at any time and moment, they are there for us as we do for them."

Lommer

Lommer is an internationally awarded product design studio that designs and manufactures accessories and handbags. What makes their products stand out is the experimentation with subversive materials and new ways of production. Their aim is to be established as a high-end brand. Prior to VentureGarden, they could not prioritize all the aspects that were involved in the development of my business. Having no business background they had difficulty in allocating the tasks in the right order in order to develop my company.



lommer.design

"VentureGarden was a unique experience for us as we managed to clearly see the structure and goals of our company, in order to move on to our next steps."

Elektronio Wheels

Elektronio is a startup solution for sustainable mobility, which designs and manufactures personal mobility vehicles based on the electric bicycling. It was founded in Thessaloniki in 2015 and its motto is "rewrite your vehicle" (#reimagineyourvehicle). It has launched its first model "Play", a three-wheeled electric bike with revolutionary geometry, which is an alternative to urban travel. Their participation in VentureGarden came across at the start of their business. They decided to participate in this program, because, both members of the founding group did not have an academic background in business administration, it was a first-rate opportunity to strengthen our business education.



elektroniowheels.gr

"The program was a guide to our entry into the new entrepreneurial spirit. It guided us in the various business units of our startup, opened up our horizons, brought us in touch with business people from different disciplines and management styles and thus helped us to develop our business thinking. What is most important, however, is that three years later, we are constantly assisted in our business effort and strengthened in terms of education, networking and visibility."

Hopwave

Hopwave (hopwave.com) started as a marketplace where Greek and foreign travelers in Greece can find wonderful experiences and excursions in the destinations they visit, as well as move easily and instantly to their place of residence by the use of their mobile or their laptop. At the same time, with the hopwavePRO service (hopwavepro.com), the company offers an integrated system for optimizing the management of reservations, resources, partners and viewing channels for providers of any tourist activity, excursion or event.

They participated in VentureGarden and it was, as it still remains, the most organized, fast and efficient structure on business training and acceleration. When they participated in the program in 2015 they just had an idea and they did not know the needs of a business and the steps they should follow at the beginning of their new entrepreneurial career.



hopwave.com

"I met the VentureGarden program quite early, before taking my first steps in the business. This has helpedme to have a comprehensive picture of the needs of a business and to meet people with years of experience and a wealth of knowledge, willing to share their knowledge and to discuss our concerns. I believe VentureGarden has helped my decision to start my own business and continues to support our company's business up to date"



Stella Alexandridi

Financial Analyst at Vodafone Greece

"All recent graduates at the beginning of their careers need a chance to reach their potential. ReGeneration offers much more than a way into a highly dynamic work environment. Through interactive training and networking with people who share common values, ReGeneration is the starting point we need in the early days of our professional lives."



Grigoris Koutsibogiorgos

IT Consultant at Ernst&Young Greece

"ReGeneration Academy was one of the best learning experiences I've ever had. It gave me the opportunity to obtain qualifications in the tech world at zero cost to me and helped me land my first corporate job. ReGeneration stands as one of the few organizations that manages to bridge the gap between university graduates and real-world businesses."



Theodora Loukanari

Medical Information Officer at Pfizer Greece

"If someone asks me what ReGeneration is, I would tell them it's a team of people that help young graduates become the best version of themselves. At ReGeneration we learn to be flexible, adapting to the reality we are facing and find employment in the process. In this difficult economic environment, initiatives like ReGeneration are here to remind us that we need to stand against the pessimists. When everyone asks why you are even trying and that nothing will happen, just ignore them and keep going. Eventually, you will answer, "through this process, I have learned and developed myself, I have a positive attitude and now, I also have a job. This was my personal experience with ReGeneration and their team of people whose ultimate goal is to keep talented young people in the country."



Katerina Ragousi

Front Office Executive at Bosch Greece

"My journey started with a lot of disbelief, sadness and frustration, as I was experiencing one of the most difficult periods of my life. Since applying, I was anxiously waiting for the results at each stage. Once I passed the psychometric tests and the Live Assessment Center, I finally started to hope, dream, and live for the future! ReGeneration helped me interview with companies that I might not have been fortunate enough to meet otherwise, find the job I've held for the past 1,5 years, meet people, make friends, get out of my comfort zone and evolve both professionally and personally. It was a stepping stone that changed the way I experience life."



VENTURE FAIR

Accusonus

A Greece based Al company helping content creators improve the audio in their videos raised 3,3 million USD in Series A funding. The company's first product was Drumatom, which allows recording engineers to control microphone leakage. It then followed with a second product called Regroover, an Al software instrument that un-mixes audio loops into stems so that new beat making workflows are possible.



Blueground

Founded April 2013 in Athens, blueground is a hospitality company that provides business executives and individuals requiring mid to long term accommodation, with beautifully furnished and serviced homes in the most sought-after locations. It first presented to a wide audience in Greece at THI's VentureFair. Back then it was looking to raise a couple of million USD. By now it has already raised \$97,400,000 making it one of the Greek's ecosystem success stories.



theblueground.com

Centaur Analytic

Centaur's Internet of Crops platform uses Smart Sensors and Artificial Intelligence to offer unprecedented visibility and insights into stored and transported crop conditions, so that premium quality can be delivered every time. Following the VentureFair this company went on to raise \$4,300,000



centaur.aa

Ergon

Ergon was born in 2007 as a series of Greek traditional products from all corners of Greece. For the first 4 years, they were focused on building and distributing a strong, unique product portfolio. Ergon redefined in aesthetic and quality terms the meaning of "traditional"; products from small, honest workshops, partnerships, and romantic tenacious producers. They now have a portfolio of 1200 products sold in 300 points of sale in Greece and abroad. Today, Ergon has 11 stores in its network in Greece, London, Brussels and Singapore. They have been able to successfully develop outposts that range from Ergon-branded corners in hotels and supermarkets, to Ergon delis and restaurants, to their flagship Ergon Agora — a 10,000 sq.ft. celebration of all aspects of the Greek specialty food space in Athens.



ergonfoods.com

RT Safe

RTsafe is a medical technology company that has developed a new approach to quality assurance which significantly enhances the safety and accuracy of radiotherapy for cancer and other medical conditions. They combine proven expertise in medical physics with highly accurate 3-D printing technology to create patient-specific dosimetry phantoms. The anatomically accurate effigies enable medical professionals to plan more precise treatment interventions and help radiotherapy technology innovators to fine-tune their products. They have secured \$3,900,000 in funding following their VentureFair appearance.



rt-safe.com

Think Silicon

Think Silicon S.A. is a privately held Semiconductor Intellectual Property (SIP) technology company based and founded in 2007 in Patras (Greece), with a development center in Athens (Greece), WW sales & marketing office in Toronto (Canada) and sales offices in San Jose (CA, North America), Cologne (Germany, EMEA region), Taipei (Taiwan), Tokyo (Japan). 2 years after their VentureFair appearance they got acquired by Applied Materials in the US.



think-silicon.com

Spotawheel

An end-to-end digital platform for buying a used car has raised 10 million EUR in debt and equity funding. The company launched in Greece with operations also in Poland will use the funds to expand across multiple locations in Europe.



spotawheel.gr

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PROGRAM UPDATE

Crisis Relief



Agigma Zois:

Every year, 37,000 people are diagnosed with cancer in Greece. The first period after the diagnosis is critical for patients and families as they are often afraid or unaware of what the next day brings. It is often the case that both patients and their relatives feel weak and vulnerable. Agigma Zois was created to be next to the patients after their diagnosis and during their treatments. Agigma Zois provides free of any charge medical, psychological, and social support to patients and their families.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funds were used to cover salaries. Among other actitivities, we helped them increase the number of patients they supported by 144%.





