



Annual Report

2022

Carpathian Foundation-Hungary

The Foundation deals with donations through tenders and the implementation of development programs and projects aimed at supporting disadvantaged rural areas and communities, as well as scholarship granting.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is a member of the **International Carpathian Foundation Network** for the development of the Carpathian region, that consists of three independent foundations:

- **Carpathian Foundation – Hungary** – www.karpatokalapitvany.hu
- **Karpatská nadácia - Slovensko**, Slovakia – www.karpatskanadacia.sk
- **Карпатський фонд – Україна**, Ukraine - www.carpathianfoundation.org.ua

The **strategic goal** of the Foundation is to develop the human resources of the region (individuals, organizations, communities) for the development of lagging rural areas, disadvantaged communities and minorities, thus indirectly reducing poverty and social exclusion.

Our strategic goals:

- We support sustainable development initiatives by local communities and NGOs
- We strive to reduce the lagging and exclusion of rural areas and communities by supporting local development initiatives
- We encourage and help local communities address and solve local problems
- We support and develop organizations working with disadvantaged and excluded people living in poverty in order to strengthen the advocacy capacity of the people they represent and to have a more effective say in the decision-making process that affects them, making them full members of society
- We strengthen social attitudes, mainly by disseminating the practice of volunteering and increasing the opportunities for disadvantaged young people
- We encourage cross-border cooperation, the transfer of knowledge, the exchange of experiences, and the presentation and dissemination of good practices of people living in the countries of the Carpathian region
- We strengthen the willingness to donate in Hungary by developing, presenting, and supporting good examples and sample projects
- We support the nurturing and utilization of cultural and natural heritage values and the promotion of multiculturalism.

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN 2022

Fred Robey - Carpathian Equal Opportunities Scholarship Programme

The program provides disadvantaged students living in Northeast Hungary with the successful completion of university / college, as well as the opportunity for students to remain in the region after completing their studies. Its aim is to educate European-level intellectuals with expertise and professions who remain in the field and are struggling to improve the region. The scholarship is announced at all universities in the region. The tools of the program are: financial benefit (40 thousand HUF / month scholarship) and the implementation of a ten-month voluntary work program called “In the Region for the Region” at a non-governmental organization.

In the academic year 2021/22, our scholar was **Zsolt Hamar**, who is a student of **Community Organizing at the Eszterházy Károly Catholic University**, and who runs his volunteer programme at our Foundation, under the mentorship of the Executive Director and the Head of the Community Foundation of Eger. Zsolt has only won the scholarship for the first time, but he has already settled in easily with the Foundation team. Zsolt's duties included running the day-to-day activities of the Foundation, helping staff successfully run their programmes, and running some small projects. In the academic year 2022-2023, **Zoltán Szűrös**, a student at the **University of Debrecen**, majoring in **commerce and marketing**, is spending his internship at the Martfű Town Planning Association for 10 hours per week between October 2022 and June 2023. Among other things, he will be responsible for communication, administration, and programme organisation.

In the 2022-2023 school year, the programme was implemented with donations from individuals and 1% of the personal tax.



Zoltán Szűrös-scholar 2022/2023

More information:

<https://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/index.php/en/iras/carpathian-equal-opportunities-scholarship-program>

Our trainings, development of CSOs

“Know your rights” project

The (roma)community of marginalized settlements in North-East Hungary regularly faces the systematic harm of their social rights: segregation in schools, labour market discrimination, misleads, exclusion of basic public services, keeping them out of the basic healthcare system; the police or office holders often abuse them and trespass on them. **Therefore, we launched an intensive information campaign on human rights and related practical issues in cooperation with three small communities (Szomolya, Szajla, and Bükkszentmárton) in the summer of 2021.** From summer 2021 until April 2022, we organised events in all three communities every month, with an average of 10 participants per event, all of whom were active residents. The local action groups that were formed were encouraged to identify local needs and challenges with the aim of addressing them collectively, and the project team helped to address them.

The following events were organized in 2022:

On **4 January** in Szajla and on **11 January** in Szomolya, local midwives presented their preventive tasks, duties, and responsibilities in their services. They also highlighted the importance of cooperation with parents. In Bükkszentmárton, police representatives spoke about local policing measures and offenses committed. Stray dogs, drunk people, and speeding are many problems in the municipality, and possible interventions in this area were discussed.

In February, we held local workshops on "How to Exercise Your Rights During the Elections." Our invited speakers, Zsuzsanna Kunos and Dániel Döbrentey from the NGO Society for Civil Liberties, discussed with the participants. How can we find out about the MPs and their programme? How do I choose the right MP? What is "chain voting?" What are the methods of fraud in elections, and what can we do if we experience it? The events were held in Szomolya on 1 February and in Bükkszentmárton and Szajla on 16 February.

On **9 March** in Szajla and on **17 March** in Bükkszentmárton and Szomolya, Beáta Dánielné Tóth, leader of the Bódva Valley Roma Women's Community, gave a presentation at the interactive workshops. The topic was domestic violence and women's and children's rights, which the participants worked on in an interactive and playful way. They touched upon the



issue of discrimination against Roma and also discussed forms of domestic violence and what steps can be taken to combat it.

