

Evelin Ilves, the patron of the Tallinn Children's Hospital Fund, and Barbara Miklič Türk, who is on an official visit to Estonia with her husband Slovenian President Danilo Türk, visited the Tallinn Children's Hospital today.

In the course of the visit, the wives of the presidents were shown the neonatal and paediatric departments and the cardiac ultrasound equipment.

According to Evelin Ilves, she is glad that the Tallinn Children's Hospital is a family-friendly institution, where it is understood that family care and play are just as important in the medical treatment of children. "An environment has been created for children here, which also helps them to recover through sleep. It is very important that children have a play area in the hospital," said Evelin Ilves, who herself has donated toys to Tallinn Children's Hospital.

Evelin Ilves showed Barbara Miklič Türk a high-tech Swiss robot that helps 4- to 12-year-old children with mobility disabilities to walk. The robot was recently acquired with the help of a charity project and is the first of its kind in Estonia.

"We all know how important movement is to children and how sad it is when they are deprived of it. Charity provides a wonderful opportunity for supporting development and innovation in medicine. We now have a good example in Estonia of how combined efforts and charity can help children with mobility disabilities to learn how to walk and to recover," Evelin Ilves said.

Today Evelin Ilves and Barbara Miklič Türk will also visit St. Nicholas's Church and listen to a concert by children from Tallinn Music School. Yesterday, they visited an exhibition at Kumu Museum.

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