Galilee

Galilee, the only palliative care unit in Greece, was founded in 2010. The Galilee Palliative Care Unit runs under the auspices of the Holy Diocese of Mesogaia and Lavreotiki. The unit is staffed by a 45-member interdisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and Greek Orthodox chaplains, including nearly 120 trained volunteers. Since 2010 Galilee supported more than 1,260 patients with more than 30,000 home visits through its Home Care program, and since 2011 more than 8,000 visits have been made to its Day Care Centre. Since 2018, 366 patients were hosted at its newly launched bedded unit located on its premises.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI funding covered the costs associated with the salary of 1 nurse working full time for 1 year.













Together for Children

Founded in Greece in 1996, Together for Children is an association of nonprofit NGOs that work in the field of child welfare and is managed by a Board of Directors composed of representatives of each member organization. The Association offers every form of assistance to children and young people irrespective of race, religion, and political conviction, supporting more than 30,000 children annually, including more than 10,000 direct children beneficiaries.



What we accomplished with your gift:



The Hellenic Initiative funding towards TfC covered expenses associated with the 11,525 Counseling Helpline & Counseling Center operation. This helpline has operated since 2009 and functions as a referral, informational, and child abuse reporting service for children, adolescents, parents, and educators. The helpline's services became even more relevant and necessary during the Covid-19 pandemic, especially during the lockdown period.



Orama ELPIDAS Association

The Children's oncology Hospital 'Marianna V. Vardinoyannis – Elpida' is the first oncology hospital for children in Greece. In fact, it is the largest Hospital of its kind in South-Eastern Europe. The Hospital covers all hospitalization needs for children suffering from neoplastic diseases and malignant blood diseases in Greece and Southeastern Europe. It aims to provide state-of-the-art facilities for effective cancer treatment in children by ensuring high-quality health services.



Oyosakorari Namada Pustus MAPIAANNA B. BAPUNICT Westermu EYNACITOS ONAM EXTRAI Tpome(o Einkarain Anton Namada International Kristport Einkinis

What we accomplished with your gift:



The organization hired a bioinformatician working full time at the Pediatric Oncology and Hematology Dept of the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis – Elpida Hospital. Better identification of the genetic changes causing pediatric cancer is enabled by analyzing cancer samples from the patients through a procedure called DNA sequencing (genome testing, molecular profiling, tumor profiling).





HOPEgenesis

HOPEgenesis is a Greek nonprofit organization active in healthcare and social welfare, addressing the country's low birth rates. Greece has been moving towards a demographic deadlock, and research indicates that Greece's birth-to-death ratio is negative. It is estimated that by 2050 Greece's population will have fallen to 8 million from today's total of almost 11 million. HOPEgenesis' vision is to reverse the birth deficit and provide free medical care and treatments to pregnant women living in Greece's remote regions who are often faced with limited access to healthcare facilities and services.

What we accomplished with your gift:



33 babies born on the islands of Arkioi, Chalki, Kasos, Leipsoi, Patmos and Tilos. If this program were not in place, the estimated births on these islands would be 50% lower. 15 more deliveries are expected in the next few months.









Ark of the World-Kivotos

Kivotos is a nonprofit providing care for mothers and their children, most of whom are homeless, abandoned, or lacking access to healthcare and food. Kivotos was founded in 1998 by Fr Antonios Papanikolaou, armed with nothing but his love for these children. Such families find much-needed aid and support by calling or visiting Kivotos. At the same time, the organization provides parental services and counseling to families in need of psychological help. The organization's activities span a list of cities around Greece, including Athens, Piraeus, Anoixi, Pogoniani & Konitsa Epirus, Chios, and Volos.

What we accomplished with your gift:



120 allowances were given to single-parent families, helping them secure food aid, housing and to pay their bills.









Ladies Union of Drama

The Ladies Union of Drama is a Greek nonprofit active mainly in the city of Drama in Greece. It aims to offer social and humanitarian support and educational services to the vulnerable groups living in the city and the surrounding region. Such groups include the homeless, victims of gender violence, single mothers, Roma, drug addicts, refugees, immigrants, and others

What we accomplished with your gift:



Provided meals and food aid to nearly 1,700 beneficiaries per month living in the wider Drama region in Northern Greece.







METAS paon

METAdrasi

METAdrasi was founded in 2009 with the mission to cover crucial gaps in the reception and integration of refugees and migrants in Greece. METAdrasi's activities are focused on the fields of interpretation and the creation of a comprehensive safety net for unaccompanied minors. For its work, METAdrasi won in 2019 the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Award.

What we accomplished with your gift:



After the destruction of the country's largest refugee center in Lesvos (Moria), METAdrasi emptied its offices and offered shelters on the island to host single women, previously living in the Moria camp. THI funds helped them test everyone for Covid before hosting them.



Economic Development



ReGeneration

ReGeneration is an initiative seeking to build bridges between young people in Greece willing to learn and professionally develop with companies seeking opportunities to recruit talent and shape tomorrow's leaders. The idea was to create a community of leading international and local Greek companies and public and not-for-profit organizations working together to establish a single internship program for the young people of Greece in Greece. The retention rate for the interns participating in the program has been over 80% through the years.







What we accomplished with your gift:



The Hellenic Initiative has been the founding donor of the ReGeneration program together with the Coca-Cola Co. and the Coca-Cola Foundation. Since its launch in 2014, ReGeneration has created 1600+ youth placements in the job market, working with more than 600 companies and unlocking more than 11.5 Million euro in salaries. From these placements, 92% have led to contract extensions. The program has already offered 300,000 hours on soft and hard skills training. This number includes training offered via LinkedIn Learning and Coursera, as well as 115,000 hours of up/re-skilling via the ReGeneration Academy. Looking to always give back to the community, the ReGeneration participants have also dedicated 17,500 hours of community service.







