

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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INTRODUCTION

Social services 4.0

In 2015 the world started to talk more and more about the 4th industrial revolution also called Industry 4.0. It means introducing intelligent production systems of new generation with robots and other technologies with elements of artificial intelligence. This is not a remote sci-fi but a birth of cyber-physical systems coming after 2020. And while the industry makes full advantage of incredible innovations in Slovakia too – new trends or, if you wish, innovations are steering clear of the area of social services. I am talking about introduction of new methods in the area of social services, about principles and techniques that have long ago been verified and working in other countries.

I would like to offer two specific examples. Scandinavian model **housing first** – used especially for people who have lost a place to stay. Long-term observations prove that it is more effective and, quite paradoxically, economically more advantageous to provide real housing (variation of low-cost social housing) for people from the street in combination with supporting social service. However, in Slovakia basic services for people without home do not exist, and the state/municipalities do not provide real support for even the smallest changes brought in by non-profit organizations. And at the same time we are trying to build a system that might not be effective because we know that housing first works best. But we have hope because young professionals from OZ Vagus and OZ Proti príúdu as well as other NGOs understand this. We are proud that we could support some of them as part of our Active Citizenship and Inclusion program.

Early Intervention Service. It has been confirmed by long-lasting research that providing early, accessible and professional services for families where a physically disabled child is born is effective not only in regard to long-lasting profit for the child itself but also in regard to public finances. Authors of public policies choose to completely ignore the obvious financial benefits of the early intervention development. A large research in the USA¹ was assessing 20 programs of early intervention and showed that for each dollar invested into the early intervention services the society in return receives the net value of 1.26 – 17.07 USD. The continual proportion is applicable here – the more resources used for early intervention, the greater value is returned to the society. We are very proud of the fact that last year we managed to open the first three early intervention centres and carry out preparations to establish two more centres in 2016.

Introducing functional innovative models in the area of social services in Slovakia is very demanding as well as frustrating. On the other side there are often people making decisions who do not have information about the modern trends. Or they claim pontifically that it will not work here. And at the same time they keep convincing everyone that in the modernized buildings of hundreds of institutions the clients can find whatever they need. We will take care of you. We will provide security. These are not slogans of a political party, it is the reality of the system of social services in Slovakia. Haughtiness of these statements has two serious flaws: there is not enough space for everyone and some client groups refuse obsolete services built in the last century (even last millennium). In line with the saying that every cloud has silver lining this situation may be a good starting point for a more radical change when introducing innovations in the area of social services. Uncles and aunties in the

¹ Early Childhood Interventions, Proven Results, Future Promise, Authors: Lynn A. Karoly, M. Rebecca Kilburn, Jill S. Cannon, Prepared for The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., © Copyright 2005 RAND Corporation

public administration, wake up, we are already living in 21st century! Our disadvantaged fellow citizens deserve different services. Services that will secure their basic right for a life in dignity and by means of innovation will bring desired and expected changes into their lives.

I strongly believe that we were able to contribute our modest share to the implementation of innovation in the area of social services.

Vladislav Matej

1. VALUES, MISSION AND ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

All programs and projects of SOCIA – Social Reform Foundation are based on clearly defined values as expressed in the following statement:

- We believe that each human being is unique. Everyone has their value regardless of their mental, physical, material or other disadvantage.
- We believe that it is our obligation to create an environment in which good social services will originate as a response to the needs of people who are dependent on the help of others.
- We believe that the role of social services is to reflect on the needs of their clients. The services are to stimulate independence, responsibility and dignified life of the clients.
- We believe that the optimal environment for life is family and community; therefore the clients should receive social services in such an environment.
- We believe that the quality of life of socially disadvantaged groups can only improve when all of those involved cooperate as partners, e.g. clients, families, local office, church, state bodies, local companies, local entrepreneurs, social workers etc., and when both formal and non-formal solidarity exists among the groups.

We improve the quality of life of socially, physically and mentally disadvantaged groups of people

- we actively create modern field and outpatient services and we support the development of the services that already exist
- we mediate financial support for the development of services and capacities of NGOs

We support social system reforms

- we collaborate with non-governmental organizations and public administration to create policies and draft laws
- we model and create the system of social services
- we connect and network experts and organizations
- we bring in new topics and innovations

We strengthen social solidarity of inhabitants of Slovakia

- we create partnerships with entrepreneurs who have possibility to direct their support for organizations and individuals specifically and effectively through our foundation
- we improve awareness of lay and professional public about possibilities of life of disadvantaged and endangered social groups in community, community services, philanthropy and volunteerism

By the means of financial support and by its own activities SOCIA Foundation influences changes of the social system for the benefit of the most endangered social groups of inhabitants. We provide our services with maximum effectiveness, without unnecessary bureaucracy in the process of helping others. We do not confuse philanthropy with self-promotion or inappropriate promotion of our partners.

