

# LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE





If you help one child, you won't change the world, but you might change the world for that one child.





# **DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI o.p.s.** LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE



www.dejmedetemsanci.cz facebook.com/DejmeDetemSanci.cz instagram.com/dejmedetemsanci



a group of students supported within the Scholarship programme of the "Help me start in life..." project



### **Bodies of** LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

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LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE was one of the first organisations to receive the "Reliable Non-profit Organisation" label in 2013. The donors have an assurance that an organisation with the reability label is checked each year, manages donations appropriately, responsibly fulfils its mission and continues to work on its development. More details: www.znackaspolehllivosti.cz

### LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

is member of AVPO (Association of Public Benefit Organisations), FICE (Children's homes Federation in the Czech Republic), co-operates with professionals from all fields regarding substitute family/institutional care and Day Centre Paprsek – family centre of Zdeněk Matějček.



### LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

co-operates with many personalities from different areas of social life. Patrons of DDŠ are actress **Lucie Benešová**, two time Olympic champion and javelin world record holder **Bára Špotáková**, plastic surgeon **doc. Jan Měšťák**, entertainer and presenter **Vladimír Hron.** 

We supported Veronika for 5 years during her university studies. She had a sponsor, who regularly donated money into her savings account. During the years we have also fullfilled many of her wishes, mainly regarding her business activities. She wrote the letter a year before her graduation. Now she has sucesfully entered the independent life and we are still in touch.

Photo: Jadran Šetlík

# Story of a student

My name is Veronika, I am 25 years old and I entered children's home 11 years ago. I ended up there due to the death of my step-father and because my mum had a nervous breakdown, started taking hard drugs and stopped taking care of us. My siblings and I didn't have anything to eat so we stole from shops just to get some food. This situation lasted more than a year, after which we were placed into the children's home. For me personally it was terribly hard, I wasn't able to adapt and I just spent time with my siblings. I tried to get out of things by claiming various illnesses so that I didn't have to go to school amongst ordinary students. This stopped after about 3 months. I started thinking about myself. I decided to start to study, I wanted to study at high school and to graduate, not just to do some kind of an apprenticeship. I tried to get good marks, and in 8th and 9th grade I achieved it. My goal at that time was to get accepted to a Police academy, but in the end, I finished up at a hoteling school. During the four years of my studies the possibility to travel abroad started to slowly open up. Thanks to the foundation's donations I was able to visit Great Britain, Estonia, Malta, Belgium, France, Italy and Croatia. Each visit to a foreign country convinced me to continue on this path. When the time for graduation came, I felt terribly stressed, I wanted to prove to myself that I could achieve "something". When I successfully graduated, I was happy that I already achieved more than the rest of my family. The only one who was proud of me was my uncle, who I visit until this day, and myself, of course. After graduation I knew I wanted to go to university I just couldn't decide which one. I applied for various courses and tried the entrance exams, but nothing worked out. Suddenly, I realised I didn't know what to do. I knew I wasn't ready to go my own way, so the headmaster and I agreed that I would go for a year's study and prepare for the university exams meanwhile. During this period I also started to develop stomach problems, I couldn't eat, I went to several check-ups and they discovered that my problems stemmed from a bad diet and stress. It was time to change my routine. I began to take an interest in nutrition and I started to exercise regularly at home. Gradually everything began to change. I got a part-time job so that I could afford to change my eating habits and I started educating myself in this area. In the end I even looked for universities that focus on this subject. I found one, but it was in Prague and it was a private school. I approached the foundation and asked if they would be able to help me with my schooling. I got everything I wished for, I moved to Prague and started attending the chosen university. I took a Trainer and nutritional specialist course and that is all thanks to the fact that I never stopped believing in myself and that others believed in me too. I know that without these people, I wouldn't be where I am today. When you have to do everything alone, you appreciate the help that is offered, but doesn't have to be offered, far more. I am grateful to all the foundations, but LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE is the only organisation with which I have a personal relationship. I would like to thank the whole team. Thanks to them I always felt the drive when I wanted to achieve something, because I knew that someone believed in me. Without a support from my own family, I appreciated theirs even more.

My dreams and goals now are to finish my doctorate degree, achieve the best result possible in a Czech competition in the Bikini fitness category and get my own business started, making competition bikini suits.

Veronika



Every year we use more volunteers and temporary workers, especially our supporters and students, who help us at events organised by LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE. Veronika is always ready to help us.



Veronica at the Bikini Fitness Contest and Veronica's Bc. Graduation Ceremony

# Team of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE,

### FOUNDERS OF THE ORGANISATION









Director

Lawyer

"Help me start in life..." Project coordinator

"Support me..." and "Find me..." Project coordinator

### TEAM LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE



Sarah Christensenová

PR and marketing



Lenka Pólová Office manager

Jana Schustrová "I wish..."



Markéta Nikodimová Events coordinator

IT

Project coordinator





Lada Poppy Graphic designer



Petra Kubíková Volunteer "Wishing Tree project"



Zbyněk Pavelek Programmer





Marta Duspivová Volunteer

# Who we are and what we do

We provide comprehensive assistance to children via our projects, which complement each other.

We are professional organisation providing comprehensive assistance to specific children and young people growing up in children's homes in the Czech Republic. We help them especially in the in the last years of their stay in the homes and in the beginnings of their independent lives. We are working with 42 children's homes. More than 250 children are continually included in our projects. Each child can be simultaneously supported in multiple projects. We also help children outside the children's homes (page 24–25). Leaving the children's home for an independent life is a tremendously difficult life test for young people and it is necessary to prepare for it during their stay in the children's home.

Young people while leaving the children's home are formally adults, but still children in fact. They have no background, no example of a functioning family, they have nowhere to go, they are left to themselves. They receive a maximum amount of CZK 25 000 according to the law when leaving. Can you imagine your children in their situation?

- We consult our activities with young people who grew up in children's home
- We are interested in informing the public about the issue of children growing up outside their biological families
- We work with experts from all fields of substitute family/institutional care
- We are members of AVPO (Association of public benefit organisations)
- Each of our projects has its own bank account, company operational account is kept separately
- Each child has an individual VS (payment reference) for payments into the particular project account
- 100 % of all money sent to the projects accounts under individual children's payment references (VS) is used to support those specific children

Facilitate successful integration into society of young people from children's homes after leaving, is in interest of all of us!



# Forms of help provided to children



Justified wishes (project "I wish...")

The children receive a product or service according to their wish, which they can personally choose. Majority of the things are assigned otherwise.

**Christmas gifts for children** from cooperating children's homes (project "Wishing Tree...").

**Starting packs** with basic household equipment (project "Help me start in life...").



**Comprehensive financial support for young people during their studies** (Scholarship programme as a part of the "Help me start in life..." project).

**Financial support for a child after leaving the children's home** (project **"Support me..."**) Saving money for a child during their stay in the children's home.

One-off financial contribution



students: Martina, Michaela and Denisa

Every child can be included in multiple projects, regarding their needs.



**Establishing a contact** between a child and an individual/family known as host care. (project "Find me...")

**Legal assistance** and prevention of execution of debts (project "Children without debts").

Help in finding a suitable job and accommodation after leaving the children's home (project "Help me start in life...").

**Personal assistance** while solving various life situations (project "Help me start in life...").

Accommodation in the "Starting appartment" of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE (project "Help me start in life...").



Without help, it is nearly impossible for the young people to start living independently.

# Cooperating children's homes



Colour-coded homes have been merged into one administrative unit.



We regularly visit cooperating children's homes, we consult the situation of individual children and the issue of substitute family/intitutional care . We are also interested in children's homes opinions of our cooperation.

Dětský domov, Mateřská škola, Základní škola a Praktická škola Písek, Šobrova 111

Dear director, dear ladies,

during my first meeting with you I was surprised how bold your plans were and how much energy you put into their realisation. With every following event I always realise, with pleasure and respect, how much work and effort you put into fulfilling the wishes of each and every child, and you still have time for the moral and professional support of the employees at the children's homes. Your work stems from your understanding of this environment and mainly from your knowledge of the difficult journeys through life of many children. Help for the children from you therefore isn't about just endless giving, but includes them being supported in the necessary development of them taking responsibility for their own lives, which starts with simple acknowledgement and finishes with them becoming successful graduates. I appreciate all the work which you do with passion and joy for the children.

V Pisku 23.1.2019

netušil, jak smělé jsou Vaše plány a kolikdalší akci si znovu s radosti a obdivem lo splněno každé dětské přáni a jelet Vám iků v dětských domovech.

ás, pracovníky dětských domovů, kteří jsme

své odborné znalosti v práci nejen se svěřenými

aci, v čele s Vámi, paní řediteľko, hodně zdraví, síl,

ených děti, uspokojených přání , kvalitních

h do ukončení své profesní přípravy. Zajětěné ýměna teoretických znalosti přínosná, ale hlavně

sově, patříčně hrdý. Díky Vám a Vámi

a každé setkání se vždy tělime!

dětských osadů. Pomoc od Vás proto není o bezbřeběm dáváni dětem, ale skrze jejich podporu o travijení zodpovědnosti za vlastní život, která začiná u prostěbo poděkováni a kesél u úspěšných maturantů.

