

## DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI WAVES FAREWELL TO AN EXCEPTIONAL 2013

Prague, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2014 - **DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI o.p.s. ("DDŠ")**, a leading Czech non-profit organisation for children and young people in children's homes, summarises the most successful events and activities of last year and enters 2014 full of enthusiasm.

Last year, 2013, was an important milestone for the organisation as it continued to strengthen its position amongst the existing non-profit organisations and to raise its profile through a number of different activities. For example, thanks to the generous support of Vršanská uhelná, a.s. represented by Mr. Pavel Tykač, DDŠ was able to start the second year of its very successful scholarship programme, which provides full financial support for children to carry out their studies. The children participating in the project were also able to spend two weekends, one in spring and another one in the autumn, enjoying a number of interesting lectures and fun activities with the DDŠ team and its patrons. The autumn weekend was especially important as the organisation announced a new patron for its "I wish..." project, the double Olympic champion **Barbora Špotáková**, who has already started to be actively involved in the organisation.

The year also saw **DDŠ** increasing its fundraising results, not just thanks to its DMS fundraising initiative launched in July, but especially thanks to events such as the first ever charity run known as the "**Prague Barefoot Run**" in June that raised more than 100,000 CZK. Fundraising activities continued into the Christmas season, when the auction organized by the **International Business Forum** helped to raise almost 120,000 CZK, and the hockey tournament **Channel One Cup 2013, Czech Republic – Finland**, organized by the BPA sport marketing a.s. agency, brought DDŠ a check for 106,000 CZK. Then, on the occasion of the national conference of **GEPARD FINANCE a.s.** who has supported DDŠ from the very beginning, **DDŠ** received a check in the amount of 123,456 CZK. The year peaked with a fantastic result for the second year running for its **Wishing Tree** project, which fulfilled 935 children's wishes worth 970,234 CZK, making this project twice as successful as in 2012.

DDŠ was also proud to announce several success stories for some of the many children it supports, such as that of Lukáš, who has been able to benefit from two projects created by DDŠ, "**Help me start in life...**" and "**Support me...**". Lukáš received financial support to move out of his children's home, received the starting pack, and then DDŠ helped him to find his first job. Another child, Klára, benefited from the "I wish..." project and early in the year was able to receive important eye surgery valued at 60,000 CZK, which helped her to get back to her favorite sport – running.

Talking about 2013, Michaela Chovancová, Director of **DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI**, said:

*“There is no doubt that 2013 was our most successful year to date. We are very happy with all of our new partnerships and projects, and we are looking towards 2014 with a lot of enthusiasm and an aim to continue with the strengthening of the position of our organisation and the relationships with our current partners, supporters and patrons. We hope to have some interesting new opportunities and to continue to grow the numbers of supported children as amazingly fast as we managed in 2013.”*

One of DDŠ's most important upcoming events in 2014 is its participation in the Sportisimo Prague Half Marathon on 5th April, 2014. Runners have had the chance to support the organisation by registering to take part in the race through **DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI** and the half marathon registrations were sold within 2 weeks of going on sale, with DDŠ selling all of the 250 registrations that they had available. The organisation is now looking forward to raising its profile through supporting the concept of running for charity as it looks towards the Prague marathon race in May.

Finally, note that the organisation wrapped up 2013 with an important change to its legal form, which, on December 28th, 2013 was transferred to an o.p.s. (obecně prospěšná společnost).

For more information about **DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI**, please visit [www.dejmedetemsanci.cz](http://www.dejmedetemsanci.cz).

#### Contact:

Tereza Tkadlecová  
Executive Assistant to the Director  
tel: 734 734 856  
e-mail: [tereza@dejmedetemsanci.cz](mailto:tereza@dejmedetemsanci.cz)  
web: [www.dejmedetemsanci.cz](http://www.dejmedetemsanci.cz)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/DejmeDetemSanci.cz](http://www.facebook.com/DejmeDetemSanci.cz)

JWA Prague, s.r.o.  
Barbora Müllerová  
Slezská 63  
130 00 Prague 3  
Tel: +420 242 454 740  
E-mail: [barbora@jwa.cz](mailto:barbora@jwa.cz)  
Web.: [www.jwa.cz](http://www.jwa.cz)

#### Notes for Editors:

##### **DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI o.p.s.:**

DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI o.p.s. (“LET’S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE”) provides comprehensive assistance to children from children’s homes throughout the Czech Republic, especially when they start their independent lives. At the same time, it offers companies and individuals the opportunity to support a specific child growing up in a children’s home, enabling them to support something that is credible and financially acceptable. At present, the charity is cooperating with 30 children’s homes in all regions of the Czech Republic and more than 200 children are continuously included in its projects. More information and a list of children that can be helped can be found on [www.dejmedetemsanci.cz](http://www.dejmedetemsanci.cz). DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI o.p.s. is a member of AVPO – the Association of Community Organizations (Asociace veřejně prospěšných organizací) that brings together organizations that have as their top priorities transparency and professionalism in carrying out their community service.