2. EVENTS OF THE YEAR

- ✓ **With the support of THE VELUX FOUNDATION we opened the first three Early Intervention Centres in Slovakia!**
- ✓ As part of a grant program Ladybird Helping we distributed a sum of 30 000 € among 32 projects of field and out-patient services for seniors.
- ✓ Using 2 % of taxes gained from companies gathered in the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce as well as through the Annual Charity Dinner we received as much as 21 000 € last year. Therefore in collaboration with the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce we will be able to provide significant support for the project of the oldest low-threshold program in Slovakia – Kaspian that is operating in Bratislava's Petržalka.
- ✓ Ten inhabitants of DSS Slatinka became the first recipients of a field social service providing support for independent housing in Slovakia. They live independently in rented flats receiving the necessary support.
- ✓ We started collaborating with the Bratislava Opera Ball. The goal of the ball was to open two new early intervention centres in Slovakia by means of financial contributions from the ball guests. The centres should open in Banská Bystrica and in Košice and they should actively help and draw attention to this social issue.
- ✓ We changed the strategy in the area of implementation of our own projects. We became direct co-founders of new organizations providing modern social services – this way we influenced the founding of three new early intervention centres as well as founding of a non-profit organization Alternatíva (Alternative) in Lučenec.

Note: In this annual report we used photographs from the SOCIA Foundation's photo archive.

3. SUPPORT OF ORGANIZATIONS – GRANT SUPPORT OF SYSTEMIC CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS

A. BLOCK GRANT FOR NGO TO SUPPORT PARTNERSHIPS OF SWISS-SLOVAK COLLABORATION (2012-2015)

The Block Grant of the Swiss Financial Mechanism was administered in collaboration of three foundations. The leader was Ekopolis Foundation which is responsible for the realization of the Block Grant for NGO in relation to the Government Office of the Slovak Republic and the Swiss Confederation, and is in charge of the financial fulfilment (in terms of expenditures of partners as well as transferring the resources to the recipients of the Block Grant). Carpathian Foundation and SOCIA Foundation are partners of Ekopolis Foundation in fulfilling its intermediary function. The total amount of 13 projects was supported in two calls of the Block Grant for NGO in the area of social services.

Supported organizations and projects:

i. Projects completed in 2013

Institute of Christ the High Priest, project: Quality Social Services in the Institute of Christ the High Priest

As part of the project workers were trained and a program of implementing quality in the social services facilities in Žakovce and Ľubica was organized. More workers were trained in areas related to providing social services. Together with the clients they carried out individual development plans and participated in activities that develop and sustain working skills.

ii. Projects completed in 2014

Združenie na pomoc ľuďom s mentálnym postihnutím v SR (Association for Helping Mentally Challenged People in Slovak Republic), project: Roads to Independence

Through the project's activities the association supported independent life of people with mental disabilities. They focused on the development of life skills by means of training programs and they founded a Centre of Preparation of People with Mental Disabilities for Independent Life. Their significant achieved goal is social integration through a rehabilitation program for seniors with mental disabilities.

OZ Návrat (The Return, civic association), project: Partnership of a Parent and a Professional

The goal of the project was to empower parents as partners in supporting a child, to encourage professionals in their perception of a parent as a partner in helping the child influencing the attitudes of the parents as well as the professionals toward change of approach (in the cognitive, emotional as well as behavioural area).

OZ Proti prúdu (Against the Mainstream, civic association), project: Nota bene – From Street to Life

Proti prúdu extended the scope of their services to group and field social work and an educational cycle called Development of Key Competences. As part of the project they trained several homeless people to become lecturers on the topic of homelessness, and they organized public discussions.

Centrum Slniečko (Little Sun Centre), project: "Partnership" – the Most Effective Way to Help Children with CAN, CSA Syndrome, Children and Families in Crisis or at Risk of Social Exclusion

The activities of the project led to improvement of quality of social services – measurements of the Social-Legal Protection of Children and Social Guardianship for the area of work with tormented, abused and neglected children, families in crisis and families at risk of social exclusion. It focused mainly on implementing the system of quality of providing the social services in crisis centres as well as education of workers in the areas relevant to quality services.

KASPIAN, project: Learning to Be Better

By participating in accredited training and with the support of supervision the workers of this organization improved the quality of services in low-threshold programs. As part of the project they prepared an expert conference with foreign lecturers for employees of low-threshold centres.

PRO REGION, project: Gaining Professional and Practical Skills for Employees and Clients of Social Services Facility

Activities of this organization as part of the project included reconstruction of a daily institution – creating space for workshops, improving professional skills of the employees in the area of medical rehabilitation and physiotherapy for the needs of clients as well as gaining craft skills (basket-making and pottery) for 4 employees and 10 clients of DS Svetluška. The gained skills are used and will continue to be used as part of the strategy of financial stabilization of the facility.

iii. Projects completed in 2015

Depaul Slovensko (Depaul Slovakia), project: Pilot Project of Low-threshold Social Services for Homeless People

The organization created a low-threshold model of social services for people without home with partial pilot projects aimed at development of working habits and return of clients to independent everyday life. Part of the project was focused on reconstruction of a dormitory. The reconstruction enabled providing more quality and individualized services for specific groups of homeless people.