Radim Korek

v obohati.

Vážim si Vaši práce, kterou s chutí a nadšením pro děti děláte.

Radim Koreš

At all of the organized activities you never forget about us, the employees of children's homes, who are partners of your organisation. Us in Lichnov are very proud of it. Thanks to vou and the established meet-ups, you give us the chance to further push the boundaries of our knowledge when taking care of the children or "adults" entrusted to us, who stay with us until the end of their education. Arranged seminars run by guests are captivating, mutual sharing of theory-based knowledge is beneficial, but even more our discussions, and the sharing of specific practical experiences, which enrich our knowledge each time we meet. We all enjoy the company of your team and we always look forward to meeting you! We wish to all "faithful women" of this organisation led by you, the Headmistress, good health, strength, enthusiasm, ideas, motivation, plans, thoughts, met goals, supported children, fulfilled wishes, quality co-working partners and patrons, many friends...and a successful following year!

Alena Lukeszova, Headmistress

During our visit to children's home Tišnov, we gave Nikolka a reward she won in our art competition.



Michaela Chovancová and Markéta Vaňková visit childen 's home Lichnov at the 1st international Forum "Child in Orphanage".

### Poddkovini o.n.s. Deime ditem kanzi

 S op.a. Dejme dětam lanci nář Dětský domov Č Jame velná rádi, že jame byli z Libereckého ka ocemění za vševlny aktívňy, prejskty i spoložná dátast zai struyť pre hume. Vale příželvitá nář domovem jame pravidelné zapojela u Ocamine – Projekz "Prážka bych sť – Projekz "Prážka bých sť – Projekz "Splanka příza" – Stápienája program – Depisy Južiškovi – zapojení jame byli ve dvosí – Brejský Južiškovi – zapojení jame byli ve dvosí – Brejský Južiškovi – zapojení jame byli ve dvosí – Brejský Južiškovi – práža

– Vylan v voceží – Depise dítem kanci natožíte se

- Seclected settiand v Press

Osobni návštěva DDŠ v nahem dětakém domov

Celonu skvilónu týma Dejne dítem kanci přejeme mnoho daltich pracovnich, ale i osobnich inpěchi a za nale dôli vetmi, velmi díkujeme.

Mgr. Iliena Hellerovsk, Indiaelka 1994 August Could Line THERE THE WAY WHEN



Visit to children's home Unhošť with supporters who auctioned the tour during our Christmas Auction.

#### Thanks to LETS' S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

Our Children's home in Česka Lípa has been working with the organisation since 2012. We are extremely glad that we were the ones chosen from the region of Liberec. Your association deserves huge acclaim for all its activities, projects and social events. Everything is always rigorously prepared, there is never a lack of imaginativeness or even a sense of humour. Your friendly disposition illuminates every meeting. Our children's home is regularly in contact with you and we take part in the following ventures: Project "I wish" Proiect "Help me start in life" Proiect "Wishing Tree" Scholarship programme Benefit concert in Prague, Competition "Let's give children a change to film their lives". Meetings in Prague Personal visits in our Children's home. We wish the whole amazing team of Deime detem sanci much further success not only in their working life, but also in their personal lives and on behalf of our children we thank you very, very much. Mgr. Ilona Hellerová, Headmistress



Patron: Vladimír Hron Project coordinator: Ivana Veselá E: ivana@dejmedetemsanci.cz T: 603 508 701



### "Support me..." OR ADOPTION "UP CLOSE"

The purpose of this project is to save money for children during their stay in children's homes, which become available to them after leaving the institution. This project is based on long-term financial support of a specific child, however, children can be supported on a one-time basis too. Minimum monthly contribution is CZK 200. We discuss the inclusion of individual children within the project with the staff of the cooperating children's homes. We preferably select children who have little chance of returning to their biological families or to get a permanent placement in an substitute family. Simply, we select children who are to be alone during the transition to an independent life as that is a truly difficult life challenge.

Every child's case is dealt with individually. We discuss the usage of the saved funds with the donors. Our organisation guarantees effective use of the donor's money. In most cases, we reimburse an apartment deposit, contribute to the first rental payments and pay for basic household equipment.

Anyone can select a child to support based on their motivational letters that are published on our website. Donors may remain anonymous or can contact the supported child after agreement. In this case, we recommend to gather more in-depth information about children growing up Motto: "Money isn't everything, but nothing is worth without it."

in institutional care. We hold host care seminars for those interested.

It is no exception that financial support is just the beginning of a long-term friendship between a donor and a child, as you can see in following stories.

"Thanks to this project, it is not only the children who are given a chance, it is us adults as well – a chance not to be indifferent and support them. I am glad that I can be a part of it and financially support little boy called Vlastík. I like to think that I give him the feeling that there is someone who cares about him and will always have his best interests at heart. His letters are a great reward to me, it is a proof that everything works well and the effort on both sides makes sense. I am truly pleased and therefore I will happily continue to contribute, support him, and keep in touch with my new friend." Veronika Prudilová

PROJECT RESULTS:

As of June 30, 2020 we have supported 215 children with a total amount of CZK 4 803 220.



### Imenyou se Rodd & a je me store 11

My name is Vlastík P. and I am almost 11 years old. It's my first year in the children's home. This vear I will be spending my first Christmas here. I am looking forward to it very much, because we never celebrated it at home. I really eniov sport - I play football, I take part in karate and in the summer I ride my bike. I will have to battle through life on my own, because my dad died and mum is not interested in me. If I find some support to start out in life I will be grateful for every donation I receive! Vlastík

or seen provin rolem are soon there The pedos domo isme ji loc raid sportup high hard a r lit prom dalnin dirden a bad protose balle mi mail asma soften on to will with hide nos rad Well

### Vlatík' s letter after admission to the project

#### Hello

My name is Vlastík and I am 10 years old, I am in children's home for a year already. I like it here, I am happy here with my 3 brothers. One of them is David he is the oldest. Denis is the middle one and Brian is the youngest. Apart from that I like sports (e.g. football, parkour, dance, swimming and KARATE). In karate I always win first place and I am happy about that. If you would like to send me a postcard mv address is ...

Thank you for the money you save for me, when I arow up I will buy something worthy with it.



Made

Thank you Vlastík

### posedniko Delaye

first letter to his supporter

Mrs. Prudilová helps children since 2014, Vlastík is the third child she supports.

### Veronika, 25

Veronika has been part of our projects for six years, five of which we have supported her whilst studying to the amount of CZK 171 650. She is a kind person who. after finishing her cooking apprenticeship, followed by a gardening apprenticeship, prolonged her stay in children's home. Being placed in a Scholarship programme has motivated her to achieve better results at school. Veronika has proved to us how important it is to deeply connect with the children in our programmes. During our first meeting she barely spoke, was very shy and was not able to communicate with us without her friend being near. Despite her nervousness, our communication did improve after some time and Veronika began to communicate with us without any problem.

Veronika's patron, Eva Balážová, has saved CZK 56 000 which helped Veronika with the funding of her wedding with her long-term partner.

Our first meeting with Veronika was lovely, though she was a little bashful. Actually, she brought her friend with her who often spoke instead of Veronika. But as in many things in life, times have changed and Veronika has transformed from a shy girl into a confident woman, who not only took her life in her own hands but also started helping her siblings, who are also in a children's home. When Veronika asked me if she could use the money I had saved up for her for her wedding, I could not have been happier. The young man she introduced to me was really "the one,", and their plans for the future were heading in the same direction. I hope Veronika' s courage and perseverance won't ever leave her.

Eva Balážová

After leaving the children's home Veronika has received a starting pack from us. We also made six of her wishes, worth CZK 10 190, come true, one of which was providing her beloved cat with all it needed.

#### Hello

My name is Veronika Gazikova, and I am 25 years old. When I was 19, my friends and I were included in the Deime detem šanci project 'Support me'...

It was there that I first met my sponsor Eva Balážová, who is an incredibly kind-hearted and gracious person. Because of this, I would like to thank her for choosing to support me for 6 vears,

When I met my boyfriend with whom I have chosen to spend the rest of my life. I put aside savings for our new beginning. I was delighted to have saved enough money from Eva Balážová for our wedding. We were even able to put some of it aside and start thinking about starting a family. Now we moved to a flat in Krnov, and we are glad to have one another.

I used to love being part of your project, I especially feel I gained a lot of useful life-experience. Last but not least. I want to thank all of you - Ivana Vesela, Ditta Pospichalova, Marketa, Michaela and Eva Balážová for being able to get to know you all and that you are all super people that I greatly respect. I liked and I still do. I would love to show you and Mrs Balážová a few of the photos from our wedding.