VentureGarden

VentureGarden aspires to promote more and more successful entrepreneurs in Greece, providing foundational training to emerging entrepreneurs and qualified mentorship to nurture ideas into viable enterprises. The program was established in early 2014 by The Hellenic Initiative in partnership with the American College of Greece's ALBA Graduate Business School in Athens and Anatolia College in Thessaloniki.



What we accomplished with your gift:



The Hellenic Initiative has been the founding and leading sponsor of the program. Since 2014 the program has received thousands of applications and trained over 1,200 people looking to turn an idea into a business in 14 different cities outside of Athens and Thessaloniki. In total, 660 ideas were validated and 3,500 hours of training and mentoring have been provided.



Cyprus Seeds

Cyprus Seeds was established in Cyprus in July 2018 as a nonprofit organization to help transition academic research from the university laboratory to the market-place. It aims to support research teams comprised of faculty, PhDs, and Post Docs, from all the universities and research centers in Cyprus. It is a national program, independent of any university on the island. Cyprus Seeds offers pre-seed funding, mentoring, training, and networking services. Funding is in the form of grants ranging between 10,000 and 50,000 euro for each of the projects selected.

What we accomplished with your gift:



THI is among the programs founding donors. THI funds were used as grants supporting highly innovative research teams in their effort to turn R&D results into marketable products and services.







Venture Impact Award

The Venture Impact Award is a new program that offers cash prizes valued at \$30K, \$20K, and \$10K each to companies producing returns while having a measurable impact on society. VIA provides immediate economic stimulus to startups vetted by a team of judges seeking capital to expand and create new jobs. Award winners are selected based not only on their ability to generate financial returns but also on how they address critical markets and how they solve a range of social and environmental problems. The awards were established with the support of the Helidoni Foundation and the Charles C. Condes Trust.

What we accomplished with your gift:



Winning teams receive cash prizes valued at \$25,000 each.



Envolve Entrepreneurship

Envolve is an entrepreneurship support organization, founded by the Libra Group. It provides education, resources, and award programmes for start-up and early stage businesses globally. It's Greek award scheme is run on behalf of The Hellenic Initiative. Striving for a global society where all business owners can prosper and grow, Envolve is committed to developing and cultivating entrepreneurial ecosystems by ensuring business support services are more readily available to entrepreneurs.

In τελετή βράθευσης Envolve Award Greece

What we accomplished with your gift:



Since 2012. Envolve Award in Greece has declared 44 finalists and 31 winners from 19 business sectors and has provided over €5,500,000 in interest-free, start-up funding. The winners have attracted investments of over €130,000,000, while their aggregate valuation exceeds €300,000,000. The winners have contributed to the Greek economy by creating more than 1,800 direct and indirect jobs.



5

AROUND THE WORLD



Adapting and Growing in a Challenging World

Canada is continuing to go through this challenging time combating COVID-19 that has disrupted our lives while adapting our operations and continuing to execute our mission. Our donor and prospect base continued to grow as did their contributions to help our work in Greece. In turn, we delivered on providing a high level of transparency and accountability to our supporters. The fact that we are collaborating with others in the global Hellenic Diaspora to advance the common cause of supporting our compatriots in Greece resonated with the Greek Canadian Community.

Indeed, it is humbling to have so many people stepping up to support our mission both materially and with time and effort.



THI Canada initiated support to the Cerebral Palsy Greece 'Open Door', implementing a Safe Nourishment Project for 70 sick children.

Our focus has been and continues to be comparably low cost fundraising so that most of a donor's money is spent on delivering aid. We are very proud of the fact that we are one of the small minority of charities that achieve a zero cost

per dollar-raised ratio. We do this by donation campaigns and informal events that deliver our message effectively at a minimum cost.

In 2020 we were able to raise approximately \$170,000.00 CND without hosting any fundraising



THI Canada New Leaders hosted the Greek Canadian Chef Challenge, raising approximately \$25,000.00 CND.





Hosting an online event with the Greek Minister of Tourism, Haris Theoharis.

events due to the pandemic. Our New Leaders section hosted a very successful online fundraising campaign, the Greek Canadian Chef Challenge, raising approximately \$25,000.00 CND. In July, we hosted an informative and free online event with the Greek Minister of Tourism, Haris Theoharis, regarding the travel challenges for any Canadians wishing to travel to Greece as well as the impact of the pandemic on the Greek touristic sector and the Greek economy in general.

On the projects side, we

continue to search for and fund low cost/ high impact projects in smaller centers that may fall below the radar of the better known charity providers in Greece. One such project is the Giannitsa Soup Kitchen, which we continue to support

for a second year. We initiated support to the Cerebral Palsy Greece 'Open Door', implementing a Safe Nourishment Project for 70 sick children, and we implemented two projects with Doctors of the World Greece (MdM GR) to combat the pandemic, consisting in delivering door-to-door medications to vulnerable people and creating a digital platform for patients to meet with doctors online. We also continue our support to Prolepsis/Diatrofi for



Offering support to Prolepsis/Diatrofi for a third year, providing daily meals to students.

a third year, providing daily meals to students.

Together with our donors and supporters, we continue to grow our capacity to provide high impact help to those most vulnerable. Lastly we extend a big Thank You to our Board Members and dedicated volunteers who make all that we do possible.

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John Sotos

Co-President Managing Partner, Sotos LLP

Anna Antonopoulos

Treasurer Vice President Finance, Antonopoulos Group

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Partner, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin I I P

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THI Australia Contributions Continue

The Hellenic Initiative Australia continues to support vulnerable communities in need and contribute to a range of programs that are helping to build a strong and sustainable Greece. Since August 2019 THI Australia has committed AU\$355,225 in grants to seven NGOs, renewing annual funding for key programs and supporting two new programs in public health and education.

In June 2020 Doctors of the World (MdM Greece) began a 12-month public health project at the Athens Polyclinic, which will provide access to health services for more than 2,800 disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Athens.

Following a successful pilot with three schools in the 2019-20 school year, THI Australia is supporting 11 regional schools to participate in The Tipping Point's innovative career education and empowerment program in 2020-21.

CMFASS

Finance between the Mobile Support the Mobi

After supporting the innovative Desmos 'I Care & Desmos '

With five interns completing

six-month internships in Melbourne and Adelaide in 2020, THI Australia's Internship Program has now provided 26 promising graduates from Greece with work and training opportunities in Australian companies since 2016. While the global pandemic prevented Australians from travelling to Greece from March 2020, more than 160 volunteers from Australia have assisted the Boroume Farmers'

Market program during their visits to Greece over the past three years through THI Australia's Volunteering Program.

On October 20, 2020 THI Australia launched its Digital Conversation Series with a special event featuring the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, Kyriakos Mitsotakis and THI Global Chairman Andrew N Liveris AO.

