



International Women's Association of Vilnius

PRESS RELEASE



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The International Women's Association of Vilnius raised funds for a worthy cause.

The International Women's Association of Vilnius (IWAV) is pleased to announce the 7th Annual Blossom of Hope Charity event held on May 30th successfully raised 12,700 Euros. The valuable funds will be used to procure medical supplies for the oncology hospitals in Lithuania.

The Blossom of Hope Charity event supports oncology hospitals in Vilnius, and in other Lithuanian cities such as Kaunas, Klaipėda and Šiauliai by raising money to purchase urgently needed biopsy needles and breast markers to aid the early detection of breast cancer. Biopsy needles are used for the radiological diagnosis of breast cancer and breast markers and localization wires are used before chemotherapy treatment and surgery to mark breast tumor location. IWAV will procure and deliver these valuable medicaments to the four main healthcare institutions later during this year.

“We are genuinely thankful to all guests who attended and generously donated to the silent and live auctions, our generous sponsors for donating valuable goods and services for the event and of course, the event would not be possible without the help of a group of committed volunteers who organized the special evening. We look forward to next year's event to continue our fight against breast cancer”, said Giusy Bernardi, chairwoman of the Blossom of Hope organizing committee.

Nearly 50 people are diagnosed with cancer every day in Lithuania, about 90 thousand people currently suffer from cancer. Breast cancer has a predominant position among cancer cases among women in Lithuania. There are about 1,600 new cases of breast cancer every year. Unfortunately worldwide the number of breast cancer cases are on the rise.

Each year the Blossom of Hope event attracts around 150 attendees, and over the last seven years, IWAV will have spent almost €95,000 on the purchase of biopsy needles and breast markers.

The International Women's Association of Vilnius is a non-governmental and non-profit association, which serves as a forum for socializing, networking and charitable giving. It unites international women in helping disadvantaged groups in Lithuania. The association is solely run by volunteers. IWAV works toward sustainable empowerment through a variety of activities designed to contribute to the personal growth of its members, as well as to the improved living conditions of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups located within the communities they call home.

For more information about IWAV and Blossom of Hope, please visit:

<http://www.iwavilnius.com/blossom-of-hope.html>