The communities of Szomolya and Bükkszentmárton took part in a best practice visit to Nyíregyháza on **12 March**. Réka Makula, head of the National Association of Roma Women of the 21st Century, presented the activities of the NGO, and exchanged experiences with representatives of the Bükkszentmárton Association of Village Builders and the Hungarian Roma Association of Szomolya on their Roma integration programme. On **8 April**, the Szajla delegation was given an insight into the life of the Somnakuno Drom Roma Women's NGO in Nagykálló during a best practice visit with the help of Zsanett Bitó Balogh and Boglárka Balogh, where they reported on the challenges and successes of their work. A good example of their cooperation is the renovation of the local medical clinic, which the group visited. The event was inspiring and motivating for all communities.

In April, Tamásné Előházi, the district public health nurse, presented the role of the public health network in the lives of families with young children to interested local parents in a workshop in Bükkszentmárton. She presented their tasks in relation to family visits, infant care, status examinations, and vaccinations, and talked to parents about their current problems. Among other things, they discussed whether children should be vaccinated against COVID-19. In Szomolya and Szajla, "The phenomenon of bullying and cyberbullying in everyday life: 'What is my right? Where can I turn? What can I do?' Practical advice", Róbert Zsolt Márkus, a mentor teacher, led a dialogue with parents and young people. Verbal harassment and bullying are common in workplaces and schools. Internet bullying can even leave the bully faceless.

In each of the three municipalities, local NGO leaders **formed** so-called **Local Action Groups** from the most active project participants. The action groups met regularly and focused on and developed strategies to solve the local problems identified and thoroughly analysed in each workshop. In one of the municipalities concerned, for example, there is a persistent problem of stray dogs; children are afraid to go out, and dogs knock over rubbish bins. To solve this problem, the action group met regularly and sent a formal letter to the municipality asking for help, which took action to eradicate the stray dogs. In another municipality, the number of local bus services is extremely low, making it difficult for residents to get to work or even run other errands. On behalf of residents, they have prepared a formal request to the relevant transport company, which has been signed by several local residents.

The final conference of the project took place on **28 April** in the House of Civil Communities in Eger. **The event was opened by Klaus Streicher, Ambassador Counsellor of the German Embassy in Budapest.** Boglárka Bata and Beáta Csomós presented the project and its results; local partners were introduced; and similar initiatives were discussed. The closing event was attended by 51 participants from all three municipalities and from organisations in Northern Hungary to jointly evaluate the success of the project and share the results, thus enabling sound dissemination of the model programme developed. The conference started with a presentation of local partners and the results of similar initiatives and projects followed by an exchange of experiences on Roma/low-poverty community advocacy (panel discussion).

The workshops took place in three groups:

1. Local problems and solutions in education,
2. Local municipal problems and solutions, e.g. stray dogs, rats
3. Issues and problems affecting Roma women and the role of Roma women leaders

Report of TV Eger on the event: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lp1jOaBa82s>

Results:

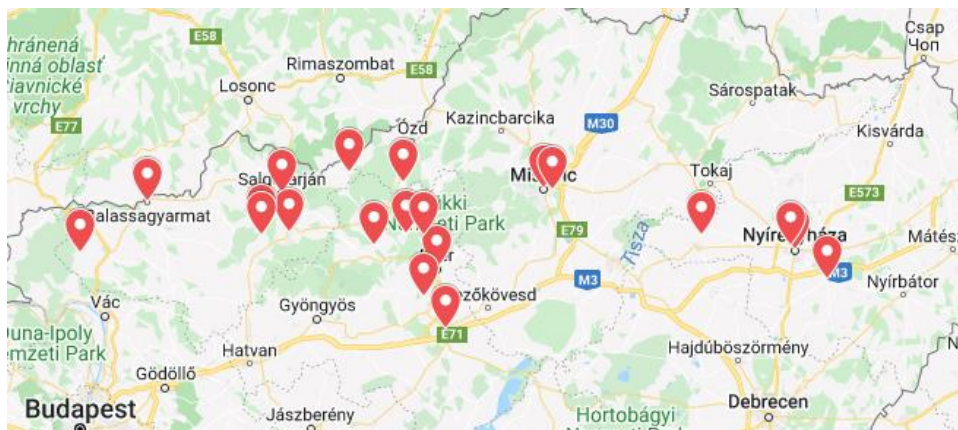
- The advocacy capacity of the CSOs involved has increased, which facilitates more effective interventions and increases the quality and number of collaborations
- The capacity and awareness of the involved communities regarding their fundamental rights, empowerment, and development have been strengthened. As a result, the number of acts against them that violate their human rights may be reduced, their social engagement may be more effective, and their participation and integration in education and the labour market may be improved.
- Social awareness of the situation of marginalised Roma and people living in poverty has increased.