Verca





Patron: Lucie Benešová Project coordinator: Ivana Veselá E: ivana@dejmedetemsanci.cz T: 603 508 701



# "Find me..."

motto: "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

We do not register the number of children who have found their host. After the initial contact with people interested and their familiarisation with the situation, or after attending the host care seminar, we direct them straight to the children's home near their place of residence. Host care can sometimes turn into foster care, in other words, permanent integration of the child into the family.

Host care is an unknown term for many people. It means occasional visits and later, maybe weekend or holiday stays of the child in the host family. This means that it is not about finding the child a substitute family. That is why it is recommended for children over the age of ten. It can fulfill their desire to create a bond with someone outside the children's home. The children get to experience how it works in ordinary families, see models of functional relationships and communication between partners and parents with children. Ideally, this relationship lasts until the child's maturity. After leaving the children's home, the host becomes a friend, who helps the young person in this very uncertain and extremely stressful period solving common issues that the child has never faced before.

We advise all those interested in this form of help to attend host care seminars where they will learn not only how to get started but mainly more about specifics of children growing up outside their families. We recommend to really think it through and take it slowly. Everything has its own time and the relationship should develop gradually to stress neither the child nor the host.

### IDEAL PROCESS OF HOST CARE CAN BE:

- Writing letter(s)
- Visiting the child in the children's home
- Taking trips (few hours at first, later all day trips)
- Inviting the child to the host family (one-day)
- Staying together over the holidays (more days)

Jonemyte as Police ". Je mi That. Choilin do 2. Friday a pom schornej. anky. Nyore oni realike. "My name is Adrian, I'm 9 years old. I go to second grade, I'm handy and I've got good grades. My favourite subject is math. I like i libi, protole made children's home because I get to play football. My dream is to play Crage 122 Alub Vanory well and forever! One day I would like to go to Spain to see a football match. My favourite football player he date as poind had is Ronaldo. I'm hard working and I like to laugh. I'd like to find a nice nipoly podbal do host who I can visit. Thank vou Adrian fin presidi a rod a emp. and to march Rodon hostilita amelita m pracie no newster.



### David and Filip

"Lucky is the man who found happiness within his family" Leo Tolstoy

Sometimes you have a longing to help somebody, although you are aware it may not necessarily take a material form. You just want to give somebody the feeling of being safe and secure - to show them that they are not alone in this world. Because loneliness is the worst feeling ever.

I have been helping Filip since he was 11 years old. It's a great feeling helping someone. However, he didn't see it as help at first; instead, Filip saw me as his father. He said I behaved as a father and not just as his friend. After a few years he started to call me 'dad', which at first I was against and felt uncomfortable with, but then I became used to it. Three years passed and Filip started coming to my home for the weekends and holidays as part of the Host care scheme, which let him experience a wellfunctioning family of which he is now a member.

Seven years passed, and Filip is 18. He is an adult now. Host care has now finished, but nothing has changed. Everything is wonderful, as in every other family. Moreover, Filip appreciates his family, he has a dad whom he can trust and rely on in every situation. He knows that I am always on his side, no matter what.

Today I can't even imagine him calling me by my name. A little help at the beginning has grown into a family. I am a dad now, and I have a son. I cannot be more grateful. David Avakian

We are always pleased to hear stories in which an initial contact with a child develops into a longterm and stable friendship. Moreover, we are glad to have people sharing their stories with us.

We pass these stories on to you, and we hope that they will bring inspiration and motivation to help more children who were not lucky enough to have a blessed beginning.





Dad asked me to write a few words about our relationship. There is not much that comes to my mind as I think this relationship is entirely normal. And that is how it is supposed to be, no? I don't feel any pain from my past in this respect; I have my dad, and I'm glad that it feels completely normal, as if nothing has happened. It is different for you, though. It means a lot to you - to help children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds to have what they need, an ordinary life in a common family. I believe in it. I often ask myself, why is it that my dad loves me, and I love him? And the answer is - does it even matter? It is okay for a human being to follow their heart there, where it wants to go. The relationship between my dad and me is growing stronger, and still, we don't have a clue how important we are to each other. Filip



Where a descent of the second second

"When David first contacted us, I had a feeling he was reading my mind. He described his motivation to help, and it was exactly what I had intended, when I founded DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI. David found Filip on our website and wanted to get in touch straight away. After their first meeting, we were affraid David was approaching too fast, and that he may soon lose interest. As you can see, it only got stronger. David overcame all of the obstacles and has formed a great team with Filip." says Michaela Chovancova



Patron: Barbora Špotáková Project coordinator: Jana Schustrová E: jana.s@dejmedetemsanci.cz T: 734 222 342



# " I wish..."

The purpose of this project is to fulfil so-called justified wishes, which must have some correlation with studies, meaningful leisure or health handicap. During the child's stay in the children's home several wishes can be fulfilled.

Andrea is one of the students we support. She is currently studying university to become dental technician. Andrea has been involved in the organisation's projects since 2012. During this time, we have fulfilled seven of her wishes worth **CZK 35 850.** In addition, we are contributing to her studies since 2015. She also has a supporter who is saving her money for an easier start in an independent life.

However, we also fulfil wishes for groups of children, e.g. admission to theatre, cinema, aquapark, etc. Every child can be a part of this project and everyone can help. The minimum amount of the support is **CZK 100** because we know that even a smaller amount of money helps to make a wish come true.

The aim of the project is to enable children to participate in the choice of their wish, they can choose products that make them happy rather than be given things they do not like or need. motto: "The best way to start a new day, is to think right after waking up, whether we can make at least one person happy today."

### Indroje dane. prosenso sta Milita a se popi Milit Charlim-do i skildy memo najvejšejim katelopanso pokoj kravsta se i mkom pod kladara ne si civil innagan kladaj dan ale mino neme de natural Marthane operada hava od indo memo de natural Marthane operada hava od indo memo de natural Marthane This Stari Spectra This

Hello, my name is Míša and I am 11 years old and I am in fourth grade. My biggest hobby is ice hockey. I've been playing for two years now for HC TACHOV. We train every day but that doesn't bother me. I have many friends there. I would like to thank you for your support, thanks to you I can play!

Best Regards, Míša

### **PROJECT RESULTS:**

Thank vou.

As of June 30, 2020 we have fulfilled 1 969 children's wishes worth CZK 9 733 314.



### Andrea, 20 let

"I think it was about five years ago when I took the opportunity to join the " I wish..." project. My first wish fulfilled through this project were roller skates, to this day I still remember how happy it made me feel. Later on, Lapplied for a driver' s license and thanks to DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI I am a driver now. The organisation also paid for my fixed braces and now I also got a laptop that I need for my studies. I would like to thank not only the organisation for all their projects but also all the supporters. Thank you, Andrea"

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I poolation redt music smith mig synorga direk it so a to nettook he studia Childs type tinto not patishorat regore DIS a jujich shortyn prophlism, ale i drim Andria.

Myslim is se y to an 5 tity or



### Children's home Lichnov

Supermarket BILLA supported the project "I wish.." with a total amount of CZK 200 000. We have used CZK 70 000, donated by the company BILLA, to pay for a trip to Italy for ten children form children's home Lichnov. Another four children were supported during Christmas through the "Wishing tree" project. The children enjoyed their stay and sent us postcards, photos and a beautiful thank you note describing their holiday.

#### Dear director.

I would like to thank you and the sponsors and donors of your organisation for the financial contribution that made it possible for our children and young adults to travel to Italy. We have gathered information about the region, culture, nature, industry, gastronomy and history prior to our departure. We also tried to learn Italian. At the end of the school year we were ready to go and explore Italy on our own. First of all, we had to try if the sea is actually salty and while in the water we all enjoyed the large waves.

The weather was great so we went on a boat trip, the sights were breathtaking and for the first time ever there was absolute silence. The children learned more about the local history and discussed their gained knowledge even after we returned back to the Czech Republic.

We were all amazed by the local markets. They were so differents from the ones back at home, where they only sell bags and shoes. Italians were selling home made and home grown products including vegetables, wine, oils and so much more! We also tried fresh sea food which the children prepared themselves and loved. They also enjoyed some of the

typical italian dishes such as tiramisu, lasagne and variety of cheeses. With our stomachs full, we usually headed to the beach to enjoy the beautiful weather, the water and refreshing ice cream.

The children and myself really enjoyed our stay and that is mainly because of you, your organisation and the people around you. The kids have made beautiful memories which will last forever and for that I THANK YOU.

I believe that the children will now be motivated to study and work hard in order to experience something similar again and again.

eme znovu ? ...", to je jen zlomek

Alena Lukeszová, ředitelka DD a ŠJ Lichnov

Alena Lukeszová, director itelko, mají děti nezapomenutelné

zážitky, které jim nikdy nikdo nevezme, za což Vám patří veliké díky !

Věřím, že jde o velmi silné emoce, které děti a mladí dospělí zažívali a budou je motivovat při jejich studiu, volném čas, osobním a v budoucnu i pracovním životě natolik, aby to pro ně byl zážitek první, ale rozhodně ne, posledníl

Velké díky!