THI Australia's Grants Program in the past 12 months included:

Boroume - AU\$71,000 to support the Farmer's Market Program in Athens and Thessaloniki for a fourth year. More than 411,171 kgs of fresh food has been saved and donated to people in need in the past three years, equating to 1.6 million food portions.



Emfasis Foundation - AU\$35,000

for the annual operation of the Mobile Svupport Unit assisting more than 2000 homeless and rough sleepers in Athens and Piraeus, plus \$18,000 for additional social work and COVID-19 support.



Desmos - AU\$40,000 to support the I Care & Desmos - AU\$40,000 to s



Doctors of the World (MdM Greece) - AU\$89,000 to support a 12-month Public Health Project at the Athens Polyclinic.









Pediatric Trauma Care (Pedtrauma) AU\$30,000 to equip Pediatric Trauma Centres and pediatric and neonatal facilities at the public hospitals at Argos and Galatas, in the Peloponnese.



Since 2014,

Since 2014, The Hellenic Initiative Australia has



SOS Children's Villages Greece - AU\$32,000 to support more that

support more than 200 disadvantaged children in Patras with meals, educational programs and counselling for a second year.



The Tipping Point
- AU\$36,000 to
provide students
in 14 regional
schools access
to online career
quidance and

mentoring.





committed more than \$1 million to a range of projects and programs in Greece, focusing on four key impact areas - Health, Social Services, Education, and Employment. This includes two Axion Hellas missions that provided medical care to the remote island communities of Astypalea, Chios, Halki, Kastellorizo, Psara and Tilos, benefitting 1,164 people. Through Pedtrauma, THI has also upgraded the Trauma Centres and Pediatric facilities for public hospitals in Ioannina, Kastoria, and Kythera, providing access to improved medical care for more than 16,000 children annually.

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Program Manager



Over 400 International Guests Attended THI's 4th Annual London Gala in 2019

The Hellenic Initiative's 4th Annual London gala was a resounding success as the much-anticipated sold-out event raised over 250,000 GBP to fund THI's work in Greece. The international gathering of more than 400 people at the Dorchester Hotel on May 23 was also an opportunity for THI and its friends to recognize the work of HOPEgenesis and the Kivotos tou Kosmou, and the guests were thrilled by a special performance by legendary Greek entertainer Antonis Remos and his band that lasted well after midnight.

The Co-chairs were Nikos Stathopoulos, Constantine Logothetis, and Princess Tatiana, who thanked the attendees for their generous support. THI Executive Director Peter Poulos recognized the work of THI's Young Professional Group, The New Leaders, and THI Board President George Stamas introduced THI Board Members who were in attendance, including Marianna Vardinoyannis and Bill Doucas.

Kivotos tou Kosmou, which was established in 1998 by Father Antonios Papanikolaou, provides special care and protection to vulnerable mothers and children in Greece. Father Antonios accepted the award on their behalf.

HOPEgenesis is a nonprofit organization founded in 2015 in the field of medicine that addresses the issue of low birth rates in Greece. Its mission is to provide comprehensive medical care and

treatment for women who become pregnant until the day they give birth, contributing to the revival, development, and increase of Greece's population. Dr. Stephanos Chandakas, HOPEgenesis' founder, accepted the award on their behalf.

The silent auction raised over 40,000 GBP and featured wonderful prizes including stays at luxury Greek hotels like Mykonian Collection and Belvedere Mykonos, jewelry from Vourakis, Kessaris, Serkos, and Katramopoulos, and one of a kind items from Mary Katrantzou, Vardas, Navarino Icons, and MePe. Greek food start-up sensation Carpo provided gift bags for all those in attendance.



















#OliMazi

6

NEW LEADERS

NEW YORK CITY

























NEW LEADERS

The Hellenic Initiative's New Leaders is an international group of like-minded professionals 21-40 years-old who actively believe in investing in the future of Greece through direct philanthropy and economic revitalization. The organization has continued growing physically, with a new San Francisco chapter, and digitally, with a thriving Digital Speaker Series and notable growth in membership on facebook and Linkedln. Despite the many challenges the world has faced this year, the New Leaders have proven their adaptability and resiliency, giving us faith in the strength of our community moving forward.

The New Leaders ended 2019 with several enormously successful in-person events. The New York chapter played host for out-oftowners coming into the city for THI's Annual Gala, but they also enjoyed wonderful events. The week started with Andrew N. Liveris, our Board Chairman, offering his insight and inspiration at a sold out New Leaders Speaker Series event which was followed the next day by a happy hour at Ousia. There was a wonderful New Leaders after party post gala, and a karaoke night in Koreatown on Saturday, all of which brought out enthusiastic crowds.

There was a record number of Gala volunteers, getting more involved than ever before and providing their time for the event. We also saw a record 250 New Leaders in the room.

The fall continued with the newly formed Los Angeles chapter holding its first-ever New Leaders cocktail party and fundraising event in October. The event brought in over 100 people including Nia Vardalos and board member Dean Dakolias for good drinks, conversation, and 'Networking with a Purpose.'

In New York the New Leaders geared up for their holiday happy hour, giving everyone the chance to get together and meet up before the madness of the season.

After the holidays, THI's New Leaders continued the momentum, kicking off the year with two hugely successful events. The New York chapter held a sold-out fundraising cocktail party at Amali which was its best-attended New York event ever, with over 150 New Leaders in attendance. NYC New Leaders raised over \$20K, and members had a chance to have fun and usher in the New Year over cocktails and light bites.

At the beginning of February the DC New Leaders held a Speaker Series event with Michael Kratsios, Chief Technology Officer of the United States, who sat in conversation with Peter Polydor, CEO of Ergo Capital. The event was moderated by New Leaders Co-Chair Chris Goulakos. This was our first ever ticketed Speaker Series event and it was wildly successful, packing the room with 75 vibrant DC New Leaders fundraised for a good cause while networking over drinks and small bites. The feedback from this event was that the community wants more of these opportunities and we had planned to give them

The many events planned for the rest of the year unfortunately were not able to be realized, however, our dynamic group of young professionals were not deterred by the pandemic, accelerating our drive to go digital. Our Speaker Series, went digital and is highlighted in the What's New at THI section of this annual report, as is our new monthly newsletter.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

We have also just launched our much-anticipated mentorship program! It is currently running on a trial basis with five mentors and mentees, connected to each other through mutual interests and expertise. Next year it will be funded by a grant we won from the U.S. Embassy! The mentors are elected from our New Leaders, allowing us to leverage the breadth and depth of THI's human capital to help our fellow Hellenes. The program will run in 3-month segments and will consist of a set of five one-hour meetings over the course of 10 weeks. Ultimately, this will create an increasingly vibrant community of Greeks who want to scale up their businesses, and strengthen the community as a whole!