Detailed information: <https://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/en/knowyourrights>

Civil Map project

The project is carried out in cooperation with the Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation, Autonomy, and Civil College Foundations, with the main aim of strengthening existing civil cooperation and networks in Hungary. On the other hand, we map and address rural civil society organizations and actors who have not yet been actively involved in Hungarian civil life. Our foundation is carrying out the tasks undertaken in the project in the North-Eastern Hungary region, and we are also supporting the development and building of partnerships between rural and city-based NGOs. The project is funded by the Civitates Fund, supported by the Network of European Foundations.

In January, the mapping of NGOs and groups in northeast Hungary that could potentially participate in the programme started. We also targeted organisations and community leaders, while at the same time publicly launching a call for applications to join the Civil Map programme. In total, we conducted 20 interviews with NGO leaders and representatives. Based on these interviews, we selected the organisations we invited to join the Civil Map programme.



Civil Map programme locations, Hungary

Kick-off meeting - 29 April, Eger

The meeting was attended by organisations selected for the Civil Map programme based on interviews, with participants from 11 organisations in total. After a brief introduction, the Civil Map project, its objectives, and planned activities were presented. We introduced the participants to the "Future Workshop" method and outlined the details of the Community Leader Training to be held in May. This was followed by a presentation of the participating organisations and a search for links. At the end of the programme, the next steps were agreed upon with the participants.

After the kick-off meeting, we created a common online platform, a Facebook group, to allow participants to share their programmes, ideas and facilitate fast group communication.

Community Leader Training – 20-21 May, Eger

In the framework of the Civil Map programme, members of 11 organisations from the North-Eastern Hungary region participated in the Civil College Foundation's Community Leader training. During the practical training, participants learned about community organisation methods and their own roles as community leaders. During the three-day training, participants got to know each other and each other's issues and organisations better, and opportunities for cooperation were identified.



Community Leader Training, Eger

‘Future Workshop’ – 21-22 October - Noszvaj

A two-day "Future Workshop" brought together members of the NGOs participating in the Civil Map project. The aim of the training was to help build the advocacy capacity of the participants' organisations and equip community leaders with the knowledge and methods to effectively organise local people around local public issues. At the "Future Workshop", participating organisations learned about the community advocacy process with the help of the Civic College Foundation. They then worked on common issues, collaborating, and learning together to develop an action plan for their joint project.

Small grants programme

The organisations participating in the "Future Workshop" and actively involved in the programme were invited to participate in the Civil Map small grants programme. Participating organisations were invited to apply for the Small Donations Programme for their joint projects designed in the "Future Workshop" until 30 November. Mentors from the organisations will provide ongoing support to help the participating organisations develop their joint projects. The organisations will have until November 2023 to implement their joint advocacy projects. Organisations participating in joint projects can submit a further application for their own organisation's advocacy project in early 2023.

After the participants' involvement in the programme, regular face-to-face and online meetings and professional discussions were organised with the participating organisations, and mentors kept in touch with the participants through the different activities and programme elements. We also held regular internal meetings on current programme issues and actively participated in the project consortium meetings.

More information: <https://okotars.hu/en/civil-map>

Early Years Matter Program

We launched our small donation program in February 2018.

Within the framework of the program, our Foundation provides non-refundable support to 10-1 registered, non-governmental organizations supporting marginalized Roma communities in Northern Hungary and the Northern Great Plain. The call for proposals is open by invitation, with grants of more than 3-4 million HUF per project.



The Foundation invites non-governmental organizations with local capacities and active, verifiable results to participate in the program. Selected organizations can carry out 12-month projects for the early childhood development of Roma children in marginalized (Roma) communities.

Organizations receive special support for the development of their professional capacities in the form of professional training. In addition, a professional study visit to Slovakia and a closing conference will be held as part of the program.

The program runs in parallel in Eastern Slovakia and, from 2020, in Western Ukraine, thanks to the members of the Carpathian Foundation Network (www.carpathianfoundation.org). Collaborating, successful organizations may also be invited to the program in the coming years, during which we intend to support an active cross-border exchange of experience.



Our Early Years programme has a new name from 2021: **Early Years Matter**. In December 2021, the Board of Directors of the Carpathian Foundation-Hungary invited 12 NGOs active in the North-Eastern Hungary region to submit a new call for proposals under the programme, which has been running since 2018. According to the decision of the Board of Directors of 29 December 2021, **10 organisations were awarded non-refundable grants of more than HUF 38 million**, the list of which is available [HERE](#).

