

## Bazzoni Onlus Receives Teammates for Kids Grant

The Roberto Bazzoni Onlus – United States, Inc. (the “US Onlus”) has received a \$15,000 grant from Garth Brooks Teammates for Kids Foundation. The grant is expressly for helping to save the lives of children at the Luisa Guidotti Hospital in Mutoko, Zimbabwe.

“This is our first grant for the Onlus from a foundation,” states Bill O’Grady, Pioneer’s EVP Distribution/Sales and President of the US Onlus. “It’s a fantastic verification of all that we are doing.”

The Garth Brooks Teammates for Kids Foundation, co-founded in 1999 by Garth Brooks, exists to develop and implement innovative concepts that generate funds for the benefit of children’s charities in the areas of health, education and inner-city needs.

The foundation helps charities in the United States and throughout the world.

Many National Hockey League players and celebrities are contributors to the foundation.

The US Onlus, along with its counterpart Onlus in the Pioneer Dublin office, started treating 60 patients at the Luisa Guidotti Hospital in 2001, and is now treating 600 patients, 130 of whom are children. This facility is the only private hospital in Zimbabwe that provides free ARV treatment in the country, where over one third of the adult population is infected with HIV.

The US Onlus has sent \$450,000 to the Luisa Guidotti Hospital since its inception. It holds two fundraising events throughout the year: “Viva Italia,” a gala auction in November, and the Bazzoni Onlus Charity Golf Tournament each June.

The Onlus, an Italian acronym for nonprofit, was founded in 2000 in Milan, Italy to honor the memory and mission of Roberto Bazzoni, son of Sebastiano Bazzoni, an executive within the UniCredito organization. Roberto Bazzoni was on a United Nations-sponsored humanitarian mission plane, which crashed in a mountainside of Kosovo. All those aboard the plane perished. As Roberto Bazzoni was a prosthetic technician, the first project of the hospital was to build a prosthetic hospital in Kosovo, to treat those who had lost their limbs due to land mines and other acts of war.

In addition to the above-stated projects in Zimbabwe and Kosovo, other projects are currently underway in The Democratic Republic of the Congo and Kazakhstan.