If you're interested in joining or simply want to know more, please contact us through the form on our website, or by joining the New Leaders closed Facebook or LinkedIn groups. We're more than happy to answer any questions you might have, and look forward to seeing you at our next event!

LOS ANGELES









WASHINGTON, D.C.











THE 7TH ANNUAL GALA, NEW YORK CITY















NEW LEADERS GALA COMMITTEE

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George Zapantis









For virtually his whole life Tony Kariotis has lived in Boston, where his father and his mother met after emigrating from Kalamata and Kalymnos. Growing up with a younger brother and sister at the St. Nektarios parish in Roslindale, MA, his father set a powerful example, teaching him to be driven by ideas and goals in a home that overflowed with Greek pride and generating a desire to promote Greece and Hellenic Culture – and to help their fellow Hellenes.

Tony's father, Teddy Kariotis, was an entrepreneur who became very well known as a staple in the Greek sports community. His children secured his legacy by establishing a charitable basketball tournament in his memory. "It's called the Teddy K Classic and it has turned into the biggest Greek sports event in the U.S. We get 30 teams to come every year for a five-day tournament. With the proceeds we give out scholarships to students heading out to university. This past year we also gave a portion to The Hellenic Initiative to make donations in Greece."

Tony is a real estate investor in Boston, and he is also a Community leader, with activities that include hosting the The Kefi Sports Show on Greek radio station KefiFM. He is now focusing his abundant energy, however, on the new company he is building.

"It's called Greece Media and it promotes Greek tourism. On Instagram and other social media I've quite a following travelling all around Greece. I am promoting Greece through digital means and have over 120,000 people that follow now. I am trying to turn it into a company that helps promote Greece."

Tony explains that "visitors to the website can book day tours, buy itineraries, shop photography, listen to our podcasts, and watch the films that I produced. It's basically a hub for digital media that promotes Greece."

Travelling throughout Greece – this summer he visited 15 different islands – fuels his twin passion for photography and Greece, but it also fires up his desire to 'give back' to the homeland.

Before first hearing about THI through friends like Board Member Drake Behrakis, Tony had been thinking that "there needs to be a better way for the Diaspora to connect to businesses in Greece. There are entrepreneurs that live in Greece. Right now it's a little difficult" with COVID, but with THI "the foundation is now there. I think there is definitely a way to make things happen. That's where THI can help close the gap: connecting the New Leaders in the Diaspora with new leaders in Greece."

Tony also realized THI was a good vehicle for doing good through some of the money raised by the basketball tournament, and as a New Leader THI also makes an impact in his life on a personal level through "meeting all the great people," he said.

At the moment he is very excited about the two films he shot in Greece this year. "I'm hoping to have them ready this fall. My previous film NakedSantorini can be viewed at www.greece-media. com and the upcoming ones are for Paros and Milos."

MEET A NEW LEADER



Stephanie Kacoyanis

Contralto Stephanie Kacoyanis Sings Praises of THI

The many dimensions of Stephanie Kacoyanis are not exhausted by her unique combination of abilities and activities as a dual career person. Her work in thought leadership marketing and career as a classical singer are permeated by her Greek passion, which never lets her forget the two countries, Greece and Cyprus, which are both the repositories of a rich Hellenic heritage and amazing experiences when visiting and also in need of support from the Diaspora.

Stephanie is a gifted and charismatic Contralto with degrees from Wellesley College and Boston University. She has been praised by the Boston Musical Intelligencer for her "vocal brilliance and comic timing," "velvet voice," and "spiritually rich performance" and she is gaining recognition as an accomplished interpreter of opera, oratorio, and musical theater repertoire.

She is also "a founding core member of the Lorelei Ensemble, an 8-voice chamber ensemble dedicated to new and early music for women's voices. Following Lorelei's debut at Carnegie Hall with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New York Times hailed the ensemble as "shimmering."

Her inspiring answer when

asked what part of her work she sees as complementary to The Hellenic Initiative is that promoting Greece on all levels and in all areas is part of building a New Greece.

"Thought leadership is about promoting unusual and unique points of view to expand people's perspectives. I've realized many people, sadly, have a narrow view of Greece's artistic contributions, thinking Greek art peaked thousands of years ago. In some cases, they're also unaware of our rich musical heritage. This informs my commitment to promoting the works of Greek and Greek-American composers in my performance career. From singing hymns by Kassia (a 9th century Byzantine female composer) with the critically-acclaimed Lorelei Ensemble to world premieres conducted by the late Theodore Antoniou, I believe it's important to share Greece's vibrant musical tradition, both ancient and modern, with a broad audience. Doing so, especially for contemporary Greek composers, elevates their work as a living, breathing part of Greece's enduring cultural contributions."

With THI's New Leaders chapters taking root and thriving everywhere, Stephanie offered her view on why young Greeks feel the need to connect with each other. "For many Greek-Americans, myself included," she said, "we met peers who shared our ethnicity primarily through our church communities. While certainly valuable, as I got older. I wanted the chance to connect with a wider network of Greeks to expand the type of service projects we could engage in. THI is just that: a worldwide 'parea' made up of passionate, diverse, and accomplished individuals who are deeply committed to making an impact. It's an honor to be part of a group like this."

Indeed, THI's New Leaders constantly express the desire to be connected to young professionals in Greece, and Stephanie looks forward to the opportunities offered by its activities and expansion. "A program that brings together Greeks and Greek-Americans with similar interests or career areas would give us a chance to informally discuss ideas and challenges we share in our work and communities. The pandemic has forced us to reimagine what's possible when it comes to working together remotely, setting the stage for more meaningful collaboration among Greeks from around the globe."



GLOBAL CORPORATE PARTNERS PROGRAM

We are thrilled to announce the following corporations as THI's first committed Global Corporate Partners.



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of THI

CORNING







SHEARMAN & STERLING



Become a Global Corporate Partner
thehellenicinitiative.org/globalcorporatepartners



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

Global Corporate Partners Program

In late September 2020, THI launched for the first time a Global Corporate Partners Program (GCCP). Our Global Corporate Partners are part of a committed corporate circle focused specifically on economic development and entrepreneurship in Greece. Corporate Partners' annual dues of \$25,000 per year are directed towards THI's programs which support economic development, entrepreneurship, job creation and training - including Regeneration, Venture Garden, and THI's Venture Impact Awards. Our Global Corporate Partners may sponsor annual awards recognizing Greek entrepreneurs and corporate talent, start-up companies, breakthroughs in their industries, and other endeavors that support Greece's economic development. In light of the global pandemic, our Global Corporate Partners believe that investing in Greece's human capital to rebuild the country from within is more important than ever to Greece's long term economic success.

