



Rotary International Fellowship of
Healthcare Professionals

John Philip (Great Britain)
Douglas McMilan (Canada)

Dear Sirs!

On behalf of the NGO First Wings: Support for Mothers and Families of Prematurely Born Children, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals for the life-changing impact of the "KMC for Ukraine" project.

While for the medical community Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) is a vital clinical protocol, for the families we represent, it is a bridge to survival and a lifeline of hope. In the face of the ongoing war, where parents are often overwhelmed by displacement and trauma, your support has provided them with the most precious tool: the ability to protect and heal their babies through their own warmth and heartbeat.

The large-scale distribution of baby carriers has transformed the experience of Ukrainian mothers in neonatal wards. These carriers are not just equipment; they are instruments of empowerment.

They allow a mother to feel like a mother again, rather than a bystander in a clinical setting, giving her the confidence to provide continuous care even in the most unstable environments.

We are particularly proud of the strategic milestones reached through this project:

- **A New Level of Cooperation:** The project catalyzed a formal partnership and the signing of a Memorandum between NGO First Wings and the Ukrainian Association of Neonatologists. This collaboration ensures that the voices of families are heard at the facility level and that the use of baby carriers becomes a standard of compassionate care.
- **Educational Empowerment:** We are immensely grateful for the EPIQ materials and the opportunity to translate them into Ukrainian. By making these world-class resources accessible, we are not just training staff; we are building a culture of evidence-based, family-centered care that will last for generations.

Your initiative does more than improve clinical statistics; it restores the human connection during a family's most vulnerable moments. It aligns perfectly with our mission to ensure that every premature baby in Ukraine has the chance to thrive through the power of KMC.

We stand committed to our partnership with the Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals, ASCEND, and the Ukrainian Association of Neonatologists. Together, we are making the WHO global goal of 80% KMC coverage a reality for Ukraine, even amidst the challenges of a humanitarian crisis.

Thank you for standing with Ukrainian families and for believing in the power of a mother's touch.

With deep appreciation,
co-founder and CEO of NGO First Wings:
support for mothers and families of prematurely born children

O. Nykoliuk
