

The Kutaisi WWC was created as part of a Healthy Communities program, with support and recommendations from an advisory board consisting of 12 leaders from the local community. Members of the Board include a physician, lawyer, economist, student, and journalist, along with nurses and teachers. The WWC has founded local health committees in 41 schools and 10 colleges—all consisting of teachers, nurses, and students—and in 12 municipalities—

educational system will be screened over a one-year period. This program for educators also helps disseminate information about the Center among the region's population.

- Women at risk for sexually transmitted diseases (STIs), including syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia: This program is financed by the Regional Department of Public Health.

The Center has begun charging out-of-pocket fees for certain services, such as



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KUTAISI WWC.

The WWC provides health education programs that focus on a variety of topics including the prevention of breast cancer.

Центр проводит медико-санитарное просвещение в различных областях, включая профилактику рака молочной железы.

made up of four women leaders who provide the community with educational materials. The WWC and its staff are also the founders of the medical-based NGO "Hera," whose membership consists primarily of medical providers.

The WWC offers a full range of preventive, diagnostic, and clinical treatments, as well as educational programs, tailored to a variety of settings in medical facilities and the community. Patient care and screening programs are targeted to specific groups.

- Pregnant women: The WWC entered into a contract with the State Medical Insurance Company (SMIC) for services to pregnant women under the Federal Program of Safe Motherhood. SMIC is paying the WWC for a package consisting of six physician visits, consultation with an internist, lab tests, and an ultrasound.
- Teachers in the Imereti region: Under the Municipal Program on Health Screening 2,835 women working in the

pap smear testing. This diagnostic technique—introduced at the WWC in September 2000—had never before been available to women in Georgia. During the first three months the service was offered, more than 125 tests were performed.

Through contracts and pay-for-service fees such as the ones listed above, the Kutaisi WWC anticipates increasing its financial sustainability by 50 percent in this current year.

Kutaisi, Georgia

Additionally, educational materials such as booklets, leaflets, and newsletters are directly distributed to the population by the WWC or through various committees. The health education programs focus on a variety of topics including:

- prevention of breast cancer;
- contraception and family planning;
- hygiene during pregnancy, delivery and the postpartum period, breast-feeding, and infant care;
- menopause and hormonal therapy;
- STI prevention;
- family conflicts and prevention of domestic violence;
- motherhood in a family setting; and
- traditions and taboos affecting healthcare.

The Center has also created several television programs on topics such as breast-feeding, maternal health and child care, the prevention of STIs and HIV/AIDS, family planning, and healthy lifestyle choices.

All patients who come to the Kutaisi WWC are given educational booklets and newsletters about health that have been developed by the Center or collected through the Internet at our Learning Resource Center.

ABOUT THE KUTAISI WWC

Opening date: March 10, 2000
AIHA partnership: Kutaisi/Atlanta

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