THANK YOU



organizace, velmi poděkovat za ozdravného zahraničního pobytu

e, rodinného letoviska u cestruní kanceláň. stronomii, historii..., nastudovali iniho roku pak dostali obrovskou

ho nejdříve. Viděli také, že moře je suřené, ale že i ty menší umí pěkně

em dech a konečně bylo chvíli ticho. ce, ale vidêt na vlastní oči to, co jsem tě dlouho po návratu vlichni JESCO a v pozadí nezůstává ani

wali, še neide o oblečení, obuv a in, zeleninou a ovocem počínale,

měli možnost vidět známé i velmi ém hájku na venkovních grilech ským zážitkem! Dalším takovým jně jako pizza Margaritta v místní a, ricotta, parmazán a dalli, vše

a pláži, super zmrzka, osvěžující

tnich obyvatel, k naší snaze odní zkoušky, nám to k domluvě

# LET'S GIVE CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PRESENTS or the "Wishing Tree" project

Christmas wishes are presented every year from 11 November to 12 December on **www.stromsplnenychprani.cz.** Everyone can make a child happy with a Christmas gift in just a few minutes from the comfort of their homes, through electronic devices.

Children's wishes vary every year, toys for the little ones, sporting goods, cosmetics, household equipment and older children's favorite electronic goods. We do not limit the prices of the desired gifts, but we don't guarantee fulfilment of all the wishes. Each child has to consider whether to choose affordable wish or risk that their wish won't be fulfilled. We would like to thank all of the "Santa Clauses" who get involved in the project. Thanks also belongs to the project partners, who help us to cover the financial costs associated with the project. We would like to thank especially Petra Kubíková and her company Se srdcem, without her the project could not work! We also want to thank all the volunteers who help us wrap all the presents.

Project coordinator: Jana Schustrová E: jana.s@dejmedetemsanci.cz T: 734 222 342



As of 31 December 2019, we have fulfilled 8 382 children's Christmas wishes worth CZK 11 973 547



### "Wishing Tree" IN SHOPPING CENTER ARKÁDY PANKRÁC

In 2017, we expanded the internet project with the possibility of purchasing gifts for children with direct participation of the donors. Visitors of the shopping center are able to help from mid-November to mid-December, every day. The donors can choose what wishes they fulfil based on the letters for Santa written by the children.

"We greatly appreciate all those who find the time to make someone else happy in the pre-Christmas rush. Especially children who cannot spend Christmas with their families, as they'd deserve. And as the project results show, there aremny children like this", summarizes patron of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE actress Lucie Benešová, who together with another patron Vladimír Hron supported the project personally.

Thank you for helping us to make children happy!

### PROJECT RESULTS:

In three years of the "Wishing Tree" project 1799 Christmas wishes for children were fulfilled in the total value of CZK 1566 542!







### Dear friends.

I would like to thank you, once more, from the bottom of my heart for the Christmas presents for our children. They loved them so much! I understand how much work beyond your responsibilities and personal time is behind the scenes of this Christmas project. Thank you. We are very greatful for our cooperation that is beneficial for our children's home but mainly for the children themselves. The results that we achieve with them, they are also thanks to you. We wish you all the best in new year as well as personal and professional satisfaction. You are always welcome in our children's home. We wish you a beautiful winter! SINCERELY.

Jiřina Kühnelová, director

### **Project partners**





Patron: doc. MUDr. Jan Měšťák, CSc. Project coordinator: Ditta Pospíchalová E: ditta@dejmedetemsanci.cz T: 603 819 911

# "Help me start in life..."

"Help me start in life..." targets mainly older children and young people living in children's homes. The mission of this project is to prepare children for a start of their independent lives. Entering an independent life is unimaginably hard even for prepared individuals. That is why it is important to stay in touch with the children even after they leave the children's home, so they have someone to turn to.

### THE PROJECT IS DIVIDED INTO 3 SECTIONS:

- Scholarship programme
- Starting packs
- Help at the start of their independent lives



motto: "We know a good friend in bad situations..."

### Denisa, 26

Denisa currently finished her university degree. She has been part of the organisation's projects since 2012. She had **CZK 72 550** saved on our account, which is gradually used for the beginning of her independent life. We supported Denisa for eight years through all of our projects, with a total amount of **CZK 336 707.** Denisa is a clever, responsible young lady, who was definitely well prepared to enter an independent life. We will be ready to offer her help at any time in the future.

### Starting packs

When leaving the children's home, young people can get so-called "starting packs", which is a variety of household equipment. The pack contains all the necessities such as plates, cutlery, bed linen, towels, vacuum cleaner, iron, kettle, drugstore goods for both personal hygiene and cleaning, and much more.

### PROJECT RESULTS: Starting packs

As of June 30, 2020 we had already distributed a total of 205 Starter packages worth CZK 3 649 969.



Denisa has shared her life story with the visitors of our annual Christmas Auction.

I joined the "Help me start in life..."project during my final year at high school. I got accepted to a university in Jihlava, where I also got my bachelor's degree in Health and Social Care. At the moment, I am finishing my master's degree in Social and Charitable Care at Charles University in Prague. The Scholarship programme has helped me to cover my expenses, such as accommodation, school supplies, travel costs, etc. While studying I gained more than knowledge. I made friends and I gained independence.

I had the opportunity to participate in various internships. I went to Leipzig for a month and I attended a German language course in Saabrücken. Every experience was a challenge that led to my self-development. LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE holds Scholarship weekends, where I learned about financial literacy, enhancing employability and met new people.

Thanks to "Help me start in life..." I received a starting pack when my sister and I moved into our new flat. Every year I am offered a part-time job within the Wishing Tree project and I help at different events as well. I am glad I can help. I appreciate what they've done and continue to do for me. I would like to thank all the people from this organisation who have taken part in my education and self-development. Thanks to you, I am ready to enter an independent life.

Denisa

### Scholarship programme

The aim of the programme is to support young people throughout their studies. We cover the costs related to their education in order to allow them to study the course they want. This increases their chances of achieving higher qualification and finding a job on the labour market. Students can apply for the cover of their school tuition fees, travel costs, rent, school supplies and workshops. Based on their grades they are also rewarded with a merit and motivational scholarship. The maximum amount of a student support is CZK 50 000 per school year.

Students are admitted to the programme on an annual basis selection procedure. They must send a cover letter and attend a personal interview (in many cases, this is the first interview in their lives). The interest in the scholarship programme increases each year and the number of applicants keeps growing as well, which makes us very happy. The aim is to support young people during their studies if they meet the conditions for inclusion in the project. We organise educational weekend getaways for the students selected within this programme. We arrange various seminars, workshops and leisure activities, this gives children the opportunity to meet number of professionals from different backgrounds who pass on their knowledge. The students learn about financial literacy, employment contracts, interviews, etiquette and so much more. Besides all that we try to build a relationship and gain mutual trust between our team and the students. We stay in touch throughout the year with all our students.



pictures from weekends spent with our students

### PROJECT RESULTS Scholarship programme:

As of June 30, 2020 we supported 109 students within the Scholarship programme with the total amount of CZK 5 720 569.

On the following pages we present stories of young people included in the Scholarship programme and those who have already left an institutional care.



Daniela studies Social Pedagogy at the university in České Budějovice. She enjoys photography, drawing and watching films. We have been supporting Daniela since 2014 and have managed to save up CZK 61 350 for her independent life. We have also fulfilled five of her wishes to the value of CZK 23 050 (such as notebook necessary for her studies and a camera). Daniela is in our Scholarship programme for five years, and we have covered her school costs with CZK 57 024. The majority of this amount has been spent on school supplies and commuting.

# Daniela, 21

"What has LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE given me and what would have been different if I was not selected for the Scholarship programme?"

If it hadn't been for this organisation, I'd probably have never met such an amazing group of people. I have tons friends with whom I get along with very well and I always learn something new while at the Scholarship weekend. Starting with the basics of financial literacy and etiquette taught comprehensively and interactively, to a fictional job interview which will be beneficial in the future. The weekends are about much more though. Once I got to spend the afternoon with a famous actor and his family and enjoyed several sport activities. I also got to meet some interesting people, who were unfortunate in the past but fought hard to get back on their own two feet. My favourite memory is a photo shoot with Jadran Šetlík, which is something I'll never forget. All of the activities are inspirational and motivational, and I believe they will help me once I start an independent life. LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE has also given me the chance to see France and Strasbourg. I got to see the Parliament Assembly and the whole trip was exceptional!

Besides these delightful memories, I also got my first computer through the "I wish..." project. I am incredibly grateful for it as it's now an irreplaceable item in my student life. I was also given my very own camera, which makes my dreams come true every time I am out taking photos, doing what I love the most.

