



• 2024 •

ANNUAL REPORT



SERBIAN AMERICAN
MEDICAL SOCIETY

serbianama.org



Table of Content

Our Story	3
Mission and Vision Statements	4
Letter from the President	5
Our Leadership	6
A Year in Review	7
New Members	8
2024 Fundraisers	9
2024 Notable Projects	12
2024 Financial Report	17
Letter from our VP	19
Contact Us	20



OUR STORY

Amid the Balkan conflicts of the late 1990s, we recognized an urgent need for medical support. Mobilizing a network of healthcare workers, scientists, and professionals across North America and the former Yugoslavia, we began by organizing small shipments of medical supplies.

Founded in Maryland in 2009 and granted 501(c)(3) status in 2010, Serbian American Medical Association (SAMA) is driven by volunteers and sustained through donations and grants. We invest in education and humanitarian programs with transparency and heart.

To date, we've donated over \$1.3 million in medical equipment, educational resources, and infrastructure across Serbia, Kosovo & Metohija, Republic of Srpska, and Bosnia & Herzegovina—making a lasting impact through grassroots action.

Mission & Vision Statement

Mission

Improve healthcare conditions in Serbia and throughout the Balkans.

Advocate for better access and healthcare policy in Serbia and throughout the Balkans.

Foster medical education and promote collaboration between health care workers and scientists of Serbian heritage in North America and Serbia.

Vision

Built on grassroots principles, our transparent and focused model ensures people-helping-people without hierarchy or hidden agendas. We openly document every step, carefully assessing projects for maximum impact on healthcare throughout the Balkans. Together, we minimize costs, build strong relationships, and create an inclusive force for positive change.



Letter from the President

Dear Team and Valued Supporters,

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud to say that it has been a truly inspiring year for the Serbian American Medical Association. Through your generosity and dedication, we have made a meaningful impact on countless lives in Serbia and beyond.

Thanks to a successful email fundraising campaign, we were able to support the Women's Student Clinic in Belgrade, providing essential ultrasound equipment for diagnostics and treatment for thousands of women. Our 8th Annual Tennis Tournament in Bethesda was another success, bringing together about 35 participants from several countries. Congratulations to our champion from Spain, and thank you to everyone who contributed to raising nearly \$16,000!

With the funds collected in 2023, we successfully delivered an X-ray system to Gacko and established operational laboratories in both Gacko and Ljubinje. Additionally, we completed projects in Topola and Rekovac, further improving healthcare infrastructure. We also held a major fundraiser in Chicago, organized by Branko, Tanya, and many other dedicated volunteers. Thanks to their efforts, we raised \$110,000, which will allow us to continue our plans to remodel five health centers in Serbia, ultimately benefiting hundreds of thousands of people and advancing our mission of compassionate, transparent service.

Our team has grown significantly this year, welcoming incredible new volunteers: Nevena, Mia, Jasmina, and Predrag. They are all working under the guidance of Tanya, whose leadership is already making a significant difference.

Looking ahead to 2025, our goals are clear: continue helping those in need, remodel more health centers, expand our reach, establish a sustainable membership base, repeat our successful fundraisers, and possibly launch a new tennis tournament in Chicago—thanks to Jovan Parlic, Head Coach at UIC, for offering to help make that happen.

To all of you who believe in our mission, thank you. Your support allows us to demonstrate love and care in its truest form—selflessly, without expectation, and with the sole goal of helping those in need.

With Gratitude,



Dr. Ivan Aksentijevich

President

Serbian American Medical Association

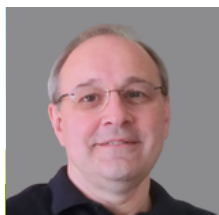


Our Leadership

SAMA USA Board



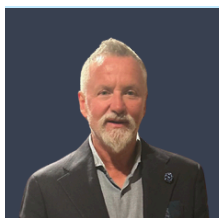
Dr. Ivan Aksentijevich
President & Board Member



Zoran Mladenovic
Vice President & Treasurer



Dr. Milena Aksentijevich
Member



Branko Palikuca
Member

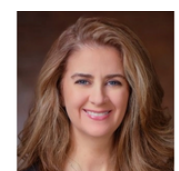
SAMA Directors



Aleksandra Savic
Director- SAMA Canada



Dr. Vera Blazencic-Mladenovic
Director – SAMA Serbia



Tanya Radakovic
Director – SAMA USA Midwest

A Year in Review

2024 marked an active and impactful year for SAMA. Our team continued to expand and we welcomed several new volunteers. We successfully hosted multiple fundraisers, which enabled us to embark on an ambitious project to renovate rural clinics across Serbia as well as support infrastructure in urban health centers. Finally, we dedicated internal efforts to support operational improvements.

