

THE BRATISLAVA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMUNITY*



• BRATISLAVA

POPULATION SERVED

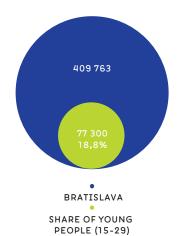
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

AVERAGE SALARY





IN 2013 • BRATISLAVA • SLOVAKIA (€)







*Slovak Statistical Office - National Census 2011, ** Bratislava region

COMMUNITY

Bratislava – the national capital of Slovakia – lies on the slopes of Small Carpathians and on the adjacent planes of the river Danube. Bratislava was established on the historical crossroads of commerce and trade and it became the center of many cultures. It has a rich history connecting Slovakians, Czechs, Germans, Hungarians, Croatians, or Jews – they all lived alongside each other. To this day Bratislava is a bridge between cultures, nations, languages, and even states.

Even if in the town there were differences, several prospering citizen of Bratislava, at the time called Pressburg, considered taking care of poor citizens as their responsibility. For this activity they decided to give financial resources in the form of trusts, which mainly concentrated on people that were born in Pressburg, or they belonged to it. Many of these people didn't have descendants and so by giving their properties for trusts, they were trying to be remembered. These trusts concentrated mainly on certain groups of people, for example on blind, widows, poor brides, or for buying Christmas trees for poor children, etc.

By 1949 all trusts were dissolved and their property was taken over by the state or better to say by the municipal government without any refund. The Velvet Revolution in 1989 marked was also the beginning of the re-emergence of nonprofit organizations and foundations.

The U.S. inspired the establishment of Community Foundation in Bratislava, where the philanthropy has a strong tradition. Bratislava CF together with other nonprofit organizations located in Bratislava tries to help people to feel responsibility and belonging to the place where they are living.

MISSION

EVOLUTION OF THE CF

Bratislava CF's mission is to develop giving and good relations among Bratislava residents or residents of other regions of Slovakia. The CF is eager to motivate people to become local patriots and have a stake in improving the quality of life in the place where they live and work to be active and responsible. The CF aims making donor dreams a reality.

The BCF has been established by 6 leaders from cultural, social and business life in August 2000 and not by the city government or other institution. These people decided to improve the quality of life of Bratislava residents through establishment of the Foundation.

The Foundation's existence meant very important time for the philanthropy in the city. On one hand the CF 1317 projects of various initiatives, community activities and hundreds people who were involved in their realization. The total amount of the supported projects is 1 619 472 ϵ . These activities bring positive changes – our goal is a flower meadow. Each flower is one of those projects and the positive change – the whole colorful meadow is the better life in our community.

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APPROACH

Supporting self-support activities of people and non-profit organizations, such as community activities or activities that create "healthy" local patriotism and interest in Bratislava and other region's history and cultural life. Motivating and supporting Bratislava people to fulfill their dreams and ideas.

Strengthening partnerships between businesses, non-profit organizations, local government offices, and active citizens through contributions to the community. Building a permanent endowment from the contributions of individuals and institutions. Philanthropy development. The CF motivates people and companies to become donors through various long-term projects (the Donor's Club, "Give a book" project, "Duck Race" project) as well as it enables them to fulfill their philanthropic desires (donor funds – such as Táňa Rosová Fund, Smiling Hospital Fund, Dr. Milan Hodža Fund and others).



OWN PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

The Foundation provides grants through open grant calls. Grants are provided to non-profit organizations, schools, clubs, individuals, informal initiatives (neighbors, parents, etc.). The CF does not fund honoraria, research or scientific projects, general purpose costs, publishing or physical infrastructure costs.

The CF focuses either on solving long-term problems or innovative projects such as project for Bratislava basic schools "Be cool and support your school", program for the young people "Young4BA", program "We help where we are" – small grants for the community and others.

1. Give a Book

- project which helps children in need since 2003. The CF collects book requests from children from lower socio-economic and marginalized groups and works with its partner bookshops, Artforum and Panta Rhei (renowned bookstores), to label the books with the first name and age of the child who wants it. Any customer can then buy the book, with the knowledge that it will go specifically to that child. The foundation supports this form of direct donating and philanthropy because it enables donors to see exactly where their money is going and what it is being used for. And - a book is always a good present to give someone because it's of lasting value. It is a very successful low cost - project with a great impact. We were organizing this activity since 2003. Since then we fulfilled more than 5 375 children's book dreams.

2. The Duck Race

- charitable and philanthropy event. It is the presentation of the CF and other 6 NGOs and their activities in local community. Individual donors can adopted the symbolic ducks – each for 3 € – and to support one of the involved organization – its concrete project or activity. The Duck Race is the project which helps to find the new donors or to address the old"

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The foundation is governed by a Board of Directors made up of respected business and civic leaders chosen to represent the rich diversity of the population. These people are willing to give their time, ideas, and finances for the organization. At present (2014) there are six members.

The Foundation staff helps to achieve the foundation mission and works closely with donors, grantees, community leaders and businesses to insure the Community Foundation effectively meets community needs. The staff team consists of 3 people – executive director, the program coordinator and the financial manager. All of them are self-employed.

Each grant-making program has committees that assess proposals and recommend Board of Directors proposals for funding. The CF would not be able to function without the tireless efforts of the volunteers to whom it extends its sincere and deep gratitude.

CONTACT

Daniela Danihelová executive director e-mail: daniela@knb.sk

Komunitná nadácia Bratislava / The Bratislava Community Foundation Partizánska 2 811 03 Bratislava Slovakia

> tel.: +421-917 517 268 www.knb.sk



