**Fact Sheet**

**All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers**

The history of the movement began in 2013 with the civil project called "Volunteers of the Sklif", which took place at the National Research Institute for Emergency Medicine named after N.V. Sklifosovsky. In 2013, during the annual Presidential Address to the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin said the following: “We need to revive the traditions of charity. I propose to initiate a broad movement of volunteers, who are ready to work within the healthcare system, providing every possible assistance.” Considering this public encouragement from the President, the "Volunteers of the Sklif" project was financially supported and later was transformed into a public association of medical volunteers.

**Organizers and key partners:**

Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, Federal Agency for Youth Affairs, Federal Centre for Support of Volunteerism in the field of Health Protection under the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, Federal State Budgetary Institution “Russian Patriotic Centre”, "Council of Rectors of the Medical and Pharmaceutical Institutions” Association, Association of Volunteer Centers of Russia.

All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers is a key public resource centre of medical volunteering. Through their activities, medical volunteers increase the level of medical literacy among general population and contribute to the improvement of the healthcare of the whole nation.

The Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation included the All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers (hereinafter also – **“Medical Volunteers”**) in the Federal Register of non-profit organizations as implementers of socially useful services under the patronage of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

**Today All-Russian public movement of medical volunteers consists of:**

* 82 regional offices
* 93 local offices
* 24 000 volunteers
* 420 medical organizations
* 241 educational organizations of higher and secondary medical vocational education
* 426 educational organizations
* 1700 partner organizations

**Key Events:**

On August 8, 2016, the Constituent Congress of All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers was held during All-Russian Educational Youth Forum "Territory of Meanings on Klyazma".The congress was attended by the Minister of Health of the Russian Federation V.I. Skvortsova and the Head of the Federal Agency for Youth S.V. Pospelov.

Between April 14 and 16, 2017, the Second All-Russian Forum of Medical Volunteers was held in Moscow, including the participation of the Minister of Health of the Russian Federation V. I. Skvortsova. 300 medical volunteers from 72 subjects of the Russian Federation took part in the forum. A roadmap for the development of medical volunteering in Russia was created, and later this document served as a basis for writing the work plan of the Federal Centre for Support of Volunteerism in the field of Health Protection under the Russian Ministry of Health.

In September 2017, Pavel Savchuk, the President of All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers, was appointed the Deputy Director of the Federal Centre for Support of Volunteerism in the field of Health Protection under the Russian Ministry of Health. This Centre was founded to develop common approaches to the formation and work of volunteer movements, methodological support and

promotion of volunteer initiatives. The experience of “Medical Volunteers” laid the basis for the foundation of the Centre.

On December 27, 2018 at the meeting of the State Council chaired by the President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin the long-term activities of the “Medical Volunteers” Movement were represented and received a positive assessment.

“Medical Volunteers” provide significant support to the healthcare sector in solving socially significant problems in such priority areas as:

1. Providing medical assistance to the personnel
2. Sanitary and preventive education of the population
3. Providing medical assistance during large-scale sport and public events
4. Career guidance of schoolchildren about medical professions
5. Popularization of personnel blood donation
6. Popularization of healthy lifestyle

+ special projects.

1. **Providing volunteer help to medical organizations**

Volunteers of All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers have been providing support to medical personnel in hospitals and clinics for five years. Our volunteers carry out their activities according to the agreement signed with every medical organization, and their scope of tasks is defined by clear regulations. As of today, the doors of more than 645 departments in 420 hospitals are opened for 4,300 medical volunteers.

Between 2013 and 2018, our volunteers provided assistance in different hospitals for more than 2 million hours.

1. **Sanitary and preventive education of the population**

“Medical volunteers” carry out systematic work on the prevention of socially significant diseases and various forms of dependence in educational institutions of secondary and higher education, as well as in other work places.

On the basis of the National Research Centre of Preventive Medicine under the Russian Ministry of Health, volunteers regularly undergo certified distance learning. In just two years, more than 1,000 medical volunteers from all over the country have graduated from such educational courses. During 2018, 4,500 trainings on sanitary and preventive education were held in different regions. Individual information materials and guidelines have been developed for all the events and activities.

The coordinators of “Medical Volunteers” constantly participate in the meetings of the special commission on preventive medicine under the Russian Ministry of Health.

