

THE «CHILDREN'S HOME» FOUNDATION

**«Children's Home» has been offering its services to Greek citizens for 81 years to date.
Every year, it welcomes and accommodates circa 450 children in its four model homes.**

The «Children's Home» Foundation was established back in 1931 by Lady Crosfield, daughter of Ilias Iliadis, at a time of growing demand on behalf of women to become professionally active. Those were difficult times, families were very poor, there was an exacerbation of infectious diseases, health problems due to undernourishment, lack of hygiene and cleanness. In order to fight poverty, women had to find work outside their domestic environment. Consequently, the Foundation was timely established, in a sense that it met the needs of toddlers for accommodation and care during the absence of their mothers at work.

The first Home was founded in Drapetsona, with a capacity to accommodate 100 children, from 40-days old up to school age. Within the next five years another five Homes were created, three in Attica and two in Piraeus.



During the German Occupation, in the premises of the Homes, the Greek Red Cross offered free meals to 5000 children and breast-feeding mothers on an everyday basis. Young mothers of infants were trained and received the care of experienced nurses.

Nowadays, since working mothers enjoy better working conditions, and societal trends have changed, our Homes do not accommodate infants younger than 4-5 months old. Hygiene conditions and pediatric care have also ameliorated. However, the pressing need still remains for working mothers to have accommodation support and educational care for their children. The traditional, nuclear family is in decline, and families are adopting all the more the single-parent, or single-mother concept. It is therefore, crucial for a mother who needs support to raise her toddler, to trust the nursery place.

Currently, four model homes operate in the area of Athens and Piraeus, accommodating approximately 450 children. Voluntary members of the Board of Directors ensure the smooth operation of homes. Furthermore, the Foundation employs yet another 60 members of salaried staff.



Any mother, provided she is working, can ask for her child(ren) to be accommodated in one of the Homes of the Foundation.