Áno pre život (Yes for Life), project: Quality Social Services for Families with Children at Risk of Social Exclusion in the Rajec Region

Activities of the project led toward improvement of quality of social services and professional skills of non-profit organization in the area of complex care of families and people at risk of social exclusion. As part of the project a reconstruction and equipment of an emergency housing facility for victims of domestic violence took place. They also provided counselling and therapeutic programs and organized programs and trainings to increase sensitivity of the public toward the phenomenon of domestic violence.

Union of Mother Care Centres, project: Step toward Independence

Through the project's activities the Union of Mother Care Centres supported mother care centres in different regions. This included creating a position of regional coordinator who, together with the centres, created action plans and region plans for the centres. They developed and strengthened the skills of the mother care centres' members in the area of community work, increasing potential of natural community resources such as maternity centres in the process of prevention of social exclusion of women on maternity leave.

Detský fond Slovenskej republiky (Children Fund of Slovak Republic), project: MIXklub Low-threshold Centre for Children and Youth, MIXáčik Low-threshold Family Centre

The organization provides open, safe and inspiring space for children at risk, young people and families. It provides help in overcoming difficult life situations, creates conditions for meaningful spending of free time and education trying to prevent social exclusion.

Relevant, project: Helping in a Better Way, Helping More People

As part of the project the organization aimed at improvement of the qualification of professional workers. It carried out activities to improve the quality and systemize the program of social inclusion of clients (halfway house) and tried to implement new services of specialized social counselling. They extended their services to the target group of seniors offering domestic day care.

Člověk v tísní (People in Need), Slovakia, project: Developing communities

The aim of the organization in its project activities was to support the process of community development by running community centres in chosen localities in the Prešov region. The community centres provide free-time, hobby-oriented and educational activities as well as social (work and career) counselling. They provided training and supervision for their employees.

You can find more information about the projects here:

http://www.bgsfm.sk/stranka_data/subory/aktuality/blokovy-grant-sfm-final.pdf

B. BLOCK GRANT TO SUPPORT NGO'S – PROGRAM OF ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP AND INCLUSION (2013 – 2016)

Ekopolis Foundation works as an intermediary for the Fund of Active Citizenship and Inclusion in partnership with our foundation. The role of the foundation is to manage the component of the development of social services.

Out of the 8 supported projects (organizations) two organizations already finished the realization of the projects during 2014.

i. Projects completed in 2014

M.E.S.A. 10, project: Support of Integration of Institutionalized Clients into Local Communities Using the Example of a Pilot Area of Banská Bystrica Region; irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 64 504.13 €

The goal of the project was to map specific situation in the area of implementing processes of deinstitutionalization especially for **mentally disadvantaged people**. Using the example of the region of Banská Bystrica (the city is a partner in the project) as well as the example of deinstitutionalization process in Norway (foreign expert providing inspiration and resources for Slovakia) they proposed an optimal (model) community in Slovakia where the clients of a former institution (Home of Social Services – DSS) could live a normal life (types of support services, jobs, housing, social support and free time).

Autisti – Agentúra špecializovaných služieb pre autistov a iné zdravotné postihnutia, nezisková organizácia (Autists – Agency of Specialized Services for People with Autism and other health issues, non-profit organization), project: How Change is Born within a Community; irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 36 695.16 €

The goal of the project was to network helping organizations and arrange individualized types of services and help for the growing target group of people with mental disorders. The activities of the project were also aimed at research of barriers/ possibilities of realization for people with mental disorders in working life.

ii. These projects continued and were successfully completed in 2015:

OZ Návrat, (The Return, civic association), project: Aggression Replacement Training (ART), irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 72 251.90 €

A specialized program was brought from the donor country (Norway) to Slovakia. The program is called Aggression Replacement Training. 41 professionals – trainers were trained. This unique training can be used among **wide range of people** working with different target groups. The gained skills will not be used only by the employees of Návrat but also by a wide range of professionals from other organizations around Slovakia. The foreign partner played a key role in the project.

OZ Vagus (Vagus, civic association), project: Domec – Daily Low-threshold Centre for Homeless People; irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 77 740.00 €

The goal of the project was to launch a low-threshold daily centre (meant even for people under influence of alcohol, without papers etc.) **for homeless people**. It is the first project of this type in Bratislava where most homeless people live (the total number is between 3500 and 4500). In the daily centre they participate in specialized activities focused on long-term social inclusion of the clients and there is also the “first aid” provided for people who may have to take a long journey to return to majority society. The foreign partner from Norway (Salvation Army Norway) inspired our professionals in further development of services and at the end the relationship proved to be a source of mutual inspiration.

OZ Drahuška a my (Drahuška and Us, civic association), project: We Are More Independent; irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 45 500.09 €

The goal of the project was to help young people with autism to gain independence. These people had gone through the process of education but then they needed to find work and independent housing. In Krajné they run a small community centre for these clients. Norwegian partner helped the organization to make and implement individual plans of personal growth for people with autism.

