

## GALINA REACHES THE HOMELESS WITH KOCHON PRIZE FUNDS

**Galina Zaporozhan** has a special knack for talking to the homeless about their risk of TB.

When she won the 2016 **Kochon Prize**, Galina knew that a van and driver was exactly what she needed to reach more of the homeless in her city, Balti, in northern Moldova. Galina has been a treatment supporter for a decade with **Speranta Terrei**, a TB patient organization. Speranta Terrei purchased the van and hired the driver and Galina says, "I can cover more ground in a van, the Kochon Prize has made this possible."

On a cold day in October, Galina found Igor, Vitalii, and Maria rummaging through rubbish bins. Igor is 45 years old and has been homeless for 5-6 years. He manages to survive going from one rubbish bin to another and begging at churches. Galina has taken him before for chest x-rays.

On this day, his chest x-ray was normal.



Vitalii is 38 years old and he met Maria, who is 35 years old, while they were both searching for food and clothes in rubbish bins. Maria spent time in prison. When she left prison, Galina took her for TB tests and Maria was diagnosed with drug-susceptible TB. Maria stuck to her TB treatment regimen and was cured. Maria's relatives had sold her property while she was in prison and she ended up on the street. Galina took Vitalii for his first TB test on this day and the result was normal.

Galina hears the common themes of family abandonment and wrong turns from the homeless. Galina listens to their stories and then tells them about TB, that diagnosis is free, that the disease is curable. They willingly go with Galina, knowing she is there if they need treatment. Maria says of Galina, "She cares about us, looks for us, takes us for tests and we listen to her advice."

Watch Galina in action in the video filed in this video: <https://cloud.mail.ru/stock/5Qg7B2htbnNELb3JoR97S3yv>