Scholarship programme is something more than just a weekend where I get praised for my academic achievements. It motivates me to work harder to achieve my goals and push myself beyond my limits. Apart from that, I cannot forget to mention their financial support. I can't even imagine how difficult it must be to pay the expenses for every one of us; the school fees, accommodation and travel costs.

If I hadn't been selected for the Scholarship programme again, I would really miss being in touch with all the great people. I really value friendship, friends are the only people in my life I can genuinely rely on. Obviously, the financial support is also irreplaceable. Not having this outstanding support and help would cause many problems in my life. The last thing I want to say is thank you for all you have done for me, for all the opportunities which otherwise would never be possible for me to have. I truly appreciate it and thank you all once again!

Daniela



# Roman, 21 SEVEN YEARS AGO AND TODAY

Recently we rediscovered Roman's piece of writing which he created for a Literary competition in 2012. It is beautiful to see how our support can make dreams come true.



Roman curently finished his second year at Police Academy in Prague. In the eight years that Roman has been taking part in our projects we have also fulfilled four of his wishes; mostly health care and hobbies in the amount of CZK 22 990

Roman also has a personal patron since 2018, who is saving money for his independent start in life.

I would like to go back in time to when I was little. Unfortunately, I don't remember much of it. I do remember my mother, father and siblings though. In my memory, we are all playing together. I am trying to recall how my aunts and uncles look, but it is too long ago to remember. The time when I was already at school is much clearer to me. I was six years old, and my parents were living separately at that time. We spent most of the time at my mum's. My brother and I were always looking forward to seeing our father. I liked it there. Spending time at our dad's was great at first, he looked after us. However, one night, he didn't come home. Our aunt, who was living with us, said we had nothing to worry about. The next day, two women arrived: what we did not know back then was that they were social workers. I remember they took my brother and I to the doctor and then drove us to a children's home. We thought we would only be there for one day and then be back living with our dad. That was a serious delusion. After one month, we found out our dad was being held in prison. He wrote letters to us, but we did not see him for a very long time. One day our mum visited us. I had many questions for her, like, why am I in a children's home? Even though she explained it all. I did not comprehend any of it. Every night I wished to be back home, I missed everybody so much. Then one day became five years. In the end, I became used to living in a children's home and sharing a room with my brother helped a lot. When they released dad from prison, he came to see us many times with promises of taking us back home. Instead, he was put in jail again. We speak a little, but my hopes of going back home have disappeared. It is clear to me I will be living in a children's home until my adult years. I like it here, and I am doing well at school and I have great friends. I love sports and I want to develop my skills in a range of sports activities, which will be beneficial when starting my future career. My goal is to be accepted to study Security Guards Services at college in Ostrava. I have good grades and excellent academic skills, so I may make my dream come true. You may ask why I want to be a policeman? Since the fifth grade. I watched documentaries about police officers, who risk their own lives to save others, guard our safety and help people. I developed a passion for this job, and I want to help all the people who need it. When I have a family of my own, I won't allow my children to go to a children's home. Roman

Back then. I was only thirteen years old, and I already knew what I wanted to do with my future. It was a boy's dream, who maybe wanted to be different. perhaps ordinary, or to be the opposite of his father. There were so many voices in my head saying I am not good enough, but also a bunch of those who said I could make it. So I did. I got accepted to Police Academy in Holešov. The beginning was very challenging. Suddenly I wasn't the best student in class, and I was struggling to pass my exams. Soon it all became overwhelming. However, I managed to overcome the obstacles. got to know new people, experienced new things and gained friends. At that time I was part of a great group of young people, and I definitely wouldn't change a single thing about my decisions. I gained a lot of information pertaining to police work, tried new sports and travelled to extraordinary places. The boy's wish from eighth grade didn't change at all. Working as a policeman became an exciting part of my life, but in the end I added some new things to my wish list. I am twenty years old now, and I am studying Criminology and Criminalistics in Prague. This course suits me, and I manage to do various other activities along with it. When I was in grammar school, the children's home organised for us to attend financial literacy courses and other educational programs. I didn't pay attention to this topic at the time. However, after some summer jobs, which only provided me with money, I decided to change my approach to work. I was searching for something fulfilling that would interest me, and that I could see the sense of doing it. This led me to educate myself in the financial market, along with studying Criminalistics. I have my goals ahead of me, and I am trying my best to achieve them. A huge thank you goes to you the children's home and DDŠ Foundation. Without DDŠ, sponsors, and all the people attached I wouldn't be where I am now. From educational seminars to financial support, it was all remarkably helpful. Thank you for letting me be part of this project.

Roman



During the weekend meetings, students enrolled in the Scholarship programme attended workshops, where they learned how to make coffee.



## Help at the beginning of an independent life





It is a form of support built on the needs of an individual. Our primary focus is on finding the most suitable accommodation and work placement, together with personal assistance when it comes to leaving a children's home. We cooperate with several companies, which makes providing job oportunities for our students more accesible.



It is a pleasure to see "our children" living their own lives, especially when they stepped into it with our support and made it work. Receiving good references from the employers only serves to increase our satisfaction.

Lukas Grundza has been employed at our restaurant since October 2015, and Patrik Balaz since 2017, Both of them worked here before as summer interns. They now work as waiters and serve meat and other dishes to our customers. At the beginning they both had a very different view on life, and I think that it took them some time before they realised one thing. It is necessary to work on self-development along with improving their approach to the job, which brings rewards and helps them fit well into the team. This would be difficult without support. However, they both became excellent members of our team. I have to admit that at the beginning I had my doubts, but that is a long time ago. Now they are highly-valued employees. I want to mention how incredibly hard it must be to function without the reinforcement of family background ... hats off! We, as employers, should have greater patience with these employees... these children often have distorted ideas of the way things work, and sometimes even bad habits. Then we become their mentors, not just employers.

Therefore, we are glad that employing Lukas and Patrik doesn't require doing so as they are more than competent.

Leoš Lopatka, manager at Brazil food restaurant



I want to thank you for providing a job opportunity for our lovely employee Krystinka at JYSK in Bolevec. We appreciate her work so much we don't ever want to let her go, and we don't understand how other branches can function without her!

Although our underdeveloped HR SAP system assigned Kristynka only in the position of a cleaner, she always finds a way to bring her positive influence to all areas of our business. From customer service, presentation of our goods for sale, daily tasks, boosting the team moral, up to improving our image. Kristynka is an irreplaceable member of our team, and I can't imagine working without her. Therefore, I would like to ask you to provide these excellent employees to other branches! I can imagine that with just two employees of this quality we would end up having to fire all the others, as there would be no work left for them to do with two such hard-working people in the team!

Jakub Zemen, Sales Manager Jysk Berounka, Jysk JCZ/JSK, Jysk Nordic



# "Children without debts"

motto: "The law is just technical and not always successful reflection of justice"

**LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE is a partner of a project "Children without debts"** founded by Mgr. Alena Vlachová, who provides legal assistance to children and young people, leading to their debt relief and preventing execution. These are mainly debts for municipal waste and fines from public transport.



Thanks to the hard work and success of Mgr. Vlachová we do not need to use all the funds within this project to relieve these children. Mgr. Vlachová therefore released **CZK 60 000** to support three girls who were placed in a facility for children in need of immediate care due to a mistake of social workers and had to leave at the age of 18 even though they were still studying.



# Supporting young people outside the children's homes

We decided to expand our activities to support young people, who do not live in children's homes, but we believe they should. These are cases where children were wrongly placed in ZDVOP (a facility for children in need of immediate care), which they have to leave at the age of 18, compared to children living in children's homes, who can stay until the age of 26 if they study. We have therefore decided to support three girls and include them into our projects. The first one was brought to our attention by one of the students in our Scholarship programme. Soon, she was followed by two sisters in the same situation. Fortunately, these girls have the opportunity to live in subsidized housing, but they had to pay all the costs of living themselves, even though they were still just high school students!

All three of them were placed into an institutional care at the age of 17. They were not given a choice to decide an institutional facility with regard to their individual situation.

As mentioned previously, all the girls are currently studying high school and they have the ambition to continue their studies and get higher education. In cooperation with Mgr. Alena Vlachová, who provided funding from the "Children without debts" project, we were considering a lawsuit against the state. In 2018 all three girls passed the tender procedure and were admitted to the Scholarship programme, which covers all the costs of their studies, including school supplies and travel costs. We have given them Starting packs so they could equip their homes better. We are pleased that we have managed to find them supporters, who are saving them money. Because of their situation, we pay them a fraction of the saved money in a form of monthly allowance. We also fulfilled a few smaller wishes for all three girls, mainly concerning meal vouchers, food, fares and also English lessons.

In the future, we want to extend the support based on individual requests of young people who find themselves in similar situation to these girls, as well as supporting young people living in children's homes with whom we have no long-term cooperation. We are newly providing accomodation for our students in a rented apartment, which could also be used as a temporary housing for young adults leaving an institutional care.

Who knows how many young people find themselves in the same situation?