Náruč – Pomoc rodinám v kríze (Armful – Helping Families in Crisis), project: Supportive Programs for Families in Crisis as an Effective Tool of Protection of Children from Violence; irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 65 967.93 €

The goal of the project was to launch several new programs into the work of experts in this well-established organization working in the area of services for **victims of domestic violence**. New preventive programs are aimed at restoration of family environment, helping the offenders to restructure their behaviour with the final goal to prevent separation of children and parents. By long-term observation and support for families they manage to sustain the positive changes that have already been achieved.

Člověk v tísní (People in Need), Slovakia, non-profit organization, project: Effective Social Services; irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 69 383.06 €

The goal of the project was to strengthen 5 community centres in Roma communities of Sveržov, Doľany-Rožkovce, Petrovany, Spišské Podhradie and Prešov locality „Tehelňa“ through analysis of needs and effectively targeted setup of services. The NGO carries out activities of individual counselling for Roma citizens: individual

development plans, career counselling, low-threshold daily centres, and volunteer peer programs in collaboration with university students.

ZPMP in Petržalka (Association Helping People with Mental Disabilities in Petržalka), Working-socializing Centre Impulz (Impulse), project: Together for Acceptance, irreclaimable financial contribution provided: 71 965.62 €

The goal of the project was to support inclusion of **adult people with mental disabilities** by means of involving them as trainers of “healthy population” in collaboration with high schools and universities. Another innovative element is professionalization of 8 sheltered workshops (Barlička Prešov, Ayrton Prievidza, Jazmín Handlová, Dom Svitanie Jakubov, Impulz Petržalka, Krídla Bratislava, Andreas, Šanca pre nechcených Dúbravka), where in collaboration with professional designers, artist and sale experts they created a new portfolio of products and means for their sale.

More information as well as best practice examples can be found here:
http://www.socia.sk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/AOI_socialne_web.pdf

C. LADYBIRD HELPING GRANT PROGRAM

The aim of the LADYBIRD HELPING program is to extend, and improve the quality of field and outpatient social services for seniors as well as support implementation of new services. The program is funded from the revenues of the public collection LADYBIRD HELPING organized by the foundation on yearly basis. The support of the LADYIRD HELPING program in 2014 was offered to founders or operators of field and outpatient services for seniors: non-governmental organizations, non-profits providing community services, civic associations, specialized institutions of church, the Slovak Red Cross, and towns or cities (or organizations founded by them) in locations with maximum of 5000 inhabitants.

Thanks to the public money collection the foundation could distribute the sum of 30 000 € from the Ladybird Helping Fund. We distributed the sum among 32 projects of different organizations. Ladybird Helping supported improvement of qualification of nurses, it enabled purchase and lending of rehabilitation aids in families, it helped to improve the quality of transport services for immobile seniors. We supported organizations that make the work of day-care nurses easier through training and lending of the aids. The supported organizations and towns help seniors in their homes or they provide outpatient services as well as playing the role of counselling centres for informal nurses.

More information about the supported projects can be found at <http://www.lienkapomoci.sk/ako-lienka-pomohla>.

4. SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES – SPECIFIC SUPPORT OF FAMILIES

We have been providing help for families in critical life situations since 2010. The financial contributions have been used mainly to prevent separation of a child from its parents. We are glad that our stable donor and the one who initiated this little fun Mr. Andrej Jankuliak this year again contributed through the ANJA company with the sum of 3000 €. Through the Návrat civic association we supported three families by the sum of 1070 €.

5. SOCIAL NETWORK MODELING – CREATING AND INTRODUCING MODELS OF COMPLEX SOCIAL NETWORK INTO PRACTICE

A. SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND THE PROCESS OF DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION IN SLOVAKIA

Year 2015 was the third year of our collaboration with Open Society Foundations – Mental Health Initiative as well as with organizations that joined an informal group *Platform FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES – From an Institution to a Home*. Our main goal is to support the development of community services in Slovakia and support the process of deinstitutionalization of social services.

In 2015 our activities focused mainly on **monitoring the preparation of using the financial support of EU structural funds in 2014 – 2020**. The operation programs that will provide resources for the support of social services were approved in December 2014 and throughout last year the objectives of national projects, leadership mechanisms, and Regional Integrated Territorial Strategies were being prepared, and monitoring committees of operation programs started to work. We have done a lot of reading, writing annotations and pointing out controversial areas. We believe that some of those contributed to a better setup and conditions for people with disabilities. However, we still perceive a need to observe and remind of consistent compliance to the horizontal principle of non-discrimination and equality of opportunities when using euro funds or the principle of partnership in the process of setting them up.

Another area of our activities was focused on drawing attention to and supporting community services. Many of our activities were focused directly on supporting DSS Slatinka and OZ Dlaň in Lučenec in their process of deinstitutionalization. We are very happy that we could support Slatinka in launching a new social service of independent housing – as the first ones in Slovakia. Today 10 clients are already living in their own flats and they receive the necessary support only in the form of a new field service.

