

LIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM 2017

PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN FIRST ROUND

Valdštejn 440

Králíky: Town birthday celebration

The residents of Valdštejn Street in Králíky will hold a 440th anniversary celebration to commemorate the acquisition of the Town of Králíky by Zdeněk of Valdštejn and subsequent development of the town and surrounding villages. The project focuses on sharing activities, experiences and memories which can bring the neighborhood together and serve as a source of long-term support. The project also aims to create a good example of cooperation among neighbors – something the region needs more of, say Valdštejn Street residents.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 45,000.

Knitted Trail

Havlíčkův Brod: Motanice Society and Interpretative History Trail

There are few statues, busts, plaques or other objects in Havlíčkov Brod to commemorate individuals who played important roles in the town's history. In response, the Motanice Society has decided to develop a "Knitted Trail" along interesting sites that people such as Jan Zrzavy and Bohuslav Reynek and his sons visited. The sites will be chosen based on data collection by the organization in conjunction with the public, associations, non-profit organizations, preschools and schools. Interpretative boards along the trail will include information about the individuals as well as sites that no longer exist. Each board will also feature a knitted symbol characterizing the given individual.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 51,660.

My Community, My Home

Hajnice: Nažďár Society initiates collection of local historical documents

Organization members would like to help their fellow residents in Hajnice – Horní Žďár recognize the historical values of their community and look for ways to collectively preserve this memory and pass it on to others. They will invite residents, including neighbors of various generations, long-time residents and newcomers, to community meetings to share their knowledge, historical photos and other documents. Children will also have a chance to share their views on their community by submitting drawings. All of the materials will be digitalized and displayed in an abandoned church which the group is trying to revitalize.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 26,000.

Allee leading to linden trees

Dobroslavice: Dobro-vize Society will plant an allee

The Dobro-vize Society will plant an allee of plum trees along a walking path. The trail, originally a field path, is owned by the town of Dobroslavice and was ploughed over and made part of a field many years ago. The plum tree allee is

intended to connect a grouping of three mature linden trees and an old cross on a stone pedestal situated on a grassy patch amidst a large area of fields. Although this site is a popular destination sought out by hikers and residents due to the unique view of the surrounding landscape, there is currently no path leading to it. Local children from the Young Hikers' Club and senior citizens from the local senior citizens' club will help with planting. We supported the project with a grant of CZK 29,820.

Reading rest stop

Prague: Zažit SPOLU Society is founding a community library

A small park in Prague 9 – Koloděje will soon have an outdoor neighborhood mini-library and a pleasant seating area to make it a more vibrant place. The library and literary bench revitalization project will engage professionals and local residents who will help as volunteers.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 63,000.

Relaxation garden on the hillock

Mnichovo Hradiště: "Žijeme pro Hradiště" organization to revitalize church hillock

This project aims to revitalize the area around the church hillock in Mnichovo Hradiště, one of the few vegetated sites in the center of the town. The area around the church is unused right now but the community seeks to make it an important site once again. The idea is to give the hillock a new function by making it a place for residents to meet and rest. The project will include revitalization of the site, construction of a path, planting and new site amenities.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 90,000.

Maturing merrily

Valtice: Senior citizens and youth learning from each other

The main purpose of this project is to establish an organization for senior citizens, which will be called Maturing merrily. The organization will facilitate transfer of members' experience and skills to others and connections between the senior citizen community and younger people in Valtice. Engaged residents will have the opportunity to learn new things and skills such as knitting, crocheting, using modern phones and computers, home canning and basket weaving. The organization's meetings will also include singing and games and the organization will also hold exhibitions of products made through the project.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 35,000.

Workshop series on participatory planning, architecture and public space

Prostějov: Residents to participate in decision-making about their city

This project was developed by the organization "Space in Prostějov" in response to the public's lack of interest and knowledge about numerous substantial changes to the land use plan of Prostějov. A series of participatory planning public workshops under the guidance of renowned experts is planned. Experts will respond to questions about current land use issues and the results will be

published through videos on the Internet and brochures. The organization will also use the workshop results in its negotiations with local government. We supported the project with a grant of CZK 40,000.