### Ema, 19

I am a client of Samovka Center's programme "Starting accomodation" for almost two years now. My twin sister and I are on the second level of this programme.

Soon after becoming adults we transferred from a children's facility providing urgent help (Klokanek) to the first level at the Samovka Center; it was a simulation of living independently. We had to organise everything by ourselves, we didn't have another option. Moreover, the allocated social worker was concentrating more on the outcome being beneficial to our mother rather than us. Therefore, Samovka has been a real lifesaver for us and we are glad we got this chance. We were only eligible for a monthly contribution, which was at that time the amount of CZK 700, and that was inadequate. The contribution then grew to the amount of CZK 1000. We are not entitled to receive any other help, because of the orphan's pension. We took part-time jobs alongside our studies. This was our only income to cover basic needs, such as clothing and school supplies. Therefore, we were struggling with financial problems. And then we discovered DDŠ.

Thanks to the financial help and especially outstanding approach of the ladies from this foundation, we are finally able to afford new clothes, school supplies, and other things young women need. I do appreciate the support of DDŠ, and it is a tremendous relief. If everything goes well, I would like to pursue my studies at university.

# Míša, 19

I am currently studying medical school. My story is a little different in comparison to the others, as I have never been placed in a children's home even though I believe it would have been better for me in many ways.

When I was at grammar school, I was living with my mother, two brothers and my grandparents. I have fairly irresponsible mother, so you can imagine what it was like. The thing I remember the most is being dragged by her and her so-called friends around as they got drunk. It was horrible. On top of that she couldn't, and to this day still can't, handle money very well so visits from executors and reminders to pay the rent weren't unexpected. She was very lucky to have such amazing parents who saved her every time. If it weren't for them, I have no idea where I would be right now.

My biggest problems emerged when I was in eighth grade, when my mother found herself a new boyfriend. It's a very painful topic for me but I will try to explain what happened. I didn't pay any attention to him

Míša

at the beginning, I didn't care if he was going out with my mother or not. He started to notice me though, and that's when I started to worry. After the first incident, I started avoiding him as much as possible. The worst part was that no one believed me. It was a year later when a friend of mine helped me to find the confidence to report him to the police.

My mother was shocked but she supported me at first. Then we found out that the case is being deferred and she turned her back on me. When I started high school. my mum started seeing this man again. I couldn't understand it. My grandparents had moved to their country house and I was stuck at home with him, which was the last place where I wanted to be. I often stayed out until 2 a.m. to avoid him. One time, I came home when he was there...and he did it again. I decided to solve the incident through social care. They helped me file a criminal complaint and placed me in a social living, Soon I turned 18 and I had to leave and find another accommodation which triggered my financial problems. At the moment I am living in Samovka Center, struggling to cover majority of my expenses. I wish I had the choice to live in a children's home, where I wouldn't have to worry about food and clothing and I could focus on my studies.

# LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE events

In order to not being dependant solely on donations, for which we are very grateful, we try to partially cover the operational costs with self-financing. This includes selling promotional items and organising various events. In addition to the cultural and sports events, which we introduce on the following pages, we organise and participate in many smaller events throughout the year.

We visit various places with our sale stands such as the City offices of Prague 4 and Prague 13, headquarters of ČSOB, SCANIA, Microsoft, Billa, as well as office centres Luxembourg Plaza and Quadrio.

New Year's cards, advent calendars made out of real Belgian chocolate and holiday calendars with fruit candies are our most popular promotional items.









We do not draw any goverment subsidies or money from the ESF.



Together with Lucie Benešová, patron of our organisation, we sell advent and holiday calendars at two of the Prague theatres. We are grateful for regular partners of our events:





máci dorty

AQUARA VODA S PRÍBÉHEM





# Violin stars helping children



Great concert in the benefit of children from children's homes took place in Prague Rudolfinum in April 2018. Talented Czech violinists of the young generation **Olga Šroubková, Josef Špaček** and **Jan Mráček** performed alongside one of the most appreciated Czech pianist **Lukáš Klánský.** We would like to thank the Czech Philharmonic, the artists and Mrs. Juráňová for helping us organise a concert for the benefit of the children. Big thanks to the audience and partners who made this event possible.

### Thanks to the event partners:









PHOTO: Petra Hajská

"The main goal of the Czech Philharmonic is to represent the best interpretation of symphonic music at home and abroad. In addition to the concert activities, the Czech Philharmonic is intensively involved in music education for children of all ages. We realise that not all children have standard conditions for life, LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE asked us for help and thanks to their professional attitude and the help of our patron and supporter Mrs. Juráňová, we managed to organise a wonderful concert which offered the listeners not just a great musical experience but also a warm feeling of financial support of projects helping children leaving children's homes. We are very pleased to be able to help at least a bit within our limited possibilities and we wish the organisation many other successful projects."

Michal Medek, Commercial Deputy of the Czech Philharmonic



# Beneficial Evening LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

**Traditional Beneficial Evening LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE** takes place every year. Seven times we were guests of the **Palace Theatre** in Prague. The goal of this beautiful event is to present to our guests what we have accomplished during the past year and announce our plans for the near future. It's also an opportunity for us to thank everyone for their support. Spoken word is always combined with the performances of children from children's homes. Children and young people as well as headmasters

from cooperating children's homes are indispensable part of the evening.

Every year we auction off one item during the evening. Once it was a distinctive photo canvas of our patrons then a wooden crocodile made by children from children's home Tuchlov, which was auctioned off for an incredible amount of **CZK 120 000!** After the official part, we invite our guests for a banquet prepared by the Ambiente restaurants in the foyer of the theatre.



Given the thoughtful primary idea, the transparency of their work, the positive results, significant collaboration with my close friend Lucie Benešová and smiling leadership, I have to say I have an emotional bond with LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE. Therefore, I will gladly help whenever I can :-).

Adéla Gondíková, actress and presenter





Výroční zpráva **2018** 







### Thanks to the event partners:



# "LET'S give children a chance to film their lives"

Every year we organise a competition for children and young adults from cooperating children's homes. One time the task of the contest was to shoot a video on one of the following topics:

• My best friend

- Who is my role model and why?
- My favourite memory
- Who would I like to meet and why?
- Who did I want to be as a child and who do I want to be now?
- How has children's home changed my life?

We were slightly worried about how the children would deal with the task and if we would get any videos. Our concerns were, however, unnecessary, we received more videos than expected. Some films made us laugh, some were surprising, and many of them made us cry as well.

It was not easy to pick only four winners who were given:

- cash prize of CZK 1 000
- mobile phone from Asekol
- LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE holiday calendar
- tickets to a theatre performance and behind the scenes tour or visit of a dubbing studio with actress Lucie Benešová – who was also the patron and guarantor of this competition.

You can view the winning videos thanks to the attached QR codes or on YouTube under DEJME DĚTEM ŠANCI:



Jaroslav, 14, DD Vizovice MY BEST FRIEND



Lukáš, 10, DD Boršov nad Vitavou WHO DID I WANT TO BE AS A CHILD AND WHO DO I WANT TO BE NOW?



Nela, 15, DD Česká Lípa HOW HAS Children's HOME CHANGED MY LIFE



Rostislav, 17, DD Olomouc HOW HAS Children's HOME CHANGED MY LIFE



Nela, one of the winners with her friend in a dubbing studio.

The award ceremony took place as a part of the Beneficial Evening at the Palace Theatre.

### Auction of posters Designed by Children FROM CHILDREN'S HOMES

It was a challenge for children from children's homes to design their own beauty poster. The theme attracted them so much that in a short period of time we have received 129 unique posters and it was not easy to select the best one from each children's home. All of the 27 winners were given Moulinex toaster from **Groupe SEB**. All the artworks were afterwards auctioned off at the **6th VIP Nail & Beauty Congress modelaznehtu.cz**. Original and witty drawings reaped success! We would like to thank **European Beauty Distribution**, who organised this auction and doubled its return.



al sal

Event coordinator Markéta Nikodimová presented the auction together with Oldřich Dvořák, Director of European Beauty Distribution.



Partner of the auction:

European Beauty distribution PARTNER VAŠEHO SALONU







# We followed up on the successful talk show Just ask. The

TALK SHOW WITH CELEBRITES

Let's have a drink

star guests of the evening were actress, presenter and choreographer **Dana Morávková**, actor **Oldřich Navrátil** and comedian, singer, imitator, presenter and mainly the patron of the project "Support me..." **Vladimír Hron.** 

Pavel Anděl took on the moderating role once again. Audience could learn interesting facts from the personal and professional lives of our guests at the **Royal Theatre in Prague.** Friendly evening was also enhanced by the performance of students of a dance conservatory, **Jarek Lambor** and **Patrik Miker**, who we support within the Scholarship programme.

All of our guests attended the event without claiming a fee.



We would like to thank to all the celebrities, Royal Theatre, the audience and the Czech Chamber of Lottery Industry, partner of the event.



LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE is a clear example that charitable organisations and their charitable activities are extremely important part of civil society. That is why I did not hesitate and accepted the offer to host an unconventional interactive talk show. It is a pleasure to meet so many interesting people and a pleasant opportunity to help, raise money and create a unique event. Whether the talk show took place at the Royal Theatre or Theatre Na Perštýně, it brought great entertainment, delightful evening and helped a good cause. That makes me truly happy. Whenever there will be a similar event, I will gladly help again.

Pavel Anděl

I fully support the work of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE and it was my pleasure to accept the offer to participate in the talk show. I have been sending Christmas presents to a children's home for several years now and I have no choice but to support the efforts of the people in this organisation. Oldřich Navrátil





# "We (not only) run for children"

motto: "THE MORE YOU RUN, THE MORE YOU HELP!" ...children on their way to independent life



This is the biggest event organised by LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE. Thanks to a great cooperation with Prague 4, the event takes place in **park Na Pankráci**, which always transforms into sports ground for children and adults. Both 1 and 5 km races are measured by timekeeping tracker system. The winner of the 5 km race receives the **Cup of the Mayor of Prague 4.** All children participating in children's runs on 100 and 300 m are given a medal. During the years we hosted numerous popular performers and music bands, as well as talented children from children's homes. Visitors can also enjoy bouncy castle, face painting, clown show and so much more. The day always ends with a generous raffle.



www.behamprodeti.cz



Every year we try to improve the event to attract more people. In 2020 we set up a new website allowing anyone, anywhere in the Czech Republic to support a good cause and join the race. People can register in three different categories: **run for joy, run for performance** and **run all the time.** They can then compete throughout the month of June. Runners can also purchase our running t-shirts for a discounted price with each registration and share their achievements through social networks. All of the participants are sent an e-certificate, and the fastest and most persistent runners are awarded with valuable prizes.







Our thanks belongs to all visitors and partners of the event, especially Prague 4 City District and ČEZ Foundation, who supports this event from the beginning.



ELECTRØ WORLD





**BigBoard**<sup>®</sup>





#### Other event partners:

Sokol Zlíchov, Novodvorská Plaza, IronTime, Regina DAB, Authentica, Veskle, Air Products, Green Doors, Japaprogres, Zážitky.cz, McPen, TGI Fridays, CK Kudrna, Postřižinské pivo, Kitos, Ovocný Světozor, JK Jitka Kudláčková, Edenred, Rengl, Railreklam, Divadlo Radka Brzobohatého, Toni & Guy, ASEKOL, Premiere Cinemas, BONAVITA, Veselá Veverka



I would like to thank the girls from LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE that I could be a part of this amazing event! Not only did I enjoy a great day with lots of nice people, but I could also try my own physical fitness and listen to some great music. Most of all, however, I would like to thank YOU, dear friends who came to support a good cause. It still puts a smile on my face when I think about all the people in the park! You were amazing, come again! If it is going to be at all possible, I will be there too!

Vladimír Hron, presenter and patron of the "Support me..." project

# **Christmas Charity Auction**

### LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

The traditional **Christmas Charity Auction**, takes place in the beautiful **Hartig Palace** in the heart of Prague since 2017.

Already a year later we have surpassed the magic threshold of one million Czech crowns! Event general partner is **Karla Ašerová**, who works closely with our organisation, and her companies **EliteVoyage** and **EliteMedical.** Every year 15 to 20 items are auctioned, offering the bidders both unusual experiences and unique items or artworks. Students we support within the Scholarship programme share their stories with the attendees, and together with our volunteers help

us to run this event smoothly. Musical experiences are usually also provided by young "artists" from children's homes. We like to show how great children and young people we support are and we are happy that people can personally see, whom they help. We would like to thank Karla Ašerová, all those who donate the items and experiences, all the bidders and those who come just to support our organisation. Thanks to all of you we can raise an amazing amount to support disadvantaged children and young people who need our help.





Each of us may find ourselves in a situation where we need a helping hand. Let us not be indifferent to anyone, especially to children. Do not allow a life full of misery to become their destiny, a childhood without hope that things will get better. Children are our future. One day they will become scientist, painters, cosmonauts, builders...LET'S develop their potential. LET'S give children a chance!

Karla Ašerová event partner





Happy bidder with the artist

Students we support help us during the event




Ondřej Hejma offered a unique dining experience in a Michelin star restaurant La Degustation Boheme Bourgeoise in his company



Amazing result made the whole team very happy







For me, the best thing is to talk to the children that LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE has helped. I see that specific help to an individual child makes a difference. I am pleased with the yield of the Christmas charity auction and I am glad I was a part of it. Nela Boudová, actress and auction presenter

Partners of the event:







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PAR EXCELLENCE









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## Other events

Presentation at various events is an opportunity to inform as many people as possible about LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE and our activities.



In 2018, we appeared on TV screens twice. We participated in a popular TV show "What do the Czechs think?" but unfortunately dropped out in the first round. We were also represented in an episode of a programme "Where is my home" by well-known **doc. Roman Šmucler,** our landlord **Vladimír Rožánek** and our supported **Ludmila Kudláčková**. Thank you!



Find overview of all planned and realised events at **www.DEJMEDETEMSANCI.cz** 



Michaela challanged herself, when she decided to cycle from the easternmost to the westernmost point of the Czech Republic. She asked her friends to support her effort by donating money towards children's wishes. Within 10 days she managed to raise incredible amout of CZK 222 222!

More and more people are engaging in so-called donor challenges by renouncing their birthday gifts to specific children from children's homes in the form of a private collection. Every little bit makes a difference!

We would like to thank everyone who participates in our events – event partners, celebrities, suppliers, volunteers and attendees. And many thanks to those who let us be a part of an event they organise.



"Award  $\check{D}$ " ( $\check{D}$  = díky = thank you), award from cooperating children 's homes



Students from University of Life Sciences supported us by donating proceeds from Christmas Fair, they organised.



We were charitable partner of the Austrian ball in Prague organised by the Association of Austrians in the Czech Republic twice already.



### CHARITABLE BREAKFAST



Each breakfast includes: pastries, fruit, yoghurt, muesli bar and a drink.

### Breakfast that helps children from children's homes tastes much better!

#### Charitable breakfast partners:



## Charitable breakfast

### or "Breakfast that helps taste much better than a regular one"

Charity breakfast packages offer companies an original way of thanking employees or business partners and declare their social responsibility in an unusual way. The standard content of the breakfast box, which we obtain from our trusted partners, can be changed or enriched by a hot drink from our partner Caffé Milani. The best bit? We deliver fresh breakfast directly to your office!

#### The fact that this project is very popular is evident from the references of our clients:



"We are very pleased that LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE has become a part of our St. Nicholas Fair, which we organise every year. We invite companies to help them achieve their goals – to support people in difficult life situations. Delivered breakfast was amazing. It was tasty, balanced and our staff loved it. Thank you!"

Radana Pochop Rusevova, Project Coordinator Allianz Insurance Company, a.s.

"Charitable breakfast is beautiful event, where we can connect our corporate responsibility with a routine life of our employees at the headquarters. Thanks to the breakfast packages, which we have ordered repeatedly, we significantly raised awareness of the non-profit organisation and helped a good cause."

Tomáš Pavlík, Communication Specialist MOL Czech Republic, s.r.o. "Cooperation with LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE always multiplies the feeling of a job well done. In addition to the initial support of a good cause, there is always a beautiful feedback from our employees. Breakfasts delivered to their desks do not only put a smile on their faces it also gives them time for discussions, which they usually do not have time for." Daniela Brestalova, Project Manager Disclosure Boehringer Ingelheim s.r.o. "We have worked with LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE number of times within the "Charitable breakfast" project. Each year, we order the breakfast as a surprise for the tenants in our office buildings. This way we can do both, financially support children from children's homes as well as make people coming to work in the morning happy. The cooperation with this organisation is always very pleasant and we are glad that we can contribute and help a good cause.

Sarka Vondrackova, Marketing Specialist PASSERINVEST GROUP, a.s.

# Indispensable helpers

We organise many events each year and without the help of our volunteers and students from the Scholarship programme we could not manage to staff them, so they deserve to be appreciated.

Thanks to the reward, students can fulfil their wishes and needs. The participants, on the other hand, have a unique opportunity to personally meet the children they are supporting through our organisation and ask them about everything they are interested in.



volunteers Blanka and Bára



The aim of our events is to partially cover the operational costs of the organisation. Our events and promotional items are also an opportunity to raise awareness about our activities between the general public.