In January and February 2022, the contracting process was finalised, and kick-off meetings were held both individually and collectively. **In March, a two-day professional meeting was organised in Eger**, where **Blum Programme** staff gave presentations on empowerment, non-violent communication, and the importance of cooperation. We had a discussion with Eva Szomor on the planning and implementation of effective children's activities and parenting programmes, and on the methods and importance of interprofessional cooperation using interactive methods. During the year, we organised monthly online meetings on the progress of projects and problems encountered. Midterm project visits took place in the summer. **In**

October, we also participated in a two-day training and good practice visit with representatives of the NGOs supported by the programme in Eger. On the first day, trainers from the [International Child Development Initiatives](#) and the head of the Partners Hungary Foundation gave a training on the importance of integrated early childhood services. On the second day, we visited **Nagydobos**, where we got to know a Toy Library, which aims to promote early childhood development through intergenerational cooperation and met the experts of the local action group linked to the Toy Library. Within the framework of the programme, to **strengthen inter-professional cooperation**, we provided special financial and professional support and assistance to our local partners in several municipalities to strengthen their cooperation with local and regional early childhood (public) services, institutions, and professionals. These professionals are in daily contact with families with young children living in poverty, so good communication and cooperation between families is essential to ensuring the proper development of children. **Our local partners were the Association of Village Builders of Bükkszentmárton, the Tarnagyöngye Association, and the Hungarian Roma Association of Szomolya.** The associations are a kind of link, a bridge between professionals, services, and families. To this end, a series of meetings were held from **May to December 2022**, involving mayors, protection nurses, kindergarten directors, kindergarten and school teachers, and family support centre staff from the municipalities concerned. Professionals and association leaders, as well as staff from the Carpathian Foundation, jointly developed and implemented programmes locally that strengthened communication and cooperation between families living in disadvantaged poverty and early childhood services, and professionals.

In September 2022, we organised a professional study trip to Budapest, which took the form of an interactive project presentation and discussion entitled **"The Place and Role of the Inclusive Kindergartens Project in Child Friendly Józsefváros, the Possibility of Spreading the Model."** We invited not only NGOs and local partners participating in the programme, but also professionals involved in interprofessional cooperation, thus contributing to the success of local cooperation.

Between 6-8 October 2022, our sister foundation Karpatska Nadácia (Carpathian Foundation-Slovakia) and our foundation co-organised a good practice visit of Slovak early childhood professionals to North-Eastern Hungary. On the premises of IndaHouse Hungary, they got to know local professionals and their niche work. In Eger, together with our professional partners, we hosted the Slovak colleagues at the Korona Hotel, presenting the Hungarian education, training, and care system and our "Early Years Matter" programme, which has been running since 2018. In the Sure Start Children's Home in Kerecsend, the professional manager outlined their activities. The programme continued with a visit to Nyíregyháza, where Réka Makula, head of the association, presented the SZIROM Playhouse: "We learn by playing!" Finally, the group was welcomed by representatives of the Somnakuno Roma Drom Women's Civic Association in Nagykálló. The organisation works in a segregated part of the municipality where children can benefit from individual-group skill development and ongoing counselling on child-rearing for parents, led by professionals.

In the framework of the "Early Years Matter" programme, we organised a visit to Kosice and Presov for our supported professional partners in the framework of the "Karpatska Nadácia", on 29-30 November 2022. We visited NGOs working for Roma communities living in deep poverty in Slovakia. We were informed about the housing programme of the

Association for a Better Life. The NGO helps several local communities by providing tutoring and parenting programmes for Roma families. Local women are involved in early childhood development work. In the community centre of the Roma Institute in the Brick Factory area of Presov, three mentors have been working in the Roma community for 21 years. Their aim is to help parents enroll their children in kindergartens and primary schools and to help them integrate into the educational process through various tutoring and recreational activities. ETP Slovakia has been working in the Lunik IX municipality of Košice and its surroundings for many years. They use the Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Method, which they have adapted, in the development of children. In their housing support programme, the association's staff and other professionals assist and supervise the work. We also saw good examples of effective cooperation between the municipality and NGOs.

The main sponsor of our programme, which has been running for more than five years, has announced that it will end its support at the end of 2024 and will withdraw its educational programmes from the region. We are therefore working with our local partners to close, continue, and sustain the programme. In January 2023, our Board of Trustees awarded them final grants for this purpose, with a **total of 6 organisations receiving grants totalling HUF 10 million.**



Best practice visit, Slovakia

More information: <https://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/index.php/en/Building-Capacities-Childhood-Marginalized-Roma>

Playing for Change 2.0 project

The Playing for Change project is supported by the LEGO Group. The programme consisted of several parts.

In the ‘**Earth is my Friend**’ art competition, the Foundation donated **LEGO sets to 3,320 disadvantaged children from 150 groups and classes in 83 institutions**. During the contest, the children learned a lot about nature and the environment through the selection of materials and the process of creating products. Based on the slogan “Earth is my Friend”, the decision was also taken to use only materials and tools found in nature or recycled at home for the first-round creations. Participating institutions received a guaranteed LEGO or DUPLO Playbox donation. The children used these LEGO bricks to create something related to sustainability, nature, and environmental protection. The creations were judged by a panel of four judges, including staff from the LEGO Group and the Carpathian Foundation. Prizes were awarded to the top three places in each category.

More information: <https://karpatokalapitvany.hu/en/earthismyfriend>



Children’s session, Szomolya

The Playing for Change education programme has involved families and communities living in poverty, who have little or no capacity to take sustainability into account in their everyday lives, and who, like in the case of poverty, pass it on from generation to generation. Quality education, activities to compensate for disadvantage, can be the key to breaking the cycle of generational poverty and to create a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future for all. It is essential that children from disadvantaged backgrounds also gain useful knowledge about sustainability in an age-appropriate and playful way.