In order to support transformation processes in the area of social services we organized several meetings, workshops or an international conference in collaboration with SocioFórum and EASPD. Apart from that we managed to prepare a few interesting publications. Three of them are practical guides and we believe that as they are freely accessible on our website they will serve as many people as possible – not only professionals but also other people.

Competence to perform legal acts. Journey to autonomy and independence

http://www.socia.sk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/manual_web.pdf

We have prepared this publication in collaboration with lawyers Maroš Matiaško, Vladimír Volčko and Ivan Humeník. This handbook is meant especially for social workers and supporters of people who are limited in or exempt from their legal competence. Inside you will find explanations of terminology, exact description of procedures as well as practical advice and warnings. Formal applications are also attached.

I Need Help – What Should I Do?

http://www.socia.sk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/potrebujem-pomoc_web.pdf

We have updated and completed a brochure of Sociofórum „I Need Help – What Should I Do? The brochure offers several pieces of good advice for seniors and people with disabilities about laws (mainly the law about

social services) and procedures in case they need some form of help. The last update of the information in the brochure was in October 2015.

Plan of participation and experience

http://www.socia.sk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Plan-ucasti_WEB.pdf

Plan of Participation and Experience is one of the tools of individual planning that provides and develops the quality and meaning of life for adults with combined or heavy disabilities in social service institutions. This plan was initiated by two Norwegian experts Knut Slåtta and Erlend Ellefsen who have dedicated years of their work to people with combined disabilities. We are happy that this way we can extend the menu of tools for individual planning.

Jarko. This is me.

A special book that we are really excited about, was not written by us. Its author is Jaroslav Koleda, an inhabitant of a Home of Social Services Slatinka in Lučenec. It is his personal testimony and a part of an individual plan which is why we cannot publish the whole book on the website but we would like to offer you a glimpse of it. We believe it will serve as an inspiration for those who work with this target group.



Vychovali ma tety zo Slatinky

V KAŠTIELI NA SLATINKE SOM ŽIL DO SVOJICH 36 ROKOV.
PRIŠIEL SOM AKO 7 ROČNÝ.
Z DETSTVA SI RÁD SPOMINAM NA BETKU A GITKU.
MOJE OBLÚBENÉ SESTRÍČKY, KTORÉ MA VYCHOVÁVALI.
DNES SÚ UŽ NA DŮCHODKU.



Sťahovanie do podporovaného bývania

DO ZARIADENIA PODPOROVANÉHO BÝVANIA
SOM SA PRESTAHOVAL V ROKU 2014.
SVOJE VECI SOM SI PRENIESOL NA VEĽKOM AUTE.

This book is supposed to help Jarko find his way in his complicated life. It is a book that was made with him, about him and for him. The text is easy to read and it is supported by Jarko's drawings that were created as part of establishing an alternative way of communication. The drawings are a result of common searching of his childhood memories and they are related to the important events and milestones of his life, his interests, dreams and plans for the future.

Monitoring barriers. Life on the Wheels with Obstacles

http://www.socia.sk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Monitoring-barierovosti_web.pdf

We are very glad that we can introduce the publication *Life on the Wheels with Obstacles*. It is divided into three parts. What they have in common are barriers and how the Slovak Republic, inhabitants of Lučenec, and Roman Vrábek, the author of the publication, manage to cope with them.

B. PROJECT OF EARLY INTERVENTION IN SLOVAKIA

In 2015 we celebrated great successes when it comes to the project of RVIS (Development of Early Intervention in Slovakia). At the turn of years all of the three centres were established and after the first months of preparations and furnishing we had an opening ceremony where we presented our project to the public at a press conference on 20th April. This day marked the launch of a network of the first three centres of early intervention in Slovakia.



Focusing on this topic we managed to start collaboration with some experts among doctors. One of those who understand the meaning of early intervention service is the former main expert of the Ministry of Health for the area of neonatology Prof. MUDr. Mirko Zibolen, PhD. According to him: *„Services of our colleagues in the Early Intervention Centres take up the work of us paramedics, doctors and nurses who take care of a child coming to this world prematurely, with a disability or with a risky development. Early intervention is an irreplaceable component of complex care for these children. It includes health, education and social area. Therefore the early intervention service should not be understood as „something extra“ but rather as an important part of care for families with a disabled child.“*

Subsequently from April to June the three centres officially opened their gates in the presence of the municipality representatives and local supporters. The topic was received with positive feedback from professionals as well as parents for whom the founding of early intervention centres means hope for more accessible services.



We managed to meet the targets of 2015 completely:

- *We introduced the topic of early intervention and presented our project to the broad public through targeted publicity.*
- *We opened three new early intervention centres in Bratislava, Prešov, and Žilina.*
- *We provided additional education for new employees of the early intervention centres focusing on work with the whole family – they gained a certificate from the Social Work Advisory Board about completing a course of Person-centred Planning*
- *We initiated a dialogue between the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, and Family and the self-governing regions about a strategic plan of funding of the early intervention as a new social service in Slovakia.*



Throughout the year all counsellors from the early intervention centres were participating in a series of trainings that were meant to help them gain more information and align their knowledge of working with families. The first training was about Person-centred Planning. The lecturers were Julie Lunt (UK) and Soňa Holúbková. The second training of our colleagues from early intervention centres was led by Mrs. Terezia Hradílková. She presented the Czech model of early intervention through Training of Early Care Counsellor (Tréning poradce rané péče).



