



THANK YOU! WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

2024 was a year full of challenges and thanks to your valuable support, we continue even stronger.

With the end of yet another year, we would like to give you a brief overview of the main actions and events of 2024 for Sophia.

In Cyprus, our ["I Cook and I Offer"](#) programme supports a total of 18 full-day primary schools and 10 nursery schools, offering children more than 1,485 meals every day. We thank all our sponsors, particularly the [Bank of Cyprus](#), the biggest sponsor of the programme.

In Kenya, the ["I Adopt a Child"](#) programme continues to support 9 primary and 9 nursery schools, providing [education](#) and over 9,000 meals daily to children in dire need, as well as medical care and clean water. We are proud to have the trust of thousands of sponsors of our programme who have stood by our children and joined forces with Sophia, fighting with us for the children's rights.

The [Makarios Children's Home](#) is always at the forefront of our efforts, with Sophia having the guardianship of around 200 children every year, offering them safety, care, education and hope for the future. We care for a total of 93 children (from infants to 14 years old) who live permanently at the orphanage, while another 108 have studied in boarding high schools, colleges and universities.

Brief overview of the main actions and events of 2024

- Inclusion of the [Anthoupoli all-day Primary school](#) to our I Cook and I Offer programme, sponsored by [Vassiliko Cement](#).



- The Minister of Agriculture [Maria Panayiotou](#) visited our orphanage in Kenya accompanied by a delegation from her Ministry, as well as our Ambassador in Kenya Savvas Vladimirou. The Minister met the children, saw first hand the work of Sophia and made important suggestions as to how we could further develop our Green project. Moreover, she brought food supplies and sweets for the children.
- Three days of healthy eating, with the First Lady, the Minister of Education and [Galatia Pamboridou](#) who cooked healthy recipes for the children. [Ms. Filippa Karsera Christodoulides](#) offered oranges for juice from the orange groves of the Presidential Palace for the schools supported by the programme "I Cook and I Offer".
- Completion of the construction of the new "[Olive Tree](#)" building at the Makarios Children's Home in Kenya, a project carried out with the contribution of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus.



- ["Elephant in the Room"](#) event (see video [here](#)) at the Presidential Palace, exhibiting the unique artworks of 20 artists in support of Sophia, [Phileleftheros](#) and [Partners Connected Communications](#) being the event sponsors. Each artwork was adopted by 20 companies for €5,000.
- Theatre show "La Cage aux Folles" by the team of the Treasury Department of the Bank of Cyprus, with the proceeds supporting our programmes.
- The new Sophia for Children website was developed with the invaluable volunteer help of Demetris Demetriades, Marios Pavlou, [Request A Web](#), Theodosia Kyprianou and the [Pamboridis LLC](#) team.
- "Preloved-Accessories" in Limassol, a voluntary initiative of [Pola Kyprianidou](#), where all proceeds were donated to Sophia.
- Launch of the "I Cook and I Offer" programme at the Anthoupoli all-day Primary school in the presence of the Minister of Education Ms. Athina Michailidou and Mr. Antonis Antoniou, President of Vassiliko Cement.



- Participation of [SIGG Switzerland](#) for the third consecutive year in the 3 Country Marathon, in support of the Makarios Children's Home.
- Event at the [Starbucks](#) store in the [Nicosia Mall](#) which hosted the children of Anthoupolis and the Mikromagazo of Sophia.
- Presentations of the Sophia programmes and the importance of volunteering at the [Terra Santa](#) in Nicosia and [The Island School](#) in Limassol.
- [Argosy](#) and [Kellog's](#) visited the schools and provided a variety of take-home food for Christmas to the children.
- Concert with our beloved [Alkistis Protopsalti](#) in support of Sophia sponsored by [Hellenic Bank](#).
- “[Sophia with Love](#)” Art Project (see video [here](#)) at the [Leventios Gallery](#), sponsored by [El Greco Medical Centre](#). Stone hearts from Kenya were transformed into works of art by Cypriot artists and auctioned, with all proceeds supporting Sophia. The exhibition was artistically curated by [Nikos Pattichis](#) and organized in collaboration with Partners Connected Communications.
- The children of the all-day primary school in distant [Polis Chrysochous](#) were hosted at the Bank of Cyprus Head Office in Nicosia, where they sang carols, received gifts from Santa Claus and had the opportunity to visit the [Mall of Cyprus](#) which offered them lunch.
- Christmas cards for our children in Kenya from our sponsors with the support of [Whiteboard](#).

- Christmas cakes by Galatia Pamporidou, sponsored by [G. Charalambous](#) in support of Sophia.
- The children of [The American Academy Larnaca](#), created fantastic tote-bags, each painted with a special message, with all proceeds supporting Sophia. The school is also participating for the 7th consecutive year in the programme "I Adopt a Child", where each class sponsors a child in Kenya with €20 per month.
- This year, for the first time, the 7th grade classes of [The English School](#) adopted a child in Kenya through our "I Adopt a Child" programme. This is an initiative of our student and volunteer Constantinos Nearchou.

Missions to Kenya

A total of 5 missions were carried out in Kenya in the months of February, March, June, August and November. During these missions, among others:

- The work on the new and old buildings of the Makarios Children's Home was supervised by our volunteer civil engineer Christos Tsentas as the project manager of the entire project.
- We carried out our medical mission in collaboration with the Dutch organisation [Medical Checks for Children MCC](#) to examine, provide medicine and vitamins to thousands of children. Many children, most with heart problems, were sent by Sophia to hospitals for treatment.
- Mission to Kenya with our beloved [Christiana Aristotelous](#) and the television station [ALPHA](#), to see and document Sophia's work.

Bazaars

Sophia's [Mikromagazo](#) with handmade items from the women we support in Kenya travelled to the premises of large organizations, schools and shopping centers throughout the year. In Nicosia at the Mall of Cyprus and Nicosia Mall, at Terra Santa, at the Ministries of Finance, Defense and Foreign Affairs, at [PWC](#), [Deloitte](#), [Ecommbx](#), the Nikos & Dena Karakosta Pharmacy Ltd, in Famagusta at [Isola Beach Bar](#) and [Capo Bay Hotel](#), in Limassol at [MyMall Limassol](#) and [The Island Private School of Limassol](#) and at [King's Avenue Mall](#) in Paphos.

Important sponsorships of 2024

- The Bank of Cyprus remains our biggest sponsor, supporting 6 primary schools and 5 nurseries through our "I Cook and I Offer" programme; we wholeheartedly thank them for their support.

- [Charalambides Christis](#) donated all the yogurt for the children's meals, a major donation to support the "I Cook and I Offer" programme, while Argosy donated all the "[Melissa](#)" pasta used.
- For the third year in a row, the [Starbucks Foundation](#) honors us with a major grant for our "I Cook and I Offer" programme.
- SIGG Switzerland and [MyBrands](#) continue their support with [collectable water bottles](#), offering clean water to the children of Kenya.

We wholeheartedly thank all our sponsors for their ongoing support. You can see all our sponsors by clicking [here](#).

We would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts and hope that 2025 will be a better year for our children and for all of humanity.

Marina Shacola
On behalf of Sophia for Children