For the last several years, All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers has conducted all-Russian campaigns entitled "STOP HIV/AIDS", "Be healthy!", “Salt+iodine will preserve your IQ!". More than 7,2 million people participated in all-Russian and interregional events which were organized between 2013 and 2018.

**Special Projects:**

1. The Federal program "Children for Adults’ Protection" (in cooperation with the “Fund for Fighting with ORBI Strokes”).

The purpose of the program is to increase the level of awareness of schoolchildren about strokes, as well as to develop their skills in recognizing the symptoms. 30,000 pupils from 80 Russian cities took part in this program.

1. The Federal program "Together against HIV" (in cooperation with the “Fund for Social and Cultural Initiatives”)

The aim of the program is to implement educational and preventive interactive activities (10 different formats) on a regular basis, including all - Russian campaign "STOP HIV/AIDS".

1. The Federal program "Salt + Iodine will preserve your IQ!" (in cooperation with the National Medical Institution of Endocrinology and Russian Association of Endocrinologists).

The objective of the program is to attract the attention of the Russian residents to iodine deficiency diseases, as well as raising awareness of the population about the increase in the incidence of this pathology, its consequences and prevention measures.

1. The Federal program for monitoring and prevention of visual impairment among schoolchildren (in cooperation with the Russian National Research Medical University named after N. I. Pirogov).

The purpose of the program is to monitor pupils' vision with the help of a specialized system that allows to create individual recommendations for children to preserve their eyesight.

1. The Federal program for the preservation of health of the oral cavity (in cooperation with the Association of Young Dentists).

The aim of the program is to reduce the rate of dental diseases by increasing the literacy of the population in respect of prevention and oral care, as well as to involve dental students in medical volunteering.

1. **First aid training and assistance during large-scale events**

The organization developed a unique educational course and a methodological manual in cooperation with the Department of Sports Medicine and Medical Rehabilitation of Sechenov University.

With the participation of 2,000 trained medical volunteers, more than 2,000 sport and public events were held, among the largest were International forum "Russia – a Land of Opportunities", the annual people`s march “Immortal regiment”, the Moscow Marathon, "The Arctic. Made in Russia" forum, European Freestyle Wrestling Championship, etc.

1. **Vocational guidance on medicine among schoolchildren**

Medical volunteers implement a three-stage program of vocational guidance of schoolchildren in medicine in different federal subjects of the Russian Federation, as a result of which, schoolchildren, after finishing a specialized training, have the opportunity to work as volunteers in medical institutions.

In addition, school teams of medical volunteers are being created throughout Russia, whose activists are constantly working on promoting healthy lifestyle and improving the literacy of schoolchildren in the field of healthcare. More than 368 educational institutions have been engaged in implementing this program and more than 271 school teams in 51 regions of the Russian Federation have been already formed.

1. **Popularization of personnel blood donation**

The development of the pool of blood donors, creation of a community of active donors-volunteers who will donate blood on a regular basis and draw public attention to the problem of small distribution of donations and lack of regular donations.

As part of this project, a special school of responsible donors was initiated. It includes an educational course for donors-volunteers, active advocacy efforts directed to educate general population, providing volunteer assistance to the Resource Centres for the Development of Blood Donation in regions and other donor organizations. About 100,000 people were involved in more than 1000 events, of which about 1,000 people became constant donors-volunteers. With the efforts of medical volunteers the Russian donor blood bank is annually replenished with 6.7 tons of blood.

1. **Popularization of healthy lifestyle**

Medical volunteers work hard to increase people's commitment to healthy lifestyle. To organize a full-fledged volunteer work with general population, there is a need to involve students who study physical education, future teachers and psychologists, current athletes and coaches, as well as any interested students of non-medical specialties and other organizations. For the implementation of this program, many interactive formats are used such as all-Russian and interregional campaigns, master classes, trainings, lectures, debates, brain-rings, visual experiments.

Divisions of the Federal importance are being formed on the basis of educational institutions and organizations such as Committees of the Efficiency of the Healthy Lifestyle. Until today, 46 such Committees were opened in 33 different regions.

**For further information and questions feel free to contact us via e-mail:** [***info@volmedic.com***](mailto:info@volmedic.com)