We're grateful for the support of our donors and volunteers for making 2024 a year of impact.



Expanded Team

We've expanded our team by introducing four new, dedicated volunteers.



Successful Fundraising

We expanded our fundraising activities with the introduction of our first digital holiday fundraiser.



Notable Impact

We've delivered life-saving equipment for youth and vulnerable populations in health centers across Serbia and the Balkans.

471,000

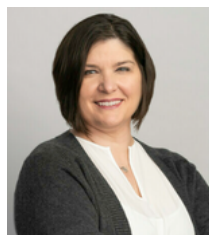
People Impacted to Date

We're grateful for the support of our donors and volunteers for making 2024 a year of impact. To date, this support has made a profound impact on the availability of life-saving care to nearly half a million people throughout the Western Balkans.

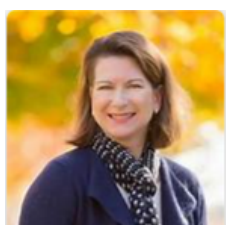
A Warm Welcome to New Members



Predrag
Radakovic



Nevenka
Tomic



Mia Martich



Jasmina Asanin



Brankica Balach



2024 Fundraisers



Season of Giving

First Annual Winter Holiday Email Fundraiser



In December of 2024, we launched our first annual holiday fundraiser to support the purchase of a much-needed ultrasound machine for the student polyclinic in Belgrade. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we successfully raised over \$28,000 —marking a powerful start to what we hope will become a lasting tradition of seasonal giving and impact.

2024 Fundraisers

Annual Tennis Tournament

2024 SAMA Tennis Tournament



In the fall of 2024, we hosted our SAMA Annual Tennis Tournament—a spirited event that brought together supporters, athletes, and community members for a great cause. Through registrations, sponsorships, and generous donations, we raised \$14,000 to support our ongoing medical and humanitarian initiatives in the Balkans. The tournament not only rallied funds but also strengthened our community's commitment to health, connection, and impact.

2024 Fundraisers

Annual Dinner Fundraiser

2024 SAMA Topaz
Dinner Fundraiser



In 2024, our Annual Topaz Dinner brought together longtime supporters, new friends, and community leaders for an unforgettable evening of generosity and shared purpose. Thanks to the overwhelming support and heartfelt contributions, we raised an incredible \$100,000 to advance SAMA's mission of strengthening healthcare and education throughout the Balkans. The event was a powerful reminder of what we can achieve when we come together in service of a common goal.



Photo Credit: Tanjug

ULTRASOUND FOR STUDENT POLYCLINIC

In 2024, SAMA delivered a new ultrasound machine to the Student Polyclinic in Belgrade, improving access to critical diagnostic care for over 25,000 female students. The donation replaces outdated equipment and is expected to save students millions of dinars in out-of-pocket costs. The gift was met with heartfelt gratitude from clinic staff and leadership, who emphasized its impact on women's health, patient care, and access to affordable, timely diagnoses.

IMPACT & COST

Cost: \$25,500

Population Serviced: 25,000 female students

Media Coverage:

- [Tanjug](#)
- [Politika](#)
- [RTS](#)



HC REKOVAC MOBILE CLINIC

SAMA refurbished a mobile health clinic in Rekovac, enabling the local health center to deliver essential gynecological exams and procedures directly to patients in remote and underserved areas. This initiative empowers healthcare providers to reach women with limited mobility or those living far from the clinic, significantly expanding access to preventive care and early diagnosis in rural communities.

IMPACT & COST

Cost: \$2,000

Population Serviced: 650+ women

Media Coverage:

- RTS 1 Radio
- [Radio Televizija Kragujevac](#)



HEMATOLOGIC ANALYZER TO HC IN LJUBINJE

SAMA donated a hematology analyzer to the Health Center in Ljubinje, enhancing the clinic's ability to conduct essential blood tests and improve diagnostic accuracy. This equipment supports faster, more efficient patient care and strengthens local healthcare capacity in a region with limited access to advanced medical technology.