In the three early intervention centres (in Bratislava, Žilina, and Prešov) there are currently 15 early intervention counsellors providing counselling and other professional services for about 157 families of physically or mentally disadvantaged children in the age of 0 – 7 years. The work teams in our centres include psychologists, social workers, special education teachers, therapeutic educators, physiotherapists and speech therapists.

Establishing our collaboration with a significant Slovak partner is also considered to be another important milestone in this year's course of events regarding early intervention. During the summer we started

negotiations with Orange Slovakia, Inc. that decided to support the foundation of another early intervention centre by means of the volunteer money collection at the Bratislava Opera Ball. At the first press conference on 7th October 2015 it was officially confirmed that the whole gaining from the 16th Bratislava Opera Ball, that would take place on 9th January 2016, would be used to support the foundation and operations of the new early intervention centre in Banská Bystrica. „*The families of physically and mentally disadvantaged children still do not get enough attention and we often ignore the problems they struggle with. It is not right that we overlook these families, they should not be invisible, quite the contrary*“, the director of the Bratislava Opera Ball Andrea Cocherová says. Markíza Foundation joined this effort by collecting money for the planned early intervention centre in Banská Bystrica through a public money collection via text messages.



After a year of work on the project of early intervention development we still aim to contribute to Slovakia becoming a country with a working network of timely complex services available for families with disadvantaged children, services which support the dignity and full value of their lives.

6. EMPOWERING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS – DRAWING ATTENTION TO AND STRENGTHENING THE ACTIVITES OF NGOS IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL SERVICES

A. COLLABORATION WITH SOCIOFÓRUM

SocioFórum is a platform of non-governmental non-profit organizations that work in the area of social services. The mission of SocioFórum is to defend and advocate interests and demands of the NGOs that work for socially, physically, mentally or otherwise disadvantaged people.

Year 2015 was mainly the year of elections for SocioFórum. After an unsuccessful general assembly in 2014 (we did not have the necessary quorum) we mobilized the members to participate, and we also prepared a proposal for change of articles that would not be so restrictive and would solve some issues we had not thought of when we had started. At the annual conference in September we had already had the quorum. The general assembly approved the new wording of the articles and we elected the new committee. There have been some more significant personal changes in the committee. At the fall meeting of SocioFórum's committee new spokespersons/statutory representatives of the association were elected.

By the end of 2015 we registered the change of the articles at the Ministry of Internal Affairs. We sent an application for a grant to the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family for a membership fee in an international organization EASPD whose members we are.

Thanks to substantial volunteer support from the foundation's employees and other members of the committee SocioFórum was able to carry out these activities:

- Annotating program documents on usage of European Structural Investment Funds,
- Representing its members in advisory committees and work groups of different ministries and the government,
- Organizing social conferences with workshops (Conference of SocioFórum and Forum of services providers – EASPD),
- Being involved as members of both international (EASPD) and national (Coalition for Children Slovakia) organizations.

The Committee of SocioFórum approved the membership for other applicants and the total number of members at the end of year was: 77 regular members and 9 associated members.

B. PROJECT OF IMPROVING THE TRANSPARENCY OF THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR

The Office of a Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic Government for the Development of Civic Society at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Slovak Republic carried out a national project "Improving the Transparency of the Non-profit Sector and the Quality of Services Provided by Non-profit Organizations by the Mechanism of Accreditation of Non-governmental Non-profit Organizations" in 2014 and 2015.

The outcome of the project is an analysis and proposal of a model of an open information system for NGO which is aligned with the proposal of the new law about registration of non-governmental non-profit organizations. In 2016 the project will continue with technical solution of the information system so that it could be launched into practice in 2017. Non-governmental non-profit organizations will become a part of e-government which will contribute to effective management of public finances on the side of the providers (public administration) as well as the recipients (NGO). The open information system is supposed to be a tool for de-bureaucratization and improvement of service quality under the scrutiny of the public.

More information about the achieved results can be found here: http://www.minv.sk/?ros_amno

During the realization of the project the Office of the Plenipotentiary tries to fulfil the principles of partnership and that is why the project is carried out in collaboration with key organizations that play the role of supporting and providing infrastructure for the civic society and the non-profit sector – Centre for Philanthropy, SOCIA Foundation, civic association Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia, and civic association 1st Slovak Non-profit Service Centre.

This project was carried out thanks to the support from European Social Fund as part of Operational Program Employment and Social Inclusion.