Global Corporate Partners will have opportunities to assemble annually at THI's Venture Fair, to foster relationships with each other and with Greek businesses, and to learn more about the vibrant Greek economic landscape and market. Our Global Corporate Partners are comprised of multi-national corporations doing business in Greece, Greek companies seeking to expand their international networks, Greeks of the Diaspora, philhellenes and other corporate leaders with philanthropic goals aimed at Greece's economic recovery.

We believe that by continuing to support Greece's educated, talented and motivated population to rebuild the country itself, we can have a significant impact on Greece's future success. We thank our Global Corporate Partners for joining us in this mission, and look forward to growing our circle of committed corporations over the coming years.

THI's Corporate Sponsors





The Agnes Varis Trust

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8

MEET THI DONORS

MEET THI DONORS



Vivianna Karamanis and Theophilos Tziotis

Offer the Best of Greece

The mark of people of entrepreneurial vision and energy is success, but if you want to locate those who will make an impact building the New Greece, look for people in whom the Hellenic spirit shines brightly – like Vivianna Karamanis and her husband Theophilos Tziotis.

She is a Greek-American who is part of the burgeoning crop of young entrepreneurs in Greece, bringing the best of the homeland to the rest of the world, and Theophilos is a real estate broker who helps find investors for Greece.

As the founder of Hellenic Farms, Vivianna brings food products of exceptional quality to the U.S., and by helping native Greek entrepreneurs sell their products abroad, she found a beautiful way to both make a living and express her Hellenic identity.

"It gives us a sense of pride. You don't have to speak Greek to keep your Greek heritage," because there are many outlets. "And when you hear all of their ideas, these efforts people are doing, their success stories, and that they are willing to even try, it makes the hard work worthwhile."

"And the fact that The Hellenic Initiative encourages them to go with their ideas ... you get goose bumps." She is also delighted when she sees that Greece's young entrepreneurs get excited when they see there are Diaspora Greeks who want to invest in them.

"That is the amazing part – the fact that these extremely successful people with THI have come together and are willing to take time to offer some advice to this younger generation in Greece that is still learning and is willing to take the risk and step into unknown waters – that is exceptional."

Hellenic Farms' product line begins with what Vivianna calls the classics: Extra virgin olive oil, red peppers, Kalamata olives, green olives from Halkidiki, and continues with unique products like their fig salami.

Her gift for hunting the interesting and fascinating was honed in New York as Associate Producer for the TV newsmagazine Inside Edition, but as much as she loves New York, her heart was tugging in a different direction.

She and her husband moved to Greece in 2013 in the middle of the Greek crisis, which made it very challenging to find a job, but, a simple everyday life experience generated the idea for Hellenic Farms.

As she transitioned into Athenian life, she enjoyed going to the neighborhood farmers market – the 'laiko' – or the local bodega, "where I found all these beautifully packaged products." She was inspired to locate and sell the best Greek food products.

"We really try to find unique products that showcase Greece. That is what we do that is different from everyone else."

She also decided, "I would reach

out to smaller, family producers and speak to them about bringing their products to the United States, especially the younger generation."

Vivianna found that in America you can sell the Greek mystique, the magic that flows from the land and sea to the country's venues and products.

"I never wanted to sell to the Greek markets in the U.S., but to the other markets – that's where Greece was missing."

Hellenic Farms has been successful in placing Greek olive oil in stores like Whole Foods, and "different products in so many stores," she said.

"And we make sure that with our partners, from beginning to end everything is done in Greece and is grown in Greece – financially it makes more sense to send in bulk to the U.S. and package it there, but I don't want to take away work and jobs from Greek people."

They now 'private label' their items while also working with companies like Navarino Icons, LIA, Eleia, and Daphis and Chloe.

Vivianna tries to work as much as possible with women entrepreneurs, as well as with the young. Many people now call her about their products and she regrets she can't accept all of them. Nevertheless, she tells them, "I will give you an hour of my time to explain to you what you need to do."

MEET THI DONORS



Dimitrios Athanasopoulos

Built a Firm That is Helping Build the New Greece

Dimitrios Athanasopoulos is a Founding Partner, Group Managing Director, and member of the Executive Committee of AXIA Ventures Group, Ltd., one of the most trusted centers of expertise in investment banking, institutional trading, and alternative investment services in recent years in Greece

COVID-19 has changed the world dramatically in the blink of an eye, and for Greece to adapt and benefit from the new reality, it needs people with powerful vision and intuition at the helm of its companies – and to partner with institutions like the Hellenic Initiative.

The people of AXIA are advisors on important banking sector projects and were the exclusive advisors for the largest merger in Greece in 2019 – between Grivalia Properties and Eurobank. "AXIA is the lead underwriter for Lambda Development for the money that was raised for the Hellenikon project," Dimitrios said.

AXIA is a reflection of both the talent and the ethos of Dimitrios, who invests much time and energy in the firm's recruiting efforts.

He was drawn to the entrepreneurial world and wanted to work in finance and investment from his youth, a desire engendered by his father, who was involved with investments locally in Greece. The dream was reinforced during summers off from his undergraduate studies in New York, when he worked the floor of the Athens Stock Exchange and where he sensed Greece's economic potential.

His faith has not been dented by COVID-19. "I think Greece has done a tremendously good job facing COVID-19 and it has put Greece on a very credible path in the eyes of the world. We saw great leadership. This is what I expected from Kyriakos Mitsotakis."

In the Post-COVID world countries will compete strongly for that capital, but he believes that is an opportunity for The Hellenic Initiative and companies like AXIA to guide capital to Greece.

Foreign capital being vital to job creation. AXIA is at the heart of the transformation of Greece. Part of his motivation for creating the company, he said, "was the fact that I saw so many unbelievably talented and qualified Greeks who would love to go back to Greece, but they didn't have the proper firms that would respect, reward, motivate, and challenge them." AXIA is now such a magnet for talent and deals, with close to 40 people in Athens and a \$100 million threshold for transactions. In the past 12 years, they have executed 35-billion-euro worth of business.

AXIA recruits people from the

world's top firms "who joined us based on their absolute merit and track record," Dimitrios said. "We liberated these people" – and brought them to Greece.

He also believes that with more people working from home after COVID-19 it's an opportunity for Greece to reverse brain drain. "I think it can work," he said.

"My two partners are two unbelievably capable guys – Antonios Achilleoudis from Cyprus, and George Linatsas of Athens, one of the first people to spotlight the Greek capital market in the 1990s ... In addition to the business side, we share the same values" – including love and hope for Greece.

"I am very proud to be Greek and we were involved with THI from the start. I learned about it from people I know who are on the Board. We have been donating money consistently every year and I try to help with different practical elements, about investing in Greece and how to get closer to companies, and how to create economic momentum."

AXIA is also a Corporate Ambassador and provides THI's office space in Athens.

Dimitrios emphasized, however, that "I have also spent time with companies for mentorship. We try to do everything we can."