A program like this was developed by the Carpathian Foundation and took place in three settlements (Bükkszentmárton, Hevesaranyos and Szomolya) with the cooperation and organization of the Foundation’s partners. During the programmes, environmental educators held colourful activities for children on the topic. On the occasions, they learned through play what methods can they use and what they could make on a low budget, with tools and ingredients from home. **As in the previous year, these sessions have been included in the environmental playbook that the foundation has created as a result of last year’s project:** <https://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/index.php/en/playingforchange>

The “Express it with Bricks” programme was opened to primary school teachers and NGOs participating in the 2021 “Earth is my Friend” contest. It is an inspiring workshop of four sessions for teachers who teach disadvantaged or multiply disadvantaged young school children to learn innovative methods and ideas that they can use effectively in their work. For all involved children, playing with LEGO bricks is a source of joy, relaxation, and recharging. The LEGO sets were provided by the Carpathian Foundation. All teachers who participated in at least three online sessions received a gift of high-value LEGO sets for their class and a set of LEGO bricks for each student in the class/group to take home after the exercises. **The programme involved 12 schools, 23 groups, and a total of 490 children.** <https://jatekavaltozasert.hu/meseld-el-kockakkal/>

With the support of the LEGO Group, the Foundation has planned two major donation campaigns. During the campaign "I'm a kid now!", children could receive LEGO or DUPLO toys in exchange for a drawing. As a result, 7,583 sets were distributed and as many drawings were given in return, some of which were placed on a wall in the LEGO factory in Nyíregyháza. As part of our Christmas campaign, 17,709 children were given presents with the help of our partners in the Eger region. In total, we received a donation of HUF 166,228,986 thanks to the support of LEGO Hungária Kft. in 2022.

On average, communication content and posts related to the project were published one or two times a week on the Foundation's social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn), mainly about the art tender and the experience of the educational programme, with photos. A promotional video was also prepared to present the educational programme and the website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqNR59kP3o0>

Throughout the project, we placed great emphasis on sharing the results of the project widely, sharing the website and video with all kindergartens and schools in our area of operation and their maintainers, the participants of the My Friend Earth 2021 and 2022 competitions, educational magazines, and our press list. In total, we sent out information emails to 1884 addresses.

The project was positively evaluated by all those involved: local organisers, environmental educators, and Foundation colleagues. A high-quality collection of activities was developed with the help of 3 local organisers and environmental educators and a consultant (Éva Szomor), which can serve as an inspiration for teachers and parents working in the same field. But it is also worth mentioning that we have been able to donate toys to many educational institutions that do not have access to such expensive equipment.



Playing for change session, Bükkszentmárton

Carpathian Civil Society Platform

Carpathian Civil Society Platform

- A cross-border cooperation platform for NGOs supporting social inclusion and innovation



Visit of His Excellency Dag Hartelius, Ambassador of Sweden in Budapest in Szomolya and the meeting in Noszvaj

Background: The Carpathian region is the meeting point of five countries: Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine. It is the mountain range of Central Europe, the center of which is the Carpathian Mountain range and the Tisza Valley. The regions are characterized in all countries by economic underdevelopment, peripheral location, and poor infrastructure, and similarities in these countries include linguistic, religious, and ethnic diversity, history, and rich cultural and natural heritage, as well as diverse resources.

Social problems are also the same or similar, such as increasing poverty and increasing social exclusion of disadvantaged groups, stigmatizing poverty. However, civil society designed to respond to these challenges is still weak, and unfortunately, mainly due to funding difficulties, weak local support, infrastructural problems, and a lack of development opportunities, NGOs do not have effective means to eradicate poverty and exclusion.

The aim of the project is to set up a cross-border cooperation network to support cooperation and increase the effectiveness of rural NGOs working with equal opportunity target groups (people living in poverty, exclusion, Roma, people with disabilities, etc.). Another goal is to strengthen the weight of the civil sector in society and increase the capacity of organizations by creating a cooperation platform for networking, the exchange of experience and knowledge, and good practices.

Duration of the project: March 26, 2018 - September 25, 2019 (18 months)

Second section: November 1, 2020 – February 28, 2022(16 months)

Main activities of the second section:

- *Kick-off meeting*
- *Invitation and involvement of participants in all*
- *Interregional workshops*
- *Capacity building trainings*
- *Mentoring and creating mini-projects, collecting Best practices*
- *Final evaluation and Interregional conference*
- *Best practice publication*
- *Creating a virtual civil platform*
- *Continuous media coverage and communication activities*

Implementers of the project:

Carpathian Foundation-Hungary: www.karpatokalapitvany.hu

ETP Slovakia: www.etp.sk

Carpathian Foundation-Ukraine: <http://carpathianfoundation.org.ua/>

Carpathian Gate Foundation (Poland) www.bramakarpat.pl

Project sponsors: International Visegrad Fund, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Robert Bosch Stiftung and Open Society Foundations, and the Norwegian Embassy in Budapest.

