

Financial Report for 2019

We can look back on a thoroughly successful year 2019, not only in terms of what we accomplished, but also financially. Let us first look at the financially relevant changes in staffing in the Medical Section.

Heike Sommer left us at the end of May 2019, after twelve years of public relations work in the Medical Section. Two months later she was followed by Daniel Ginat, who had supported Heike Sommer as a student assistant in recent years, especially helping with social media. At the end of July, we were happy and relieved to welcome Ariane Totzke, who has been working in public relations since then – with a slightly modified profile compared to her predecessor that places more emphasis on journalism. – Johannes Weinzirl, with a 25% position since 2017 for the project to publish a new German edition of Rudolf Steiner's first course for doctors (GA 312, the volume translated as *Introducing Anthroposophical Medicine*) and who was entrusted with preparing contributions on the basics of Anthroposophic Medicine for anthromedics.org, reduced his workload to 10% in 2019, to focus on the doctors' course project and the planning of our World Conference 2020.

One innovation that entailed notable additional costs for all Sections was the introduction of an infrastructure cost allocation for Section events at the Goetheanum that require registration forms. The organizing Sections are asked to pay CHF 10.00 per day and conference participant to the Goetheanum to contribute to the costs of operating the reception desk and stage. Of course, this is not a contribution that covers the actual costs of holding a conference in-house, but it does help to develop awareness for the effort required to hold an event – and where this may be out of proportion to the outcome. This infrastructure cost contribution burdened the budget of the Medical Section to a not inconsiderable extent with costs of about TCHF 56, which was partly offset by a moderate increase in conference fees, but also reduced our resulting income. As a result, despite good attendance at our events, we had to record a deficit of a good 18 TCHF in the area of conferences.

There were positive economic developments regarding our 14 IPMT weeks, particularly through a noticeable reduction in costs. For example, as a result of multiple honorarium waivers, the honorariums were almost 60% lower than in the previous year; the administrative expenses carried by the Medical Section were also noticeably reduced due to the growing independence of the organizational groups in the implementing countries, as described in our IPMT report. However, since support from the foundations also fell somewhat short of our hopes, the IPMT work nevertheless ended with a slight deficit of just under TCHF 7. – Our eurythmy therapy training courses, as in previous years, were able to cover their expenses through tuition fees and donations.

Among our projects, in addition to our CARE activities and the further development of anthromedics.org, our outlays were impacted by an initial payment for the film project 'The Art of Healing', to be realized this year. – The contributions of our institutions and partners towards the basic financing of the Section work had to be topped up in 2019 with lecture and seminar fees earned by the Section leaders to cover the costs of over TCHF 500 as far as possible.

There is not much new to report concerning economic developments in the area of international coordination compared to the previous year. The professionalization achieved through setting up a central IKAM secretariat in 2018 contrasts with stagnating contribution payments by associations and institutions. The underfunding in 2019 was further aggravated by the fact that some contributions for 2019 only arrived after the annual accounts had been completed and could therefore not be included in them. – The area of 'Scientific Collaboration and Publications' did better in 2019 than in the previous year, as funds could be raised for the translation work done by Carol Brousseau into English, especially for Rolf Heine's 'Anthroposophic

Nursing Practice'. – In conclusion, we are very pleased to have achieved a balanced financial statement in 2019 with the help of a General Anthroposophical Society contribution of TCHF 116.

The budget for the Anniversary Year 2020, prepared in autumn 2019, had to be set somewhat higher than that of previous years, as the scope of activities of the Medical Section was to be considerably greater than in 2019, due to our early childhood conference in the first half of June and especially in view of our full-week world conference 'Crossing Bridges' in September.

Today – in the second half of April 2020 – many things look very different because of the restrictions imposed by the corona pandemic. Most of our events, including our Early Childhood Conference and post-medical training weeks, have been cancelled, postponed or converted into video conferences or webinars until well into the summer. Financially, this year will therefore be different from what was assumed at the end of 2019. But we very much hope that our anniversary world conference can be held in September as planned – just like our research conference in early March 2020. We are confident that if all the people connected with the Section continue to help so magnificently, we will find that we have the financial basis on which our efforts can develop fruitfully in this not easy time!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all foundations, institutions, medicinal product manufacturers, associations and private donors for supporting our work!

Stefan Langhammer