**THE STORY OF THE TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER Mr. STOICHO YAKOVSKI**

Since 1993, the Bulgarian Red Cross has been training Traffic Police officers in First Aid and this tradition continues to this day. Many traffic police officers assist injured people not only in road accidents but also in a variety of settings.

A nice example comes from one of the police officers - Mr. Stoicho Yakovski from the city of Plovdiv, who has undergone a number of first aid trainings organized by the Bulgarian Red Cross. On the occasion of the celebration of the Ministry of Interior (November 10, 2018), demonstrations of the Specialized Police Forces in Plovdiv are organized.

Little Pavel, a 4-year-old child, goes with his parents to watch the police officers act. Suddenly the boy collapses as a result of which the worst happens - the root of the tongue falls and his airway closes. Shouts for help are heard, people are clustering around the child and do not know what to do. The tension is increasing, every minute is precious to the boy's life. There is no waiting time. Then Stoicho Yakovski, a police officer, comes to rescue and takes immediate action that saves the kid's life.

For the timely first aid provision, the Bulgarian Red Cross awarded the police officer, and the Ministry of Interior honored him with the title "Police Officer of the Year 2018".

In his off-duty hours, police officer Stoicho Yakovski regularly visits kindergartens, schools and universities and teaches youngsters traffic safety rules and martial arts.