In 2021, we started with online webinars to adapt to the pandemic situation. In March-April 2021, the Carpathian Foundation and its partner organizations in Slovakia, Ukraine, and Poland organized a four-part inter-regional online webinar series on topics including social inclusion, community journalism, and early literacy care for Roma children, youth, and women. The main goal of the international webinar series was to enable NGOs to share good practices, models, and initiatives that could be adapted elsewhere and to help organizations to share these practices at regional and inter-regional levels. Most importantly, we wanted organizations to get to know each other's work and to focus on successful social innovation models in rural areas.



13 July 2021 The situation of NGOs in Hungary conference

The four events were attended by more than 150 participants, and 10 good practices were shared between Hungarian, Ukrainian, Slovak, and Polish NGOs. The participants were very active and had many questions and comments on the good practices presented. Interpretation in four languages enabled communication between participants from different countries.

Civil Innovation Award and Results

In the framework of the project, the Carpathian Foundation and its cross-border partners have established a Civic Innovation Award to recognise and support rural community initiatives in the Carpathian Euroregion (Hungary, Slovakia, Ukraine, and Poland). To this end, a call for applications was published in the autumn of 2021 for registered NGOs and informal communities with community-based initiatives in the region over the last two years.



A total of 18 applications were received from the four partner countries, and the following initiatives were awarded the prize and the non-reimbursable financial support:

- Gemstone Association (Hungary): Endless love hid in heart pillow
- FÉSZAK-KÖR Association (Hungary): Abathon – community development marathon
- Somnakuno Drom Roma Woman Association (Hungary): Let’s renovate the local surgery room together
- Dedo Foundation (Slovak Republic)- Housing First -first housing method
- Helping Hands Association (Ukraine) – Summer camp for Roma children
- Kopalnia Foundation (Poland) – Cooperation between different generations -common activities for children, youngsters and adults

In Hungary, two applications have also won special prizes, where they will be able to apply for up to HUF 100,000 to carry out a related mini-project, the costs of which are covered directly by the grant: the Baby Bear Baby-Mother Public Benefit Association: the project of the Fairy Service, and the Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired: the project of the Telefotel Information Service.

All the applicant communities were invited to the international conference in May 2022, where they had the opportunity to present their award-winning initiatives in other countries of the Carpathian region and get to know each other. Official awards were also presented, and the most innovative initiatives were presented in a publication.

The Carpathian Civil Innovation Award was supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Sweden in Budapest and the Carpathian Foundation.

During 2022, we held monthly online meetings with partners, where we jointly planned the activities (online inter-regional webinars, Civil Innovation Award, Small Grants Programme, Inter-regional Conference), developed a resource generation strategy, and evaluated the activities carried out.

Thanks to the **International Visegrad Fund**, in 2022 we were able to support several **rural civil society initiatives** in all the countries of the Carpathian region to address the crisis caused by the war in Ukraine. **In total, we were able to support 13 projects for almost €15,000. Thank you very much for your support!**

Transnational Giving Europe

Transnational Giving Europe (TGE) is a network of leading European foundations and associations that aims to facilitate cross-border donations within Europe by providing tax benefits to donors (companies and individuals) based in TGE countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Ireland, Poland, Luxembourg, Hungary, Germany, Italy, Romania, Switzerland, Slovakia, and Slovenia).

Its members have outstanding relations with most non-profit organizations in their country and enjoy the trust of national authorities. The Carpathians Foundation became a member of the network in 2012.

Further information: www.transnationalgiving.eu

In 2022, we continued to be an active member of the TGE network, and we were involved in several cross-border donations, including the **Pompidou Centre in Paris**. We also continued to facilitate cross-border donations through several tools and channels provided by the TGE network.

Our Activities on the War in Ukraine

The day after the war started, we jumped into action to help both our Ukrainian partners and those who had been forced to leave their homes and flee to Hungary. In February 2022, we set up our Carpathian Emergency Fund, into which we began to collect donations to fund our war-related initiatives. The fund was primarily supported by companies and individuals, but later several major private foundations and philanthropic organisations joined our cause.

Our main sponsors:



In April 2022, we launched our **Carpathian Emergency Fund for Ukraine** donation programme, which aims to fund civil initiatives to address the crisis caused by the war and the refugee crisis in Ukraine. We supported grassroots civil society initiatives to support refugees from Ukraine in the northeastern Hungarian region (settlements in Northern Hungary and/or Northern Great Plain regions), aiming to promote the well-being of refugees, families, and children, alleviate their situation and help them. In other words, any kind of activities, programmes, events, activities, actions, or processes organised to ensure the well-being of the persons concerned were eligible.

In 2022, we received a total of 21 applications, and the Foundation's Board of Trustees supported a total of 12 projects for HUF 17,919,027. The programmes organised were mainly targeted at refugee families, with some projects focusing on children, families with disabilities, children with disabilities, while others focused on volunteers working at the border, host families or people in need of medical care.