MEET THI DONORS



The Charles C. Condes Venture Impact Award

An Inspiring Part of the Story

Charles Condes of blessed memory made a great impact on his family, friends, and the Greek-American community – and he also left his mark on his beloved home town of Chicago. When he returned to the U.S. after serving in World War II, he worked for the city as a mechanical engineer for 25 years. "He designed the machinery that raised the iconic bridges over the Chicago River," said his proud niece, Harriette Condes-Zervakis.

After retiring, he made tremendously successful investments. Charles then turned his attention to philanthropic endeavors, and through the efforts of his niece, he continues to make a positive impact in the United States and Greece.

It is a fortunate irony that despite his family's devastating losses during the Crash of '29, "he was not afraid of the stock market. Before he invested in a company he studied it very carefully ... he did a lot of research. Every day he read three newspapers," and sought the advice of successful investors Harriet noted. "Just by talking to him you could tell he was brilliant ... they sent him to weather school to become a meteorologist attached to the Britain's RAF in the Middle East – and Cyprus, which he loved and visited often.

With roots in Laconia and Arcadia, industriousness was also

part of his DNA. Charles' father and uncle left Greece and after some time in Romania settled in Chicago. Beginning as street peddlers they developed two prosperous businesses and later established the profitable Roseland Ice Cream Shop when they astutely realized there was no ice cream parlor near the neighborhood movie theater, but the Great Depression hit the family hard. Harriette said that Charles, undaunted, found a variety jobs and worked his way through Illinois institute of Technology, graduating with honors in Mechanical Engineering.

He was just as thorough in his charitable giving as he was in his investments. "If he had a great deal of faith in an organization he would donate to them," especially in the Greek-American community, where he was active in several parishes and Church organizations. He left an estate of \$10 million, which he divided among several charities. One of his favorites was the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation.

Harriette has been given discretion to donate to others, and she chose recently to donate to THI. She believes her uncle would be pleased because Charles, who visited Greece for the first time after the war in 1949, "loved Greece very much and he would get upset when he thought Greece was

getting shortchanged," Harriette said.

That was part of her motivation for the \$500,000 donation to THI that will be honored through the creation of the Charles Condes Venture Impact

The other impetus was her concern about the impact of brain drain on Greece. She learned about THI through The National Herald and immediately appreciated the importance of its job creation efforts. "I was very concerned that so many bright young people had to leave Greece."

Another personal element was involved. Harriette strongly feels the pain her mother experienced in Chicago from being far from her homeland. Unlike some ethnic groups who immigrated to the United States, Greeks tended not to want to leave their homeland. "My mother never wanted to leave Greece and she was always very nostalgic and lived for the summer trips and, she influenced me, so I feel bad that young people who have to leave today probably don't want to leave."

Harriette's wish to help launch satisfying lives for young Greeks probably has some roots in her distinguished career as a high school educator, first as a teacher, then as a professional developer for teachers, and finally as a principal.

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PROFILE OF THI BOARD MEMBERS





Dimitris Georgakopoulos

Co-founder and Managing Partner Outseta LLC

The most highly and strongly motivated people reveal themselves by word and deed early in life. Born in Greece, entrepreneur and philanthropist Dimitris Georgakopoulos made sure he got himself to the United States when he was in high school so he could be exposed its culture and spirit of opportunity.

He was drawn to New England by its tradition of academic excellence and later set down roots there with PWC at the beginning of his career. Earning a scholarship to Providence College, his double major in Finance and Computer Science laid the foundations for his success.

It was in the mid-1990s, when the Internet was beginning to fascinate the world and flex its muscles, and Dimitris grasped it would be the vehicle that would propel him to independence and entrepreneurship. A born leader, he gathered students who created applications for their classmates, and was thrilled by both the practical and creative element in making useful things.

Dimitris is Co-founder and Managing Partner with Outseta LLC. Calling itself "an experiment in organizational purpose and "I don't want to act on my own. I want to partner with other entities whose values and missions I'm aligned with, and I thought THI was a good place to start."

-Dimitris Georgakopoulos

design," Outseta's interventions lead to companies that are more innovative, productive, and adaptable in these times of challenge and opportunity, resulting also in employees who are more fulfilled in both their personal and professional lives, concepts which in Greece will bolster development and fight brain drain.

He began Outsetta after recently selling the business he created with partners 15 years ago, and where he pioneered superior property management software. The company was sold to RealPage for \$550 million.

Devoted to promoting entrepreneurship and helping startups, he said, "Outsetta provides a horizontal platform that combines all the tools you would need to get started as a business online – billing, CRM [Customer Relationship Management], and marketing support."

He also decided it was time to focus more on philanthropic endeavors. "After selling the business I wanted to dedicate a portion of my time and money to giving back."

Dimitris created a foundation, but said, "I don't want to act on my own. I want to partner with other entities whose values and missions I'm aligned with, and I thought THI was a good place to start."

When he became a THI Board Member, he said, "it's a great privilege – I feel honored – to be a part of the THI Board."

There is already one project near and dear to his heart that he is working on with Executive Director Peter Poulos and others. "It revolves around enabling, supporting, and incubating more companies in Greece to have a mission and purpose that is more socially oriented. There is an opportunity at the intersection between profit and social impact to create something of value that also benefits society tangibly," he said.

THI BOARD MEMBER PROFILE



James Neary

Senior Partner, Warburg Pincus

"...James Neary is exactly the kind of person to help THI address the challenges and opportunities of a Post-COVID world for Greece and Cyprus."

-THI President, George P. Stamas

Private equity executive James (Jim) Neary, Managing Director in New York of the global private equity firm of Warburg Pincus, has been named to THI's Board of Directors, joining that group of highly motivated Greeks and Philhellenes from around the world who are dedicated contributing their experience, expertise, and resources to helping the people of Greeks overcome their country's economic crisis, and now the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jim's personal connections to Greece are typical in the Diaspora, but like other THI supporters and his fellow board members, he is distinguished by his passion and desire to really make a difference in the homeland.

"I was raised Greek Orthodox and grew up steeped in the traditions of the Orthodox church and the Greek holidays," he said. "I have traveled to Greece with my extended family several times and when my wife Rebecca and I were married we were married in the Greek Orthodox Church to honor in particular my mother and her heritage."

He puts at the disposal of THI the vision, energy, and wisdom that are the foundation of a stellar career in the financial industry.

As Managing Director in New York, Jim heads the Industrial and Business Services Group and is the Co-Head of the Healthcare Group at Warburg Pincus, which he joined in 2000. He is also a member of the firm's Executive Management Group.

During his career at Warburg Pincus, Jim has led Business Services; Late Stage Technologyenabled Services; Technology, Media & Telecommunications, and Capital Markets.

