

SEVEN SEASONS IN THE SINGLE PARENTS' CENTRE IN HUNGARY

June 2018 – February 2020



In Hungary a parent is absent in 300,000 families. As a result, 500,000 children are being brought up by only a mother or a father. It is them whom the Single Parents' Centre helps.



the Centre has organised and provided holidays and camping for



The Single Parents' Centre opened in May 2018 for Hungary's largest minority, single-parent families. Since then

3100

parents and children



7600

families have enjoyed services, assistance and a community



800

professionals have participated in the Centre's professional events



80

volunteers help the Centre's work

it has organised workshops and professional training for



events have been organised for

50

NGOs

150

children and parents living over the borders of Hungary



Single-parent families are helped with free *services, events, support and donations* in a 400-square-metre communal and support space in the Single Parents' Centre.

The Centre is a crisis centre, helping and supporting space, play centre, café and venue for events.



WHAT DOES THE SINGLE PARENTS' CENTRE PROVIDE?

We are building a national network – at present seven clubs in the provinces and two over Hungary's borders are functioning.

Our operation is regarded as a *unique social innovation internationally*. We were able to introduce it as “good practice” in the UN.



1

HELP IN CRISIS

- legal advice
- psychological, child psychological assistance
- mediation between parents
- donations (clothes, durable food, school equipment)
- support groups



2

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- thematic and self-help groups, clubs
- art therapy groups for parents
- physical and mental health projects
- community development projects
- art and craft sessions, events connected to holidays and important days

3

ASSISTANCE IN FINDING A JOB

- work placement
- job fairs
- individual advice, writing CVs, preparation for interviews
- “return to work” project for young mothers
- foreign language and professional training
- START business development incubator project
- business development mentoring



4

PARENT HELPING PROGRAMMES

- Parents’ Academy
- “digital parents” events
- family therapy

5



OUR SERVICES



PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN

- camping, holidays
- extra school tuition for children between the ages of 8 and 17
- preparatory courses for entrance examinations
- “Adolescent Complaints”: mediation between parents and adolescents
- drama education
- thematic art and craft sessions
- events for children



6

PREVENTION

- events for blended families
- self-help groups for those living in blended families
- mediation



INCORPORA CAREER PROJECT

On 1 August 2019 our foundation joined the INCORPORA project whereby we help single parents and women to find work in the labour market.

Since then

- more than 192 people have joined the group
- we have contacted 236 clients
- we have found jobs for 29 people in the labour market
- we have formed 13 company contacts
- we have participated in 10 career events

OUR CAMPS

Various camps were among our most popular programmes. Single parent families could participate in:

- *summer Erzsébet camps*
- *Erzsébet family weekends*
- *family holidays in the Kolping Hotel*
- *holidays at the Zobor Theme and Adventure Park*



- *camps in the Vértes Hills*
- *thematic camps:*
 - discovery camp
 - water adventure camp
 - yoga and well-being camp
 - young journalist media camp
 - international adventure camp





OUTSTANDING SINGLE PARENT PRIZE

The Outstanding Single Parent Prize is announced annually and is awarded to single parents whose performance as a single breadwinner is exceptional. With the prize we would like to increase the *social appreciation of single parent families*.



SOME OF OUR PROJECTS

EARTH DAY

A day for environment protection was held for 140 children of nursery school age when they learnt how they could look after the well-being of the Earth and how much we were receiving from the planet.



MORE THAN HEALTH – FAMILY EVENT

Open-air family programme for *health consciousness* – sports, physical exercise and a healthy way of life were in focus during the day. More than 700 participated in the event.

END PERIOD POVERTY – CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT DONATIONS

In cooperation with The Body Shop we held a collection for single mothers and their daughters who have no access to period sanitary products. Within a few days we managed to mobilise the whole country and the high number of donations was distributed among 1500 women and girls in need.



BEAUTY DAY ON MOTHER'S DAY

For Mother's Day we pleased with a 'beauty day' mothers who have little time for themselves during the year. Beauty treatment, dermatological diagnostics, hairdressing and make-up advice – just a few opportunities mothers could try out during the Beauty Day.



SUSTAINABILITY IN FOCUS – FAMILY DAY

The sustainability family day was about an environment-friendly attitude and zero waste way of life, including presentations, quizzes and games. Children learnt about recyclable materials at art and craft sessions.

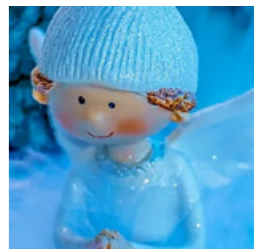


FATHERS IN FOCUS IN THE CENTRE – FATHER'S DAY ABOUT FATHERS, NOT ONLY FOR FATHERS

Father's Day event about fathers' joy and challenges. Psychologists, journalists, actors and well-known dads talked about the world from the aspect of fathers. Creative sessions and contests were aimed at parents and children in order to share experiences and create together.

ANGELS DO EXIST – FULFIL A YOUNG CHILD'S DREAM!

Fifty children wrote and drew pictures of their wishes, which Santa Claus fulfilled at an intimate festive celebration with the help of voluntary donors – the event made the children very happy.



THE SINGLE PARENTS' CENTRE ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE



- New York – Anna Nagy, President of the Single Parents' Foundation, gave a presentation about the activity of the Single Parents' Centre as good practice and the situation of single parents at the two-week session of the *UN Commission on the Status of Women* in March.
- Warsaw – the Single Parents' Centre presented itself at the event of the Polish Ministry of Labour, Family Affairs and Social Policy.
- Berlin – the presentation of the Single Parents' Centre as international good practice at the international conference of the German AGF.

THE SINGLE PARENTS' CENTRE'S AWARDS



- “*Communal Space of the Year*”, special prize
- “*Highlights of Hungary*”, special prize
- *Family Friendly Workplace*, certification at bronze level
- *Family Friendly Services Provider*, certification at bronze level
- *Female Entrepreneur of the Year* awarded to Anna Nagy for establishing the Single Parents' Centre



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