IMPACT & COST

Cost: \$12,500

Population Serviced: 3,500



RENOVATION OF HC VELIKA TRNAVA

In 2024, SAMA completed the renovation of the Health Center in Gornja Trnava, which serves over 6,000 people. Staff had previously worked in freezing conditions with no proper heating, broken medical equipment, and inadequate dental tools—forcing them to provide care under harsh and undignified circumstances. This renovation transformed the facility into a safe, functional space for both patients and providers, and sparked a larger initiative to restore four additional rural health centers across the region.

IMPACT & COST

Cost: \$19,259.57

Population Serviced: 6,000



In 2023, SAMA donated a biochemical analyzer to the Health Center in Gacko, followed by a major donation in 2024—a new digital X-ray machine valued at over \$80,000. Before this contribution, patients were forced to travel to Trebinje for X-rays, a journey that was costly, time-consuming, and especially difficult for injured patients navigating the mountainous roads, particularly in winter. These donations have significantly improved access to diagnostic care for the local community, reducing travel burdens and enabling faster, safer treatment.

IMPACT & COST

Cost: \$80,738.18

Population Serviced: 13,000+

Media Coverage:

- [Radio Gacko](#)

2024 Financial Report

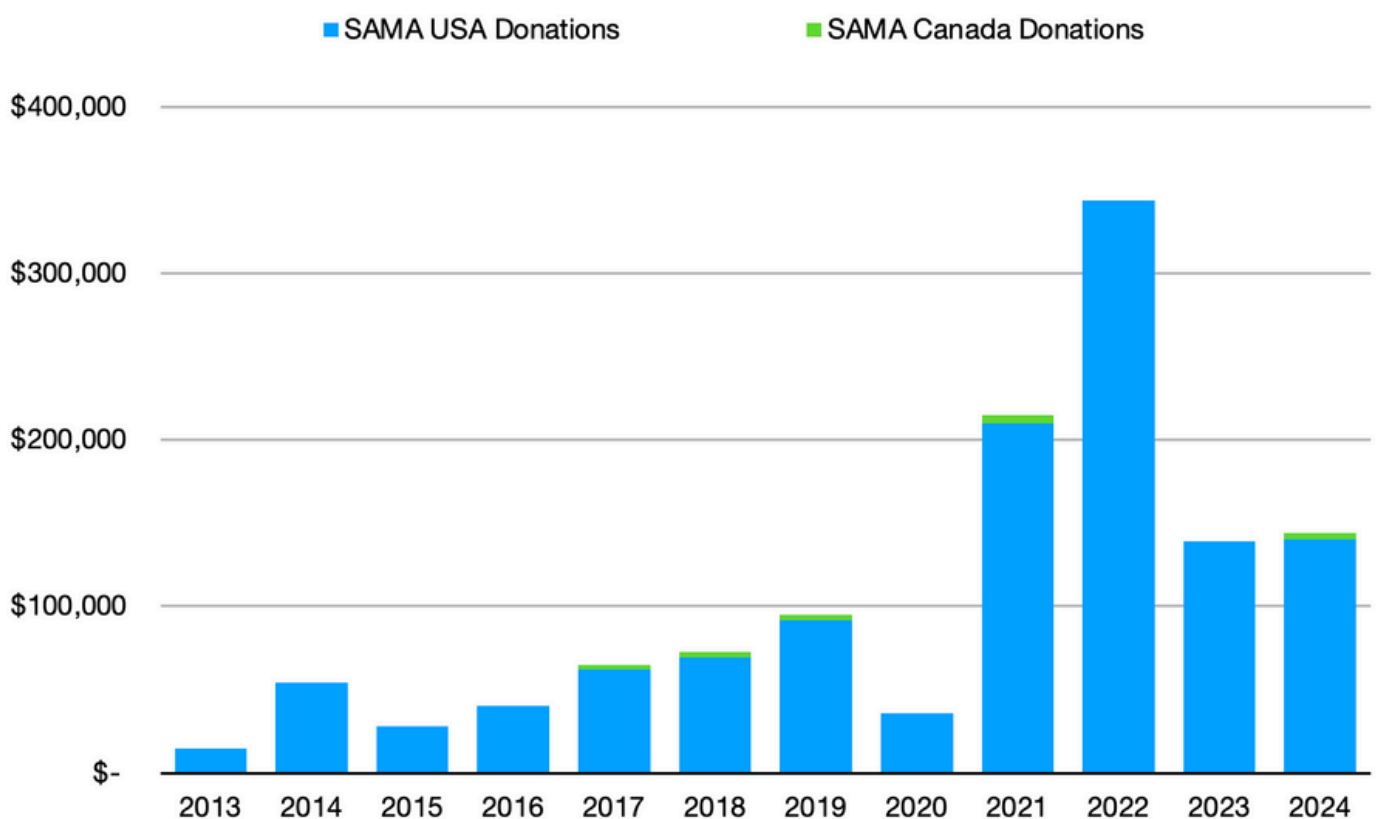
Top Level Summary

Beginning Balance (Bank Account)	\$95,562.85
Beginning Balance (Paypal Account)	\$8,492.13
Beginning Balance (To Be Deposited)	\$0.00
Beginning Balance SAMA Serbia USD Account	\$0.00
Beginning Balance SAMA Serbia RSD Account	\$169.57
Total funds raised	\$217,942.14
Total funds spent on projects and overhead	\$(149,304.89)
Balance	\$172,861.80
Committed Projects link	\$(133,000.00)
Available Balance	\$39,861.80

For a detailed review of SAMA's 2024 financial documents visit our website at serbianama.info/2024-financial-report/

Our Growing Footprint of Care

SAMA's donations have steadily increased over the past decade, with a major surge beginning in 2021 and continued strong support through 2024.



Summary

This page offers a visual snapshot of SAMA's financial impact over time, illustrating how growing donor support—particularly since 2021—has fueled the organization's expanding reach and ambitious healthcare initiatives. It sets the stage for the rest of the report by highlighting the scale and momentum behind SAMA's work, demonstrating how consistent generosity has translated into meaningful, measurable change across the Balkans.

SUMMARY &

MESSAGE FROM OUR VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Supporters,

