

Run Santa



On December 15, 2019 a mini humanitarian marathon "Run Santa" was held in Zahir Pajaziti Square, which was organized by "Project 5 cents".

The purpose of this marathon was to raise funds by selling stanta clauës's clothes, and everyone dressed as stanta clause participated to run 5 Km. The funds raised were used for families with bad socio-economic conditions for the holidays at the end of the year.

In this mini marathon participated also 68 children who are part of the BSFK Learning Center in Fushë Kosovë. Their participation was made possible by the company Kujtesa, which donated to 68 children the clothes of santa clause, who then ran in the mini marathon and had fun with the show which was organized also in the end of mini marathon "Run Santa".

By becoming a part of Run Santa event, everyone contributed to being the reason for one's smile for the holidays at the end of the year.

Call for implementation of the "Administrative Instruction" (19/2018)

On the date of December 3, 2019 in front of the of the building of the Ministry of Education Science and Technology - MEST, from Civil Society Organizations that manage Learning Centers, a call was organized as an Advocacy Initiative to push on the implementation of the "Administrative Instruction" (19/2018) for registration and operation of learning centers.



This call had the aim to remind the Minister of Education, Mr. Bytyqi, the promises that he has not fulfilled according to the deadline as set by the AI which the Minister himself signed on 7 December 2018 (19/2018). As this guide has not been distributed within the deadline, additional learning centers are facing a number of challenges due to the lack of funding and the lack of institutional responsibility.

The citizens who joined this call as well as all tutors who work in the Learning Centers, during the event, have requested the MEST that in urgent matter to issue the Guidelines for the Registration of these Learning Centers and consequently to open the formal process for registering the Additional Learning Centers. At the same time it was requested that MEST publish calls for financial subsidies as set out in the annual budget of the Government of Kosovo.

Takim i përfaqësuesve të OSHQ me z. Albin Kurtin



On December 21, 2019, in the office of the Movement for Self-Determination!, the head Albin Kurti, along with the deputy Fatmire Mulhaxha Kollçaku and other members Xhelal Sveçla and Sami Kurteshi, met with civil society representatives, who work with matters concerning the protection and advancement of interest of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo.

The Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities suffer double the poverty and unemployment in our Republic, due to the additional prejudice and discrimination they face. For 20 years in a row, they have been neglected by the government and, in addition to being denied their rights and freedoms, they have also lacked access to employment, health, education, social protection and care

This should not continue with the new governance, so, after consulting with the political and institutional representatives of these communities, President Kurti met with representatives of non-governmental organizations defending the interests of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians in Kosovo, with whom he spoke for the coordinates of a new government that does not exclude anyone but cares, protects and enables the advancement of activities and policies for the benefit of these communities and society at large.

Representatives of these organizations have listed the most important issues for improving the well-being of these three communities where education, employment, housing, general budget and anti-gypsyism are at the forefront.

The head of the movement, Kurti, expressed his appreciation for the work done by these organizations and introduced these representatives to the priorities of the new government, where democratic state building and the rule of law, economic development and job creation will no longer exclude and discriminate against anyone. With the new government, we will help first where it is most needed and we know that the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have a double burden because they are discriminated against in a particular way and discriminated in general, he said, noting that this would change. The new government will direct their energy towards projects that directly affect and develop the lives of these communities and will include in particular support for organizations and activities that protect and advance their interests.

For this, we already have agreement with institutional representatives, but also with non-governmental organizations that deal with the protection and advancement of the rights of these communities.

Distribution of gifts for children

On December 20, 2019 in the framework of the project “Empowering Non-majority Communities in Kosovo through Education, Dialogue and Inclusion in Municipal Decision-Making Processes” EDI Phase Three, an event was organized to distribute gifts to children, who benefit from the project, in the four locations where the project operates (Shtime, Plemetin, Fushe Kosove and Janjeva).

The gifts for the children were prepared by pupils from the following schools: Third



Millennium, Prishtina High School, ILG, Zenit School, Oxford Studio Foreign Language Course, and the staff from Gjirafa Mall and IPKO Foundation. While the event was supported by the Kosovo Security Force - KSF, OSCE Mission in Kosovo, Fushe Kosova Municipality and Obiliq Municipality.

Accompanied by the staff of three partner organizations: Balkan Sunflowers Kosova, Play International and The Ideas Partnership, more than 460 children attended the event and received gifts. After the gifts were distributed, there was also a cocktail organized for all participants.

Training “Successful Application

In the framework of the PROSPECT + project, funded by KFOS and implemented by Syri i Vizionit, during December, there were held trainings to facilitate the successful employment application, in which young people from Roma, Egyptian and Ashkali communities in Peja received training in the neighborhood “September 7th”.

The purpose of the training is to raise awareness of successful application to young people, forms, modes, and easy application practices, such as filling out an application, CV, cover letter and references.

In the framework of this project, was engaged an employment counselor who dealt only with employment issues and informing young people about employment.



Training on “Parental Skills”

In the framework of PROSPECT + project funded by KFOS and implemented by Syri i Vizionit, in the neighborhood “7 Shtatori” daily parenting or “Parenting Skills” trainings were held, which was held with young women, mothers and young girls from Roma, Egyptian and Ashkali communities.

The purpose of the training was to facilitate the upbringing of children, to find more practical ways or forms of working with children mainly on homework, given that the parents of Roma, Egyptian and Ashkali communities have lower levels of education.

In the framework of this project,, there was engaged a psychologist who held psycho-social sessions with mothers, daughters and wives of Roma, Egyptian and Ashkali communities, provided psychological services to deal with stress, violence, family problems, depression, and awareness of early marriages.