Nová Elementary School community garden

České Budějovice: Working toward a community garden

In response to the dearth of public open space around Palacký náměstí in České Budějovice, a group of parents plans to develop a community garden in the area. The intention is to create a public space as well as opportunities for communication between residents and local government officials.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 29,900.

Vibrant Gorky Park

Brno: Renaissance of the street through neighborhood dialogue

Vibrant Gorky Park is the continuation of the initiative "Making Gorky Green", now in its third year. The project, which developed through the initiative of people involved in the cooperative café "Three Tails", seeks to improve the area around the café. In its first phase, the project developed flower beds, planting boxes and other vegetation; the second phase focused on cultural events in the street and engaging neighbors. This year the group plans on continuing with the engagement process to deepen communication with neighbors. Planned events include cultural events and neighborhood gatherings with a facilitator designed to map people's ideas for improving the street. The project will also monitor the city's planning process for Gorky Street reconstruction and inform and involve residents about it.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 29,700.

I'm glad I'm from the Bronx

Brno: Breaking down mutual preconceptions among district residents

A group of Brno students aims to improve relationships between groups of residents in the most multi-cultural district of the city, nicknamed the "Brno ghetto" and the "Bronx". The idea is to break down preconceptions by establishing communication between different groups of the district's residents. The project is comprised of five evening meetings, each of which will introduce the country, culture and cuisine of one of the ethnic groups in the neighborhood – Czech, Slovak, Asian, Roma and Arabian – and give participants a chance to discuss new insights.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 20,000.

Active Teplice

Teplice: SAYFY Association promotes an active neighborhood community

The Active Teplice project seeks to make public space in the neighborhood a place where neighbors of all ethnicities and generations, and from various clubs and associations and businesses, meet and interact. The organization will hold a neighborhood event with performances by local musicians, exhibitions of local artists' work, food and beverage tastings by local businesses and workshops.

Active Teplice will invite all residents and clubs to help design the event program, lead parts of the event and present their own activities to others. We supported the project with a grant of CZK 15,000.

Revitalization of Sedlec cherry orchard

Sedlec: “Sedlec žije” association to revitalize a cherry orchard

The members of the “Sedlec žije” association plan on revitalizing an old cherry orchard in Sedlec u Starého Plzence and making it a neighborhood gathering place. They will hold a number of events to raise interest among residents who have shied away from community events in the past. In accordance with biodiversity guidelines, planting of fruit trees, shrubs and herbs will focus on traditional species, burrows and shelters for small animals will be built and regular maintenance will employ environmental farming techniques. We supported the project with a grant of CZK 26,750.

Bud’ánka – An Urban Island

Prague: Bud’ánka Monument Preservation Zone to include a community center

This association’s work aims to revitalize Bud’ánka, a former workers’ colony. Through this project, it seeks to transform the first reconstructed building, which is called Koloniál, into a community center. Local residents’ opinions about how Bud’ánka should function in the future were gathered at community meetings in early 2016. Three main goals were developed based on the input: 1. Improve the area around Koloniál (clean-up, planting, community planting boxes, seating area); 2. Develop activities for various target groups (ethnic kitchen, art workshop, etc.); 3. Support the collective neighborhood memory by collecting unique histories of the site. The new community center encompasses steps towards achieving all of these goals.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 90,000.

Orlovna garden – A place for community events

Brno: Hobbylab to improve a garden through neighborhood engagement

Responding to the need for a community event space at the Orlovna garden, Hobbylab plans on engaging neighbors in production of garden furniture and play equipment through a series of four workshops. Under the guidance of woodworkers, artisans and other professionals, residents will have the opportunity to make one-of-a-kind benches, flower boxes and other amenities which will enhance the site. The project will also engage the local government, associations and businesses.

We supported the project with a grant of CZK 25,000.