This past year marked a powerful step forward for SAMA, as we significantly expanded our team of volunteers—each one driven by the shared belief that access to quality healthcare should not depend on where you live. Their energy, passion, and commitment have strengthened our mission and positioned us to make an even greater impact.

- In 2024, we launched our first mobile healthcare initiative with the Health Center in Rekovac, bringing preventive care directly to rural communities. This effort has already begun to bridge the gap in access for people who might otherwise go without care. We hope to expand this model to as many municipalities in Serbia as possible, ensuring no one is left behind.
- We also held our first holiday fundraiser—an incredible success that raised funds for a new ultrasound machine for the Student Polyclinic in Belgrade. This campaign reaffirmed our focus on primary care, particularly for women and children, and reminded us of what's possible when a community comes together for a shared cause. We plan to dedicate future holiday fundraisers to these critical areas, and we look forward to building on this momentum.
- Renovation of the health station in Velika Trnava, part of the Health Center in Topola, marked the beginning of a larger project to restore rural healthcare facilities. Thanks to the support of our donors, we've secured funding to continue with four more stations in 2025—Ušće, Belušić, Rabrovo, and Aleksandrovo. These centers are lifelines in their communities, and we're committed to making them places where both patients and providers feel safe and supported.



Our unwavering focus remains on primary healthcare because we believe it is the foundation of a healthy society—and one that has been too long overlooked. Across Serbia, facilities still operate with broken equipment and crumbling infrastructure. Yet we know, from experience, that even modest improvements can transform lives.

SAMA has invested nearly \$1.4 million into healthcare in Serbia over the past decade. While the number may seem small in the face of widespread need, the impact has been profound. Each renovated room, each piece of new equipment, each trained provider brings us closer to a future where quality care is not a privilege, but a right.

Together—with resolve, generosity, and community—we are building that future.

Zoran Mladenovic

Zoran Mladenovic

Vice President & Treasurer
Serbian American Medical Association

Get In Touch



Thank you



Donate

serbianama.org/donate



Volunteer

board@serbianama.org



Newsletter

serbianama.org/newsletter



serbianama.org