7. ELDERLY AGE CONCERNS US CAMPAIGN AND LADYBIRD HELPING PUBLIC MONEY COLLECTION

ELDERLY AGE CONCERNS US campaign has been presenting the topic of growing older for six years already and it helps the seniors to spend their time where they love it the most – at home. This year of the campaign has been critical for us. We have lost a significant partner and there was a real threat that the topic of elderly age won't be discussed and the seniors will be forgotten. However, as it turned out, our agency CREATIVE DEPARTMENT cannot be stopped by even a zero media budget. They tried to broaden the topic of elderly age through social networks using the phenomenon of selfies and hashtags. They tried to create an online movement of people for whom the elderly are superstars. The only thing the people had to do was to make a selfie with their grandparents, change their profile picture of Facebook and add the hashtag #mojeSTARsieja (#my olderself – playing with the word STAR within the Slovak word for „older“ – starsie). Apart from ordinary people many famous faces changed their profile pictures such as Milan Junior Zimnýkovaľ, Helena Krajčiová, Zuzka Smatanová, Táňa Pauhofová, and Zuzka Šebová. The media were intrigued by the campaign and thus we managed to achieve our goal: to make the seniors our superstars and draw attention to them in the media reminding everyone how important they are to us.



8. ACTIVITIES AIMED AT PRODUCING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE FOUNDATION

A. 2 %

Thanks to the assignation of mostly legal entity income taxes we gained the total sum of 47 274.13 €, which is 49 897.13 € less than last year.

The biggest sum was assigned by SCA Gemerská Hôrka – 15 000 €, followed by companies associated with the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce – 5573 €, and ING Bank – 3900 €. Anonymous assignors supported our projects with the sum of 22 801.13 €.

We are happy to see the significant increase of the assigned resources from SCA Hygiene Products Company as well as from the anonymous supporters.

B. COLLABORATION WITH THE NETHERLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Traditional Annual Charity Dinner of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in Slovak Republic was taking place on 21st November 2015 in Bratislava. 11th year of the festive evening decided to dedicate their support to the project of the oldest low-threshold program in Slovakia – Kaspian, which operates in Petržalka. Thanks to an auction and a raffle the members of the Chamber and invited guests collected 21 000 € which included 2 % of the Chamber's members income taxes. The main purpose of the project chosen by the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with SOCIA Foundation was reconstruction of a new facility in which many children will find help and support activities.

C. SIGNIFICANT PARTNERS OF THE FOUNDATION

VELUX Foundation from Denmark
Open Society Foundation – Mental Health Institute Budapest
Office of Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area
Ekopolis Foundation
ANJA, Ltd., specifically Mr. Andrej Jankuliak
CREATIVE DEPARTMENT Agency
ING Bank N.V., Bratislava office
Netherlands Chamber of Commerce
SCA Hygiene Products
Bratislava Opera Ball
Orange Slovakia, Inc.
ORANGE Foundation
Heineken Slovakia
GEFCO Slovakia
EASPD
The WHO Country Office in Slovakia

9. FINANCIAL REPORT

Overview of receipts and profits of the foundation according to resources and origin (all in €)

	Receipts	Profits
Foundations and Institutions		
FOSI (Foundation Open Society Institute)	80 111	79 806
NDS – An Hour for Children	2 400	2 048
EASPD	2 773	0
BRATISLAVA OPERA BALL – establishment of new early intervention centres in B. Bystrica and Košice	13 400	1 637
VELUX Foundation	265 175	319 603
WHO Bratislava	8 865	8 865
TriGranit Centrum, Inc.		1 200
Re-invoicing of costs	659	27
Other		2 322
Corporations:		
ING Bank N.V., Bratislava office	13 000	13 000
GEFCO Slovakia, Ltd.	7 500	7 500
Netherlands Chamber of Commerce (HOK)	10 500	10 500
ANJA, Ltd.	12 000	3 646
Slovak Telekom, Inc.	50 000	
Vaše Slovensko, Ltd.	506	506
Public Resources:		
2 % of taxes	47 274	47 733
AOI NFM – Management	20 138	18 887
AOI NFM – Projects	0	106 238
Ministry of Internal Affairs in Slovak Republic	800	2 585
Block Grant ŠFM for NGO	7 271	5 867
Public Money Collection Ladybird Helping:		
Public Money Collection Ladybird Helping	7 068	23 888
Donations by physical entities:		
Mr. Andrej Jankuliak	0	1 070
Employees of ING Bank	640	640
Other	247	366
Services, sale of goods:		
Selling the publication Zrkadlenie (Mirroring)	8	8
Financial gains:		
Bank interests and interests from a loan	32	50
Exchange rate profit	0	10
TOTAL	550 367	658 002

Total costs divided according to the administration of the foundation and project activities (all in €)

	Administration of the foundation	Project activities	Provided contributions	Total
Protection and evaluation of assets	1 853	698		2 551
Promotion of the public-service purpose of the foundation – campaign and money collection	300	6 178		6 478
Operational processes of the foundation	16 194	152 377		168 571
Reward for the administrative position	0	0		0
Travel costs	82	9 161		9 243
Labour costs	4 816	78 038		82 854
Other costs for activities related to operations	3 324	513		3 837
Provided contributions of legal and physical entities, donations, costs of a project partner, creating a fund			384 405	384 405
TOTAL	26 569	246 965	384 405	657 939
Income tax				13
TOTAL COSTS				657 952
% share of the costs for administration in the total costs	4,04%	95,96		100 %

The budget of the foundation for 2015 was discussed and approved at the meeting of Board of Directors 26th November 2014.

