

## North Carolina/Moldova Medical Library Partnership



In 2006 Donna Flake and Diane Darrow from the South East Area Health Education Center (SEAHEC) medical library in Wilmington established a medical library partnership with the Scientific Medical Library in Moldova. They partnered with all four medical school libraries in North Carolina as well as the other AHEC medical librarians in the state. To date they have shipped over 20,000 current medical books and journals to Moldova's medical school library in Chisinau. The North Carolina medical libraries are as well providing the Scientific Medical Library free electronic interlibrary loans. Four library vendors have been contacted and are providing the Moldovan medical staff with their excellent databases free of charge.

In 2007 two Moldovan medical librarians were able to visit North Carolina medical libraries and quite a few of the AHECs. Donna and Diane felt it was also important for the Moldovan librarians to meet other European librarians. These librarians were shown how to apply for scholarships which so far have enabled them to attend two European medical library conferences, one in Romania, the other in Poland. They have plans to attend more in the future.

Donna and Diane have made three trips to Moldova (2006, 2007 & 2009) to meet with health care workers and to train the Moldovan medical librarians and Moldovan physicians on how to use the various electronic databases provided to them. Dr. Mark

Darrow, President/CEO of SEAHEC, was also on one of these missions and taught medical students and physicians on his specialty of Geriatrics.

The attached picture shows Donna Flake, Diane Darrow and Dr. Mark Darrow standing in a library room in the Scientific Medical Library of Moldova. They are standing amongst a shipment of the received donated medical books and journals.