

YOUNG PHILANTHROPISTS PROGRAM

Through the **Young Philanthropists program**, children and young people up to age 26 organize benefit events to raise money for needy individuals and organizations. The teams of young people design their own events and choose the recipients themselves. Via Foundation provides the teams with advice, support in project planning, learning and networking opportunities and seed funding for the events. We also match the funds the teams raise up to CZK 20,000. Teams that raise over CZK 30,000 also receive a bonus.

The **Young Philanthropists program** gives participants the experience of collectively helping someone in need. It enables young people to spend free time in a positive way, work together as a team, be proud of a shared achievement and see that they can make a difference. Participants develop practical skills such as communication, planning and presentation through the program, which also has the potential to reduce bullying and encourage new friendships.



WHAT IS OUR TARGET GROUP?

- Primary target group is children and young people from fourth grade through age 26.
- Secondary target group is adults with opportunities to lead young people toward active citizenship (teachers, leaders of extracurricular activities, parents, etc.).
- The program is open to teams from schools, community and after-school programs and groups of friends.

WHY DO WE WANT TO DEVELOP PHILANTHROPY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE?

- More than half of all young people in the CR are not active in civic or community affairs.
- Materialism and consumerism is growing among young people, while there is less emphasis on helping others, assuming responsibility for others, working for the good of the community and personal development.
- About 80% of Czech high school students believe that they cannot influence local, national or global problems.
- Young people lack sufficient positive role models or opinion makers, people who are active in their communities and could motivate or lead them to help address issues in society (e.g. teachers, parents).

Sources: One World school survey, 2009 and 2012, Concept of State Support for Children and Young People 2007 – 2013, poll by STEM and Via Foundation titled Philanthropy and Leaders in Czech Society, 2014

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES OF OUR SUPPORT?

- 15 teams of children and young people (over 250 individuals) implement benefit events for good causes
- 15 adult patrons gain experience in guiding youth towards philanthropy and engaged citizenry
- Over 8,000 people attend youth benefit events, with 4,000 of them supporting the events through donations
- Hundreds of other young Czechs learn about peers' philanthropy work through our outreach

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF OUR WORK?

- Involved youth are set on a lifelong path of civic engagement and philanthropy
- Involved youth use the practical skills learned in their other activities
- Adult patrons continue guiding young people to engage in philanthropy in their own communities
- Up to 85% of involved youth continue in philanthropic endeavors



"I liked that on D Day we all really tried to pour our best effort in the project. You could really see that during our visit to the cancer ward. It was a really powerful experience and I think everyone was glad they had a chance to make the kids' day a bit brighter." Gabriela Plchová, Student and Girl Scout

Through this experience, children and young people learn, just by small acts of giving, how to become change makers and what it means to be a good citizen; they see the multiplier effect of small acts and the large impact their actions can have on their communities; and they receive the empowering first-hand experience that they have the capacity to be the givers and doers of kindness – not just the recipients.

WHAT DO WE PROVIDE?

- Small grants to help cover costs of benefit events
- Matching of funds raised up to CZK 20,000 per project
- Bonuses for teams that raise over CZK 30,000
- Initial workshop for all teams covering fundraising, PR, teamwork, legal issues, etc.
- Consultations on project ideas and planning and communication tools
- Final evaluation meeting of the teams
- Via staff site visits to teams and benefit events

2018 YOUNG PHILANTHROPISTS PROGRAM IN FIGURES

- Number of young people and volunteers in the program: **226**
- Average age of participants: **16**
- Number of benefit events: **40**
- Total proceeds raised: **CZK 1,023,902 (\$44,812)**
- Number of donors: **4,199**
- Number of visitors of benefit events: **8,660**
- Most funds raised by a single project: **CZK 202,142 (\$8,846)**

HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

Grants and matching	CZK 445,000	\$21,480
Support: workshops, consultations, site visits, manual, web, events	CZK 170,100	\$8,211
Program coordination and PR	CZK 621,290	\$29,990
Operational and administrative support	CZK 137,280	\$6,627
TOTAL	CZK 1,391,768	\$67,181

"The money that we raised stayed in our region and the help we gave was direct, targeted and truly delivered it to the people who needed it. Everyone who took part in the project learned something: how to organize events, deal with people, overcome shyness, assume responsibility for oneself and for others and develop intergenerational relationships. And we also learned that although we are working to raise money, sometimes we can work for our own and others' enjoyment, too." Maria Dufková, Teacher

2019 YOUNG PHILANTHROPISTS

JINAK Club – For the joy of Marek

Kristýna, Alice, Simona, Adriana. Four teenager girls who are organizing their second benefit event. As they say, they like to do things differently – for others. This time they are helping 9-year-old Marek, diagnosed with bone cancer this year and bedridden because of the illness. The girls are going to hold two benefit concerts for Marek. The proceeds will be used to buy medicine that helps with recovery after chemotherapy and which is not covered by health insurance. And what's more, to show Marek that he isn't alone, they will set up live streaming of the concerts so that Marek can watch them, too.

Green life – benefit event

This is a group of eight friends from Olomouc ages 12 to 14 who says they share a crazy view of the world. They have already held several benefit craft markets to raise money for environmental protection. This year they want to support the Rainforest for Children Association ("Spolek Prales dětem") by holding a holiday craft market. Their goal is to raise CZK 15,000 (\$660). We say, the more teenagers with this type of crazy view of the world, the better!

Tyla elementary school

Charity work is nothing new to the members of the J.K. Tyla school student parliament in Písek. They take part in many school events, often to help other children. This time they want to help children in a nearby orphanage by holding a series of benefit events, including a fun run, a mini-bazaar and a face painting event. The proceeds will help purchase sports equipment for the children from the orphanage, who will also be invited to all of the events.

