



Rotary International Fellowship of  
Healthcare Professionals

John Philip (Great Britain)  
Douglas McMilan (Canada)

## Dear Sirs!

On behalf of the NGO All-Ukrainian Association of Babywearing, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals for the implementation of the KMC for Ukraine project.

This initiative represents an important contribution to the development of neonatal care and the support of mothers with newborns in Ukraine. The delivery baby carriers to neonatal and perinatal departments across the country creates real opportunities for wider implementation of Kangaroo Mother Care in everyday clinical practice.

Baby carriers serve as a practical tool for maintaining prolonged skin-to-skin contact and the physiological positioning of infants, which are key elements of Kangaroo Mother Care. Their use helps mothers continue kangaroo care both in hospital settings and after discharge.

Importantly, we highly appreciate that this project goes far beyond the provision of equipment and represents a comprehensive approach. Alongside baby carriers, healthcare facilities receive additional materials and support, including items such as infant caps and, importantly, capacity-building components through training. This integrated model significantly strengthens the quality and sustainability of Kangaroo Mother Care implementation in Ukraine.

We are already receiving positive feedback from healthcare professionals and mothers across different regions of Ukraine. They report increased confidence in practicing kangaroo care, improved comfort for both mothers and babies, and overall high satisfaction with the support provided. We also observe that the project has opened new opportunities for advancing more effective neonatal care practices nationwide.

An important outcome of the project has been the signing of a Memorandum and the establishment of close cooperation between the NGO All-Ukrainian Association of Babywearing and the Ukrainian Association of Neonatologists to support the implementation of baby carrier use within Kangaroo Mother Care at the facility level. Furthermore, the development of this initiative has led to the establishment of a separate NGO First Wings: support for mothers and families of prematurely born children, whose mission is to further support the implementation of Kangaroo Mother Care in Ukraine.

We would also like to express our special appreciation for the EPIQ materials and the opportunity to translate them into Ukrainian. These materials represent an essential component for ensuring high-quality implementation of Kangaroo Mother Care at the local level and for strengthening the educational capacity of healthcare professionals.

In the context of the ongoing war in Ukraine, such solutions gain particular importance, as they support safe and stable care for newborns even under challenging circumstances.

We highly value our partnership with the Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals, ASCEND, and the Ukrainian Association of Neonatologists in implementing this important project.

We believe that the KMC for Ukraine initiative is a significant contribution toward achieving the WHO global goal of 80% Kangaroo Mother Care coverage by 2030, and an example of effective international collaboration in supporting mothers and newborns in humanitarian contexts.

We sincerely look forward to the continued development of this cooperation and future joint initiatives aimed at strengthening neonatal care in Ukraine.

With appreciation and respect,  
NGO All-Ukrainian Association of Babywearing

President of the NGO "All-Ukrainian Association of Babywearing"  
I. Gordynska



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