Comparison of the approved budget for the administration of the foundation (all in €)	Plan	Reality	Gap
Protection and evaluation of assets	2 000	1 853	147
Promotion of the public-service purpose of the foundation	2 000	300	1 700
Operations of the foundation	16 000	16 194	-194
Reward for the administrative position	1 000	0	1 000
Travel costs	1 000	82	918
Labour costs	3 000	4 816	-1 816
Other costs for activities related to operation	5 000	3 324	1 676
TOTAL	30 000	26 569	3 431

The planned costs for the administration as a whole were not exceeded. Personal costs were exceeded because we did not manage to contract a project which included planned costs for the salary of the project manager. A

slight overrun of the planned costs for operations was caused by the overall growth of the foundation's activities which also showed in the costs of operations.

The foundation did not create any endowment in 2015.

Because of changes in the Proceedings of Accounting for Non-profit Accounting Entities we created a financial fund according to the special regulations about the unused contributions from the public money collection Ladybird Helping.

Economical results of the foundation

In 2015 the foundation gained a clear profit of 50,15 € that will be billed to the account of the Reserve Fund on the first day of the following year.

Investment of financial resources

The Foundation invested the financial resources into 5-year term account deposits in Tatra Bank with the interest being payable after the overall period during which the deposit is blocked expires, and until financial help is provided.

Claims and liabilities

The total claims were in the amount of 83 414 € and liabilities were in the amount of 30 100 €.

Contributions and donations provided for other physical and legal entities – total of 377 820 €

A. Support for families from the contribution of a physical entity A. Jankuliak – total of 1070 € (all in €)

Through Návrat, civic association: Mrs. I. Kováčová	350
Mrs. J. Hornyaková	200
Mrs. V. Kováčová	520

B. Donations provided for other legal entities – total of 310 124 € (all in €):

1. Návrat, civic association – HOK Project	30 000
2. Socio Fórum, civic association	324
3. Society for Timely Care Prague, Czech Republic	3 404
4. Dlaň, civic association	160
5. ZSS VINIČKY Nitra	830
6. ZSS Borinka	1 170
7. Early Intervention Centre Bratislava	56 173
8. Early Intervention Centre Žilina	58 095
9. Early Intervention Centre Prešov	53 730
10. NGOs participating in the AOI NFM project	106 238

C. Donations provided for legal entities – Senior projects – 23 243.30 € from the public money collection Ladybird Helping, 6 636.97 € from the foundation's resources based on the share of the paid taxes, 119.73 € from the gains of physical entities, amounting to the total sum of 30 000 €.

D. Donations provided for other legal entities in the amount of 36 626 € (all in €)

1. Early Intervention Centre Bratislava – motor vehicle KIA Seed	11 526
2. Early Intervention Centre Žilina - motor vehicle KIA Seed	11 526
3. Early Intervention Centre Prešov – motor vehicle KIA Seed	11 526
4. Early Intervention Centre Bratislava – materials for the centre	905
5. Early Intervention Centre Žilina – materials for the centre	305
6. Early Intervention Centre Prešov – materials for the centre	838

10. PEOPLE OF SOCIA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jaroslav Vittek

Chairman of the Board of Directors
ING Bank, Branch Office in Prague

Soňa Holúbková

Social Work Advisory Board, Branch Office in Žilina

Andrej Jankuliak

Anja, Ltd.

Simona Bubánová

Creative Department

Vladimír Labáth

Department of Social Services at the Faculty of Education at Comenius University

Thomas van der Ven

Honorary member of the Board of Directors

SUPERVISORY BOARD

Blažena Simonová

A&B Consulting, Ltd.

Martina Zacharová

TriGranit Bratislava /Management/, Ltd.

Peter Široký

Lottery Brokers

STAFF

Helena Woleková

Administrator and statutory representative of the foundation

Vladislav Matej

Executive director of the foundation and project coordinator for the development of early intervention

Martina Petijová

Project manager (Block Grant of Swiss Financial Mechanism, AOI SS Program as part of the Block Grant EEA for NGO)

Božena Paulenová

Accountant

Financial assistant of the Block Grant of Swiss Financial Mechanism and AOI SS Program as part of Block Grant EEA for NGO

Financial manager of the RVIS project – VELUX

Mária Machajdíková

Project Coordinator for Support of Deinstitutionalization

Marcela Zacharová

Social worker – expert in the area of early intervention

Magdaléna Hollá

Project assistant

Vilma Vitteková

PR manager

Manager of LADYBIRD HELPING Program

Andrea Vilhanová

Local consultant

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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We thank the people who have supported us

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