Prior to joining Warburg Pincus he was a Managing Director at Chase Securities and he is currently the chairman or board member of several companies including Allied Universal, Consolidated Precision Products, The Mount Sinai Health System, Duravant, Endurance International Group, Hygiena, Sotera Health, and WEX. Among other public and private companies on whose boards he has previously served are Crossmark, Fidelity National Information Services, Inc., Interactive Data Corporation, InComm Holdings, Coyote Logistics, EFS (Electronic Funds Source), and Alert Global Media Holdings.

Hereceived a BA in Economics and Political Science from Tufts University and an MBA from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, where he was a Eugene Lerner Finance Scholar. Education remains an important part of his life as Jim serves on the Board of Trustees of The Eaglebrook School in addition to being Co-Chair of the President's Council at Tufts University.

THI President George P. Stamas says of Neary: "This year every forecast – short, medium, and long term – has been cast into doubt and James Neary is exactly the kind of person to help THI address the challenges and opportunities of a Post-COVID world for Greece and Cyprus."

THI BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Michael Psaros

Inspired by Many, Inspiring Others in Turn

Michael Psaros is a Co-Founder and Managing Partner of KPS Capital Partners, LP and a member of its Investment Committee and Management Committee. His energy, vision and focus are legendary – but less well known but equally powerful forces in his life are his devotion to his family, the Orthodox faith, and Hellenism.

The roots and inspiration for

his success are obvious: his

family. Michael's moth-

er's mother was from

Chios and his fa-

ther's father from

Halicarnassus in Asia Minor. where he was orphaned at the age of four. His parents were born in his beloved West Virginia and intel-

His parents were born in his beloved West Virginia and intelligence and a formidable work effort were all the inheritance he needed to make his name and build his fortune after receiving a BSBA in Finance from Georgetown University and attending Sophia University in

Tokyo.

KPS Capital Partners, LP is the manager of KPS Special Situations Funds, a family of private equity funds with approximately \$11.5 billion of assets under management (as of June 30, 2020) focused on making controlling equity investments in manufacturing and industrial companies across a diverse array of industries, including basic materials, branded consumer, healthcare and luxury products, automotive parts, capital equipment and general manufacturing.

Giving back is one of the many things he learned from his wise forbears, a quality he shares with his wife and which they work to convey to their children though acts like the establishment of The Michael and Robin Psaros Family Foundation. And Michael prefers to talk about the organizations he is proud to be associated with than about his own business achievements.

A founding member of the FAITH and member of the Leadership 100 endowment funds, a proud Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and member of AHEPA, and Treasurer of the St. Andrew Ecumenical Patriarch Fund, Psaros was just was appointed to the Executive Committee and named Chair of the Administration Committee of the Archdiocesan Council.

"I am humbled and in awe of, on one hand, the accomplishments and stature of the people of THI at every level and I am inspired by their individual and mutual commitment to helping Greece."

-Michael Psaros

Chairman of the Administrative Committee of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

During his two-year tenure as Treasurer of the Archdiocese he led its successful financial and organizational restructuring.

Nearest to his heart, however, is the drive to complete the construction of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine, which was in grave danger of being shut down forever

"A very small group of us through sheer force of will created in early 2019 The Friends of St. Nicholas. We negotiated with New York State and the Port Authority to come up with a governance structure," and they launched a crucial and exceptional fundraising campaign. They had to do it: "It's our Parthenon and our St. Sophia. It is inspiring," he said.

Michael emphasized "there is a congruency with the Executive Board of THI among the 13 leading business people who constitute the Board of the Friends."

He is just as moved by the mention of his alma mater. Michael serves on the Board of Directors of Georgetown University, where he and his wife created The Michael and Robin Psaros Endowed Chair in Business Administration at the McDonough School of Business, where he serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Advisors.

Talk of his roots on the island of Chios also gets him excited. "I sponsored a video done by The Greek Reporter on the growing of mastiha, since I am a Hiote, and that video is a great export promo."

Miraculously, he makes time for special projects – Michael is also the Executive Producer and underwriter of the documentary short film, "PISTEVO", about the centrality of iconography in the Orthodox Faith.

As a THI Board member he devotes a substantial amount of time resources to THI. Every year he is a Grand Benefactor of the New York Gala and he makes other donations.

"I believe THI is the only institution outside of the Holy Orthodox Church that has demonstrated its ability to bring us together for the common good and the only purely secular Hellenic organization that I support. I can hardly believe that in a short five or six years the importance and the membership of THI have exploded. It has caught the attention of the Hellenic Community globally."

He said the what distinguishes THI is that it is led by the leading business people, academics, lawyers, luminaries, and stars of the global Hellenic community. "That is one of the reasons for its overwhelming success."

Motivating and mobilizing the youth of the Diaspora and Greece are important goals, Michael believes. "There is no Hellenic or Orthodox organization that has captivated the attention and enthusiasm of the youth like THI. The THI New Leader Speaker Series that I once spoke to is incredible. The get-togethers, the happy hours often draw 300 to 400 people they are always sold out. I believe it is because these young people want to be affiliated with the leading business people and luminaries of our Community," he said.

Diaspora endeavors like THI are vital to building the New Greece, but effective government in the homeland is also crucial.

Michael believes that every action Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis has taken since taking office two years ago has been perfect. "His government has resonated in Europe and globally. His success is demonstrable. Greece is relevant again after five years of being ridiculed around the world because of former PM Tsipras. After COVID, the reforms implemented by Mitsotakis will bear fruit. We have already seen big company announcements that are locating in Greece."

Offering advice to the talented young entrepreneurs that have been hit hard by COVID, Michael began by noting "the hardest things my partners and I ever did was build our business. We started with nothing and no capital and we ended up building a very significant global business, and we did that through endless hard work, perseverance, and sheet force of will. To all the entrepreneurs I stress hard work, discipline, and sheer force of will. This COVID pandemic will pass." His perception during a 2019 visit was that "there is a renewed sense of optimism after almost a decade of darkness."

And be believes THI was part of that, adding, "what we hope that THI brings to Greece's entrepreneurs is our enthusiasm, our expertise that can be called on when required, helping to find capital sources, and with access to markets."

Asked about what he appreciates the most about being involved with THI, he didn't hesitate: "Oh the people! The people and the objectives. I am humbled and in awe of, on one hand, the accomplishments and stature of the people of THI at every level and I am inspired by their individual and mutual commitment to helping Greece," adding, "I was recruited to THI by George Stamas, whom I don't consider a friend, but a brother."

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others."

Pericles, Athenian Statesman

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FRIENDS
OF
THI

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Amb. Gianna and Theodore Angelopoulos

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

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Dimitris Georgakopoulos

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George and Grazia Svokos The Agnes Varis Trust

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Coca-Cola Hellas

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Hostess Brands, LLC

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Samsung Electronics America Inc.

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