Hidden Trasures Down Association, Nyíregyháza

<u><i>Carpathian Emergency Response Fund for Ukrainians - list of grants - 2022</i></u>					Carpathian Emergency Response Fund for Ukrainians - list of grants - 2022
No.	Name of the applicant	Name of the project	Approved budget	Project period	
1	National Association of Roma Women of the 21st Century	Hold my hand	1 050 000 Ft	2022.05.01.- 2022.06.30.	
2	Somnakuno Drom Roma Women Civil Association	Focus on the Ukrainians	998 400 Ft	2022.05.02.- 2022.08.02.	
3	Hidden Treasures Down Association	Csodavár Playhouse	1 000 000 Ft	2022.06.01.- 2022.08.31.	
4	Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Association	For Ukrainian refugees	280 000 Ft	2022.06.12.- 2022.08.30.	
5	Medical Aid Where You Need It Foundation	Medical care at the border	1 500 000 Ft	2022.06.01.- 2022.08.31.	
6	„Hanging around with mother” Association	Strengthening family and partnership ties	1 500 000 Ft	2022.07.01. - 2022.09.30.	
7	Baby Bear Baby-Mother Public Benefit Organization	Baby Bear medimentors for the social integration of refugee families	1 492 627 Ft	2022 08.05 - 2022.10.28.	
8	National Association of Roma Women of the 21st Century	Hold my Hand 2.	1 250 000 Ft	2022. 07.01.- 2022.08.31.	
9	Green Circle	Blue-yellow community Days	500 000 Ft	2022.08.10.- 2022.10.30.	
10	National Association of Roma Women of the 21st Century	Help yourself	4 098 000 Ft	2022.09.02.- 2022.12.31.	
11	Somnakuno Drom Roma Women Civil Association	Focus on the Ukrainians 2.	3 800 000 Ft	2022.09.02.- 2022.12.31.	
12	Dorkász Foundation	Return to our roots	450 000 Ft	2022.11.07- 2022.12.11.	
2022 total			17 919 027 Ft		

Detailed information:

<https://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/en/emergencyresponse>

In view of the special situation of the large number of Roma refugees, a sub-fund was created in the summer of 2022, the "**Promoting the Integration of Roma Refugees in Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg and Hajdú-Bihar Counties**" sub-fund was established with the support of the Network of European Foundations Civitates Fund in cooperation with the Ökotárs Foundation. **In 2022, the fund supported two projects for a total of HUF 8 million.**

Detailed information on both the fund and the projects supported is available here:

<https://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/en/supportingtheintegrationofromarefugees>

Through our **Slovak-Hungarian Emergency Fund for Ukraine and Medical Aid for Ukraine initiatives**, we have delivered more than 20 million HUF in material donations to our sister organisation in Uzhhorod, Ukraine, and to Ukrainian refugees hosted in Hungary. The donations included tourniquets, gauze sheets, and other medical equipment to treat the wounded, as well as durable food, sleeping bags, warm clothing, and hygiene products. We also thank the companies that supported us with material donations, including: *Detki Keksz Kft., TZMO Hungary Kft., Dm-drogerie Markt Kft., ICO Zrt.*

Special projects

Our special projects have included the purchase and delivery of ambulances, other medical equipment and in-kind donations, as well as medicines, as humanitarian aid to Ukraine since the outbreak of the war. **In 2022, 4 ambulances and a mobile emergency room will be donated and delivered to Ukraine as a humanitarian donation.** We are grateful to the team of civilian volunteers - Andrea Zámbó, Gábor Prokaj, Dr. Eszter Gloviczki and many others - with whom we have been able to work on these important projects, and who have initiated, supported and managed all these actions based on broad international and civilian cooperation, from fundraising to the delivery of donations.



Our volunteers and supporters

At the end of 2022, in cooperation with a volunteer fundraiser, Iván András Bojár, we organised a fundraiser for generators for humanitarian donations to Ukraine. Iván

collected a total donation of **7.286.863 HUF** and delivered **13 generators in Ukraine as a donation.**



Ivan and his team

For more information about the action of Ivan and the Carpathians Foundation, click [HERE](#).

Under the name **Ukrainian Christmas 2022**, at the end of the year, our volunteers started an individual collection and collected nearly 500,000 HUF donations, which were supplemented with material donations, and presented nearly 100 Ukrainian families with gifts in a festive atmosphere before the Christmas holidays.



Ukrainian Christmas in Budapest

"Preparing for the autumn-winter period in North-Eastern Hungary"

"Preparing for the Autumn-Winter period in North-Eastern Hungary" is a project supported by the King Badouin Foundation Decathlon Solidarity Fund and implemented at the end of 2022. Our professional partner in this project was the Baby Bear Baby-Mother Public Benefit Association. In the framework of the project, we provided complex professional and social assistance to people fleeing the war in Ukraine in four locations in Heves County (two in Eger, two in Gyöngyös and one in Szihalom-Füzesabony). In the project, the partner organisation's "mediators" and social assistants helped the refugee families and people living in the area with administrative tasks, and we organised several creative and recreational programmes to make their stay more bearable.



Christmas celebration, Gyöngyös

Other collaborations

We received an award and a donation from the Effekteam Association.

