

LIVING COMMUNITIES 2017
PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN THE SECOND ROUND

Calendar for the town of Zdiby

Zdiby: Collecting historical photos and stories to support shared identity

This project aims to improve relations between “ordinary” neighbors in the town of Zdiby near Prague. Similarly to many rapidly growing communities, ill feelings between long-time residents and newcomers persist in Zdiby. A group of residents hopes to forge connections between young families with school-age children and older residents to improve relations and raise awareness of the town’s history. Through the project, elementary school children will collect old photos and postcards of Zdiby and record older residents’ recollections of the town’s past. A calendar will be compiled from the most interesting photos.

Regional festival in Velešice

Velešice: Češov Association – restoration of the grave of a famous opera singer

The Češov Association plans on restoring the grave of A.V. Blažková, a famous opera singer who hailed from the town. The restoration project will provide an opportunity to hold a local/regional festival, concerts and interpretative walks in the area.

Be Culture

Prague: Neighborhood event at Betlemske Square

The goal of this project is to renew neighborly relations among residents of the Betlem district in central Prague. The BeCulture Association will hold the area’s first-ever spring cultural festival.

COLridor

Prague: Collaborative Collective Association to improve an important bio-corridor

The garden of Zvonarka, a traditional wooden building in the Nusle neighborhood of Prague, is part of a bio-corridor that runs through parks and along the Vltava River in central Prague. This project will support a biotope (pond) in the garden by building shelters for bats, bees and insects. Environmental design students will collaborate on the design and the local community will be invited to participate and help maintain the shelters. The project also includes development of a sleeping shelter for homeless people.

NUUK sauna

Hradec Králové: Summer get-togethers on the banks of the Elbe River

This project aims to make NUUK, a sauna located in a bend of the Elbe River, a gathering place for the local community. The project leaders plan on introducing bread baking, dancing and community gardening events along with regular Sunday concerts to bring people together.

The village living room

Statenice: Revitalization of the local library

This project seeks to transform the J.M. Hovorka library, which is suffering from stagnation on the eve of its 100 anniversary, into a modern, community-oriented facility that will engage residents. The library is envisioned as a informal living room that will respond to community needs with various events.

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Recy-flea market

Jablonec nad Nisou: Flea market in art deco baths

Recy-flea market, the brainchild of the ArtproProstor Association, is about holding a flea market in the unique setting of the former art deco baths in the town of Jablonec nad Nisou. The project will engage residents (primarily seniors and families) as sellers and customers at a flea market focused on recycled projects that will also include a workshop on re-using used materials.

Don't Just Sit, Be a Neighbor

Prague: Community Center

This neighborhood association seeks to draw more of the community in and support development of relations between residents. Through the project, the group will restore its premises to make them into a community center that can welcome people of all generations.

Revitalization of the Baranova-Sudomerska block courtyard

Prague: A traffic calming zone in a block courtyard

The idea behind this project is to create a quiet oasis in the courtyard shared by the apartment buildings framing this block. The open space should serve as a retreat from the busy city beyond, with planting beds, play equipment and seating areas that will bring residents together.

Spinning Wool

Provodov and Paseky: Renewing the tradition of community wool-spinning

In the town of Provodov and in the small settlement of Paseky in the Vizovice highlands in Moravia, a group is renewing a long-forgotten tradition - community wool-spinning evenings. The project is intended to build relations between residents while utilizing an overlooked local resource: sheep wool.

Co-existence

Šumperk: Making the downtown a vibrant place

The objective of the Šumperk Beautification Society's Co-existence project is to revitalize the city's downtown area. The association works to educate the broad public and city representatives about innovative urban concepts such as sustainable transportation, community gardening, bike sharing, participatory budgeting and community stewardship of public spaces (aka guerrilla gardening). The project will include e.g. a competition for the prettiest window boxes and balcony plantings, a two-week bike event and an inner city camp for kids.

Markets Here

Liberec: Markets by locals for locals

A grassy open space in the city of Liberec will be the site of a series of three farmers' markets. The events are intended to bring neighbors together, give them opportunities to buy fresh vegetables from local farmers as well as local food and crafts. Local homeless people who live on the site and earn money by playing music will also be invited to participate.

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Self-service Boat Rental

Černosice: The river as a public square

The banks of the Beroun River and the river itself serve like a town square for Černosice, a suburb of Prague. That makes it the ideal location for a mobile self-service boat rental facility. The group behind the project intends to engage fellow residents in selecting sites, designing and building a shelter for boats and operating the facility. The boat rental project aims to bring people together and raise awareness of the river bank environment.

Live!

Doubravnik: Looking for opportunities to spend time together.

This project seeks ways to bring the residents of Doubravnik together through a diverse array of fun events. The first will be a cake baking gathering, followed by an amateur theatre production and cleaning of natural springs in the area. The final event will be an apple harvest party at a local orchard in the fall.

DYI Street Festival

Český Těšín: DYI Cross-border neighborhood 'picnic'

This project is about the process of creating a festival in the city of **Český Těšín**, which lies on the Czech-Polish border. Process is key here: the idea is that residents will create the program of the week-long event to make it a living organism, so to speak, rather than a conventional event where residents are merely passive consumers. The long-term hope is to forge relations between the Czech and Polish parts of the community.