#### Letter from Andrea

I am part of DDŠ for about five years now and from the first moment I had the feeling that I owe the girls a lot for the amazing work they have done. Therefore, when they asked me to help at their annual Beneficial evening I didn't hesitate for a second. From that time I try to help out at these events regularly. The girls always give me something for the work, whatever type of work it was, I have to say that so far I have always enjoyed it. I feel a bit silly taking money from them, just because they already do so much for us all. So I try to save the money I earn and perhaps someday in the future I will travel somewhere with what I have earned. With that the DDŠ would have made another of my dreams come true and it would mean even more to me, since I have earnt the money myself. I also want to say thank you for these opportunities which always teach me something new. Andrea

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students Daniela and Andrea



volunteers Veronika and Marcela with actress Lucie Benešová

#### Letter from Marcela

Why do I volunteer at DDŠ events? Simply because I enjoy it! I also believe in what the girls at DDŠ are doing and it makes sense to me. That I can be of somehelp is in fact an honour for me. I have got DDŠ under my skin and the more I help. the more I say, whether perhaps I'm not doing this for myself. :) After each event I can confirm to myself that it was worth it and that there are many amazing people around the world who want to help. If you haven't experienced it, you can't understand.

ocalk ~ DDS? 3D5 dilan' a dalaa' 4 antomederan ja pro ma hiti a dim nic jestli to underdue si potovdelum, že to ité chodi sponsta Marcela marcala Proste kdo Herrich, Reportopu.



# References



I really appreciate working with LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE. I used to fight against the executors, courts and enforcers to help children from children's homes to get rid of unjust debts alone. Now we cooperate as a team, which I am really thankful for. LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE set up a transparent bank account where donors can send contributions, which we later use to pay off the debts for the young adults who desperately need our help. As there are many kind donors and the foreclosures are often dealt with in court, we are able to use the collected money to help other children and young people in difficult life situations. Thank you!

> ALENA VLACHOVÁ, AK Vepřek, Caska, Vlachová



LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE is, for me personally as well as for our company, one of the best charities in the Czech Republic. Not only thanks to the professional and creative approach to develop new projects but mainly for the content fulfilment and humanity. Representatives of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE and everyone involved in their events and projects are capable professionals with huge hearts, kind nature and great humility, which reflects on their work. That is why we are very pleased to be a partner of this organisation since year one!

> JAN KRUNTORÁD GEPARD FINANCE a.s.



LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE has been supporting me for three years now. Thanks to their support I was able to join the Security-Legal Academy in Prague and I now have so many amazing opportunities. I was able to attend all kinds of courses such as rock climbing, military and shooting. All of us, whom this organisation supports, know that we can turn to them at any time with anything. They are always there to help. LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE also secured a flat for young people to experience an independent living. I am very grateful that I got the chance to move into that flat. They help us step by step to achieve our goals and for that I would just like to say THANKS! I really appreciate their support and help on my way to fulfil my dreams. Thank you for everything, thank you for doing a good thing!

> MARYNA Childern's home Písek

## Surprise, surprise...

Company GEPARD FINANCE has been supporting our activities since the beginning. In addition to the financial support, we are annually the charity partner of their corporate calendar and we regularly attend their nationwide meetings. They, on the other hand, attend our events. Over the years, we believe we can call our relationship a friendship. GEPARD FINANCE are our partner, fundraiser and the best reference. We realised that they truly listen to our needs when they paid a car lease for four years and handed us the keys. We are driving this beautifully decorated car ever since.



Since January 2018 we have been visiting cooperating children's homes with our "Cheetah", as we like to call our car!



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#### Dear all,

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I wanted to write a few words, or a few lines, about our cooperation and especially our perception of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE, your work and mission.

However, after careful consideration, I came to the conclusion that a satisfied person who grew up in a harmonic family background, cannot imagine the importance, scope and need for the help that you offer to the children.

Therefore, a few words, or a few lines, cannot express the need and real importance of your entire team for all the children growing up in children's homes in the Czech Republic.

#### Simply:

- Thank you for your work, invention and activity.

- Thank you for constantly evolving in the right direction.
- Thank you for being you.

Jan Kruntorád, Chairman of the Supervisory Board GEPARD FINANCE a.s.

## Gaming for a good cause

PlayStation supported young people from children's homes



Sony PlayStation has organised two 24-hour charity streams dedicated to our organisation. During the allday live broadcast, sixteen different gamers appeared in front of the camera to support a good cause. For example internet producer **Kazma**, rapper **Ektor**, actor **Jakub Štáfek** and game streamer **Agraelus**. All of them tried to attract as many viewers and fans as possible to watch the live stream and motivate them to contribute through a payment gateway or bank transfer.

In 2018, the gamers raised an unbelievable amount of CZK 476 425 and we were shocked when they nearly doubled the amount the following year raising CZK 912 535. The proceeds of the live streams are intended to finance the project "Help me start in life..."

SONY PlayStation also donated prizes worth more than **CZK 100 000** to the viewers who decided to support the project.

The first prize was the PlayStation 4 Pro 500 M Limited Edition, which was given to a donors who contributed the highest amount!



Streamer and YouTuber Agraelus managed to raise the most money.

The check was received by our representatives and Richard, whom we support during his studies.

We believed that thanks to our large community of gamers, we could raise a decent amount. But honestly we didn't even hope that we would reach nearly half a million Czech crowns. Leaving the children's home and integrating into society is extremely hard. We are happy to support a project that helps these people. Big thanks to all the gamers and influencers who willingly supported our idea without claiming a fee. Most of all, we would like to thank all the donors who have shown an incredible will to help others and have shown the power of today's gaming community.

Jan Vavřík, SONY PlayStation

Jan Vavřík is the person who came up with the idea and organised the event. After the first stream, he was as surprised about the result as we were.



Internet producer and influencer Kazma also joined the stream.

## How to get involved

We offer individuals the opportunity to support a particular child in a form that is acceptable to them, both humanly and financially.

### Forms of support:

- One-off or a long-term support of a specific 
   child included in one of our projects
   Your contribution will be used solely for the benefit of a chosen child.
- One-off or a long-term support of a selected project Your contribution will be used exclusively to cover the costs of the selected project.
- One-off or a long-term support of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

Your contribution will be used where it is most • needed at the moment.

• Partnership of an organised event

You will become a partner of one of the events we organise as a part of self-financing with appropriate compensation. You can also be a partner of a competition we organise for children from cooperating children's homes.

Our goal is to establish long-term beneficial cooperation for both parties based on mutual trust. We offer COMPANIES cooperation with a professional non-profit organisation with transparent financing, updated websites in both Czech and English, cooperating with celebrities.

 Place an order of promotional items through our organisation

Instead of a PR agency, you can order promotional items for your company through us. We offer our own promotional items but we are open to fulfil your individual demand.

- Charitable breakfast
   It is a great way of corporate social responsibility
   and your employees will appreciate it.
- Sales events at your company
   We will arrange a sales stand with appropriate range of products.

All that is needed from you is to inform and motivate employees or guarantee a minimum turnover.

 Matching funds
 Your employees will raise money for a selected child, project or event.

Your company will multiply their contribution.

Employee involvement

Your employees can participate as volunteers at our events or help wrapping Christmas presents. Your employees can also help by purchasing a registration for our event "We (not only) run for children"

Would you like to find out more? T: 734 734 856, E: info@dejmedetemsanci.cz

Help SPECIFIC CHILDREN with us!

Social responsibility in 3 simple steps:

### Choose a **PROJECT** or a **SPECIFIC CHILD**\*

**CONTACT US** T: 734 734 856 E: info@dejme detemsanci.cz

We will ARRANGE

EVERY THING

You can save up money for a specific child, pay for their study costs or fulfill their wishes. WWW.**DEJMEDETEMSANCI**.CZ



## Financing of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE

### We do not draw any funds from government subsidies and ESF!

Our priority is not to be dependent on grants, not having to adapt our thought-through projects to them and be able to adapt our projects to current needs of the young people we support.

Since the beginning, the funding of our organisation relies on the support of individuals, corporate donors and charitable foundations.

Each of our projects has a separate bank account. All funds transferred to the accounts under specific variable symbols are used solely to support the specific children within the projects.

The operational account of the organisation, related to operational costs as well as administration of the projects, is maintained separately.

All LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE accounts are maintained at Raiffeisenbank a.s., branch Národní 9, Prague 1.

All donations and contributions are published on our websites (unless the donor wishes to remain anonymous).

Donors' contributions over CZK 10 000 are presented in the annual reports.

We put emphasis on efficient and effective use of all donated funds.

Operational costs are partially covered by self-financing. Organising events and the sale of promotional items has also a non-financial benefit for us. It is an opportunity to present our activities and find new supporters for the organisation or specific children from children's homes.

LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE is a holder of the Reliable Non-profit Organisation label, which we repeatedly vindicate.

We are a member of AVPO (Association of Public Benefit Organisation).

Our accounting is audited annually.

### Support of LET'S GIVE CHILDREN A CHANCE is based on multi-source funding

Graphical representation of the percentage of each donor categories Foundations 2.51% Material Fulfillment 23,95 %



### LOGOS OF OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS







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facebook.com/DejmeDetemSanci.cz

Bank connection:: Raiffeisenbank a.s., Národní 9, 110 00 Praha 1 Account number: 6072121001/5500

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DO YOU

THEIR STORIES?

A SPECIFIC CHILD