On 7 October 2022, the Effekteam Association not only recognized corporate initiatives to help refugees from the Russian-Ukrainian war in separate categories but also donated the entire amount of the entry fee to the Carpathian Foundation's Emergency Fund for such purposes. The symbolic handover of the grant took place at the Effekt 2030 Awards ceremony, where our volunteer Gábor Prokaj received the award. With a donation of more than 330,000 HUF, the foundation prepared for the winter by buying warm clothes, medicines, and durable foodstuffs for refugees fleeing the war.



Gábor Prokaj at the award ceremony, Budapest

For more information about the prestigious event and the work of the organisation, click [HERE](#).

Visit by Georgia Institute of Technology Students and Interns

In June 2022, the **Leadership and Social Impact program** at **Georgia Institute of Technology** in Atlanta brought nearly 20 young people to visit us and learn about our work to help with the war in Ukraine. We organised a visit to the unique House of Civil Communities in Eger, where Tibor Csathó (President of the Tree of Life Environmental Association) gave them a tour of both the NGO-run facility and the community garden. Thanks to Márta Rakusz, we learned how and why the Egri Community Foundation was established, and, in addition to the sights of Eger, we also visited the Farkaskő Association in Noszvaj and their art camp in caves carved into the tufa.

Over the summer, **Caroline Madison** and **Vaishnavi Vuyyuru** were our interns, helping us to make our multifaceted relief work in the war in Ukraine more effective. Together, we monitored and evaluated the impact of our programmes and worked on the resource mobilisation plan and visibility of our Carpathian Emergency Fund for Ukraine initiative.



Georgia Tech Students in Eger

Collaboration with Réka Darida Foundation

The Réka Darida Foundation, based in New York and active in the United States and Hungary, aims to create new opportunities for knowledge transfer through educational, artistic, and community programs, to support Hungarian art, especially folk art and its rooted contemporary and interdisciplinary artistic initiatives, artists, and organizations, to present them to the wider American public, and to serve the Hungarian American diaspora communities. Our collaboration with the **Réka Darida Foundation** continued in 2022, with programs for both grantees and civic and educational institutions running until the end of August 2022, and we assisted with the administrative and financial management of these programs.

Within the framework of its programme "*Support for the Realisation of Professional Programmes of NGOs and Educational Institutions*", the Réka Darida Foundation supported the realisation of professional programmes of NGOs and educational institutions active in the field of Hungarian folk art in Hungary, as well as NGOs and educational institutions operating in the municipality of Csenger in Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County.

The Carpathian Foundation is a Hungarian partner in the implementation of the programme and is responsible for the transfer of funds and the monitoring of their use. Accordingly, on 8 December 2022, the **Board of Trustees of the Carpathian Foundation approved the funding of two grant projects for a total amount of HUF 7,288,000.**

Hungarian Human Rights Foundation scholarships

In 2022, we had the opportunity to collaborate with the New York-based Hungarian Human Rights Foundation, where we helped them with two interns in their Budapest office, thanks to our scholarships.

Financial statement of projects and programmes for the year 2022

Financial statement of projects and programmes for the year 2022	
Titel of the programs, projects	Amount (HUF)
Carpathian Civil Society Platform	3 492 879
Building Capacities for Effective Early Childhood Development of Marginalized Roma in Hungary	62 726 013
„Know Your Rights!”	7 696 203
Civil Map project	3 618 418
Playing for change	175 092 059
„Preparing for the autumn-winter period in North-Eastern Hungary”	4 308 468
Projects total	256 934 040
Carpathian Equal Opportunities Scholarship Programme	290 000
Réka Darida Foundation Scholarship Program	22 687 083
Kárpátok Gyorssegély Alap Ukrajnáért és orvosi segítségnyújtási adományi program	60 477 058
Carpathian Emergency Response Fund for Ukrainians and Medical Aid Donations Program	
Transnational Giving Europe	13 673 520
Programs total	97 127 661
Projects and programs total	354 061 701

Carpathian Foundation-Board of Directors in 2021

Sándor Köles– president
Zsolt Szekeres– member
Miklós Marshall– member
Boglárka Bata-member

Staff of the Carpathian Foundation in 2022:

Boglárka Bata– executive director
Beáta Csomós- community organizer, program coordinator
Norbert Havasi-program coordinator
Viktória Horváth-program coordinator
János Buella – project coordinator
Mercédesz Németh - project coordinator
Márta Rakusz – project coordinator
Dániel Czuczor - communication and project assistant
Eszter Égető – communication and project assistant
Melinda Vartik – financial manager, accountant
Judit Tomik – office assistant
Andrea Szepesi – office assistant
Zsolt Hamar - scholar
Zoltán Szűrös – scholar

We would also like to thank our supporters, partners, and volunteers for their help!

Contact information:

Carpathian Foundation -Hungary-the member of Carpathian Foundation Network
Hungary, 3300 Eger, Felvégi út 53.
Tel.: (36) 516 750 Fax: (36) 516 751
cfhu@cfoundation.org
www.karpatokalapitvany.hu
www.carpathianfoundation.org