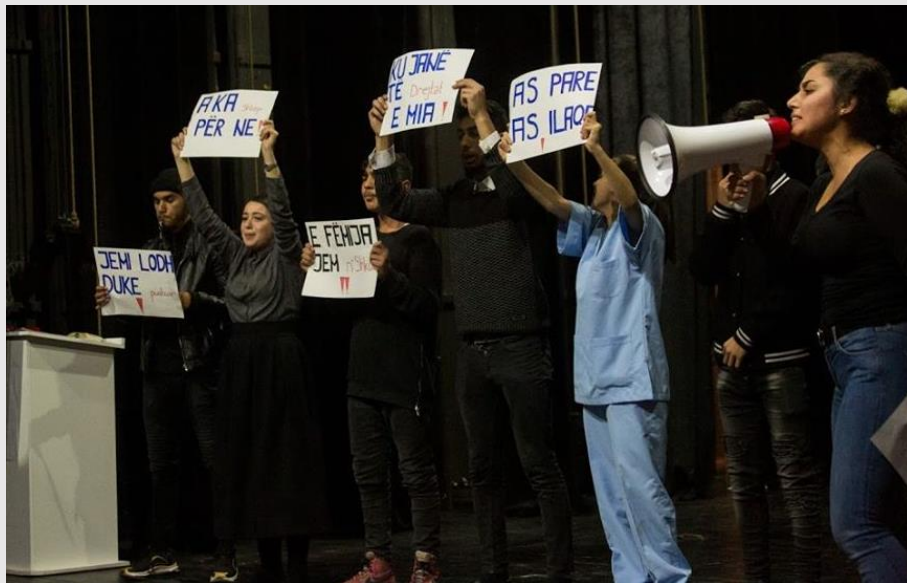


Scholarships for high school students

On December 13, 2019, out of 550 scholarship recipients for the 2019/20 school year, there were 150 recipients of Voice of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians in Kosovo, who have signed contracts under the National Scholarship Program for high school students of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities". This project is supported by the Swiss Foundation (HEKS) the Swiss Cooperation Office and the Roma Education Fund (REF) supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), and is implemented by the Voice of Roma Ashkali and Egyptians (VoRAE).



Theater play "Home"



On 19 December 2019, in Ferizaj, was organized a cultural- artistic program and theatrical play "Home" by BRAN. This program brought together about 400 participants at the "Adriana Abdullahu" theater in Ferizaj. At the same time, this activity was the conclusion of the project "Inclusion of returnees in the Kosovo society" implemented by the Youth Union for Bright Future and financially supported by UNHCR.

In this event there were as participants also Deputy Ministers, representatives of local institutions, UNHCR representatives, civil society members, principals, professors and teachers of primary and high schools in the municipality of Ferizaj and other relevant stakeholders.

The theatrical play titled "Home" addressed the problems and challenges for returnees from the region countries, but above all the theatrical play conveyed messages where it is demanding respect for human rights, the implementation of laws, guidelines and regulations for returnees, home construction, providing better conditions for children's education, employment, better health conditions and generally better treatment for returnees as they are estimated to have been left out altogether. Besides the theatrical play "Home", there also performed the Hip Hop dance group "Fly Dancers"

BRAN will continue to work and engage for the inclusion of returnees in Kosovo society.

Distribution of gifts in Peja

On December 26, 2019, within the framework of the project "GIZ" which is implemented by "Syri i Vizionit" in Peja, for the holidays of the end of the year school packages were distributed for all children of additional learning of 6 learning centers in Peja Municipality. The gifts contained not only groceries, but also a fairy tale book to read during the winter holidays. On this occasion the pupils of the additional classes and the educators organized a fun activity.



Training: Modern strategies of teaching

In honor of the volunteers' day, in the framework of the EDI 3 project, funded by the Austrian Development Agency, TIP organized the training "Modern strategies of teaching" with trainers Fitore Polloshka, Feride Fejza and Valentina Osmani.

Through this training TIP aims to develop the skills of volunteers for theories of modern teaching, constructivist strategies of teaching and student assessment as an integral part of teaching process.

The training in general had the purpose to be for facilitating the implementation of the teaching syllabus in activities with children.



Youth makes a difference



On December 27, Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo organized an event related to the research "Problems and Challenges faced by Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma Communities in the Municipality of Fushë Kosovë and Social Buildings of Plemetina Village in Obiliq" at the Fushe Kosove Railway Amphitheater. The message of this event was that "Youth makes a difference". The event was attended by over 300 citizens of Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities. Furthermore, there were also present representatives of health institutions from these two municipalities.

15 young people from these three communities testified that when there is a will, change does occur anyway. Within a month, these young people interviewed 502 families, which included 384 Ashkali, 76 Egyptian, 36 Roma, and 6 families who did not declare their ethnicity. The key findings of the research were presented to the audience..

These young people have not stopped here. Within two weeks of intense daily exercise, they have prepared a show related to early marriages "You won't be late." The theatrical performance was presented at the event and was welcomed by participants.

The young people from NGO BRAN also performed a modern dance and showed that young people from these three communities are artists in different fields.

The project was funded by Solidare Suisse office in Kosovo.

Distribution of gifts in Mitrovica



On the date of December 24, 2019, RADC organized an event to distribute gifts to children, who attend additional classes at the Learning Center in Mitrovica. During the event different gifts were distributed for the new year to 200 children. The Mitrovica Learning Center and this activity were supported by SIDA / DRC.



Happy New Year 2020!