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**GlobalGiving Report**  
*November 2016 – January 2017*



## GEORGIA

Screening Newborns for Critical  
Congenital Heart Defects

*The program has saved the lives of babies with CCHD who might not have survived without the screening program.”*

IA DAVITAIA, MD, PHD, NEONATOLOGIST



# GEORGIA

## Lifesaving Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Defects



### Program Update

- Thanks to your support, the newborn heart screening program in Tbilisi has now been fully sustained by the Ministry of Health!
- Thanks to your generous support, RVF has raised **\$42,521** to help screen newborns for critical heart defects.
- Since the program began through January 31, 2017, nearly **65,000 newborns have been screened**.
- Of the total number of newborns screened, 37 newborns with confirmed critical heart defects and 139 with other heart defects were identified

*“My son Giorgi was born with a complex heart disease. We came to the Jo Ann Medical Clinic and he received three surgeries and they were all successful. I am thankful to everyone, they saved my baby’s life.”*

– second-time mother Tamar



# Program Overview

- In the Republic of Georgia, more than 1,000 babies are born each year with potentially fatal heart defects. These babies can be saved if screened and diagnosed within 48 hours of birth
- RVF and the Ministry of Health are providing this life-saving screening to all babies in the capital Tbilisi. The program has already saved lives
- Now, with the support RVF has received through GlobalGiving, the newborn screening program has been expanded to Kvemo Kartli and Adjara, so that more babies in Georgia can benefit from this life-saving test
- This program provides heart screening equipment and training of local doctors and nurses, so that babies with heart defects are identified and receive free world-class treatment in Tbilisi
- The diagnostic capacity developed among Georgian doctors and nurses in the capital will help extend the benefits of this program to the entire country, thus benefiting all babies born in Georgia - 50,000 infants yearly. The Georgian government has agreed to fully sustain this



## Who is RVF?

RVF (Rostropovich-Vishnevskaya Foundation) promotes the health and wellbeing of children in need through sustainable, transformational public health programs in countries around the world. Founded in 1991 by Maestro Rostropovich, the world-renowned Russian cellist, and his wife, the soprano Galina Vishnevskaya, RVF is a publicly-supported non-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in Washington, D.C. has supported programs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and the West Bank and Gaza.

## BY THE NUMBERS:

**JUNE 1, 2014 - JANUARY 31, 2017**

## BENEFICIARIES:

- Nearly 65,000 newborns screened since program began in June 2014
- 37 newborns identified with critical heart defects, 139 newborns identified with other heart defects. All were provided with emergency treatment as needed. All babies have survived

## DONATIONS:

- \$42,521 raised to date with GlobalGiving
- Donations from 199 donors

Over 92% of all donated funds directly support RVF programs

