

## PRESS RELEASE

### **A fundraising campaign for providing meals to more students in vulnerable areas in Athens, Thrace and Imathia, Greece**

**March 22, 2018** - This Easter, Prolepsis Institute is inviting everyone to contribute to our efforts to secure healthy meals for 421 students of six schools located in vulnerable areas of Attica, Thrace and Imathia in Greece through. More than half of the students of these schools do not have access to adequate and nutritious food, while one in four children suffers from hunger which is the most acute form of food insecurity.

The cost of the meals for the six schools until the end of the school year amounts to €35,000. The Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Founding Donor of the Program since its initiation, provides matching funding and doubles every donation made. In this way, the total amount that needs to be collected is **€17,500**.

This year too, **DIATROFI** Program is carried out by Prolepsis Institute in 90 schools with 5,101 students in the areas of Attica, Thessaloniki, Imathia, Rodopi, Xanthi, Evros and Northern Kynouria. Nevertheless, the need and the significance of providing healthy meals at schools on a daily basis remain great, especially to children who belong to vulnerable social groups, probably having no breakfast at home or consuming lower quality food. Thanks to the meals provided by the **DIATROFI** Program, students receive daily a free nutritional meal during the first recess, which helps them to better perform throughout the day during their classes. The healthy meal provided by the **DIATROFI** Program covers significant part of the daily needs of children of school age in energy, proteins, calcium and other nutrients.

Since 2012, the **DIATROFI** Program has distributed **more than 14 million** meals in almost **593 schools** and **110,500 students all over Greece**, reducing the cases of food insecurity and actively promoting healthy nutrition, not only by providing a meal produced with high safety standards but also through educational activities. The Program is implemented with the valuable support provided by institutions, organizations, bodies, companies and hundreds of people from Greece and abroad.

Any contribution can help reduce the number of students suffering from hunger and food insecurity.

By way of illustration, your donation combined with the matching funding provided by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, can secure a student's:

- healthy daily meal for one week with €5 ,
- healthy daily meal for one month with €20, and
- healthy daily meal until the end of the school year with €45.

## #proinostosxoleio

Let's help students concentrate in class and enjoy playing! Let's help to make them smile!

For more information you can visit our websites at [www.diatrofi.prolepis.gr](http://www.diatrofi.prolepis.gr) and [www.prolepis.gr](http://www.prolepis.gr) or contact Mr. Yannis Koutelidas at +30 210-6255700 (internal 104) or at +30 6936631702.

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*The Institute of Preventive Medicine, Environmental and Occupational Health, **Prolepis**, is a scientific, non-profit organization, active in the field of public health since 1990. Mission of the Institute is to respond to the challenges of public health in Greece and in Europe by conducting academic research and applying the results on humanitarian and educational actions, which aim to fight poverty and social exclusion and to contribute to the promotion of a healthy lifestyle for the vulnerable parts of the population. Since 2012, **Prolepis** Institute implements the Program on Food Aid and Promotion of Healthy Nutrition – **DIATROFI** as part of its humanitarian activities.*