Railtale for the Home hospice

Besides friendship, these four classmates share a love of music and giving back. In 2017 they formed the band Railtale. Trying to help someone in need by doing something you love: what could be better, they say? They will give the proceeds from four concerts to the Hospice Pilsen Home, which provides at-home care for the terminally ill and needs funding to cover its operations.

An afternoon for Firefly at Lesní Liberec school

The school parliament of the Lesní Liberec school will hold a benefit event for Firefly Czech Radio Endowment Fund (Nadační fond Českého rozhlasu Světluška), an organization which helps blind and visually impaired people. Student musicians, the school's dance group, and the Firefly fund staff will organize an event where guests can try out what it feels like to be blind and learn about appropriate ways of interacting with the visually impaired.

Majáles 2019

Students of a high school in Luhačovice will hold a charity Majáles event, which will bring together people of all ages for a good cause. Students from different grades will perform as well as the local Active Senior Citizens association. The proceeds will be used to buy a wheelchair for immobile residents of the Luhačovice senior citizens' home.

Everyone has a right to be happy

"Our doors are open to everyone". That's the motto of DOORs, a student group at the Neveklov business academy that aims to build bridges between generations and help people. Comprised of students ages 16 to 18, DOORs organizes events that "put a smile back on people's faces". As they say, the size of their school is small but the size of its heart is huge. The students will hold a series of benefit events to raise money for UNICEF development projects.

Charity baking

Fourth grade students at the Božena Němcová school in Hradec Králové love to do good through baking. They are going to hold a charity bake sale with an ecological side to it. The students want to draw attention to excessive use of plastics and the destruction of rainforests due to palm oil production. The money they raise will go to Good Angel, which helps families of people with chronic illnesses.

Let's rescue the rescue station.

There are six of them. They are stubborn, like to push their own limits and run a puppet theater. They also love animals and helping where they can. After encountering an abandoned bird, this group of students from the Náchod high school got to the know the Rescue station for disabled animals in Jaroměř,

which is also fighting for its life due to a lack of funding. That gave them the idea of supporting a place defined by empathy, hard work, endurance and altruism. With the help of their fellow students, they will hold a charity cookie sale for the rescue station.

Children for children

Fourteen-year-old Bára and Nicolas and eleven-year-old Theodora are classmates at AMA SCHOOL, a Montessori school in Most. They will lead their classmates in organizing a series of benefit events to raise money to build a playground at the Asylum home for women and mothers with children in crisis. The students will put on a play, hold an auction of artwork and collection of toys and clothing for the children, whom they will invite to their events.

Don't buy, adopt!

This group of eleven-year-olds cares about their community. When they heard about a local association called Let's Stop the Suffering, which helps abused and disabled dogs and cats, it was a clear choice. They plan on involving their entire elementary school in Olomouc in creating artwork and postcards for a benefit art sale. The proceeds will be used to buy equipment for the animal shelter and food for the animals.

Gymplbands

Members of the school parliament of the Silesian high school in Opava plunge headfirst into everything they do. They love to help others and organize events for the whole student body. Each year, they hold a Gymplbands concert featuring school bands, and they also work with a local special needs preschool. The

group got the brilliant idea of connecting these two activities, finding more local donors and donate the proceeds from the concert to buy a special baby stroller for a toddler suffering from cerebral palsy paresis.

Snowflakes

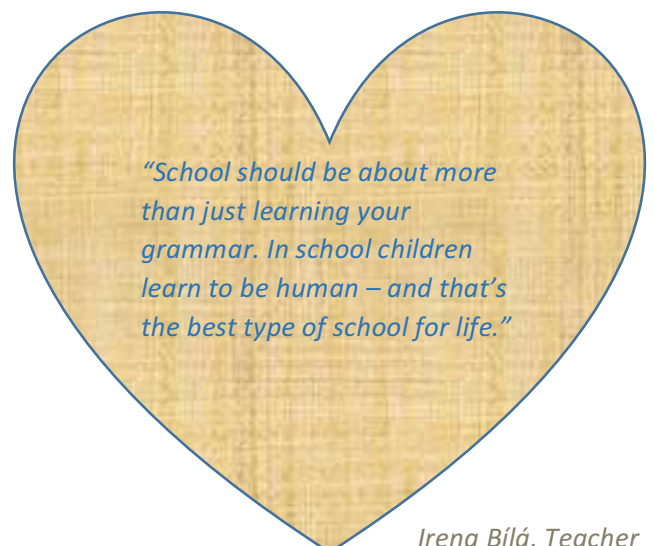
The members of the student parliament at the Slavičín – Vlára elementary school are ages ten to fourteen. They are an active bunch, creative and eager to help in their town. They will hold a holiday benefit concert for the general public. The proceeds will be used to pay for short-term convalescence residencies for disabled children.

Helping the helpless

This group of ten children take a keen interest in the world around them and want to help make it a better place. They will hold a series of benefit events with the dual goals of raising money for a good cause and strengthening the community spirit of their school. The voluntary admission from the events will go to the Krásný Les dog shelter in north Bohemia.

Playing for a good cause

Eighth grade students at the Přerov elementary school love to play and love to help others. They will bring these two passions together in a benefit game day for the whole school community, including teachers, parents, siblings and other donors. Along with games, the benefit day will include a bazaar and sale of homemade cakes and other refreshments. The proceeds will go to a hippo-therapy program and treatment of a sick girl in the neighborhood.



Irena Bílá, Teacher