

SOS Children's Villages Ukraine



In recent decades, Ukraine has lived through many political, economic and social changes. This uncertainty has had negative effects on the lives of families and children, and their situation has been particularly difficult since the conflicts began in the eastern areas of the country in 2014. The whole country has been adversely affected by the current conflict with rising unemployment and poverty. The prices of food, basic goods and utilities (such as gas and electricity) have risen and many families find it hard to live off their reduced wages. Life is especially tough for those who have been caught up in the conflict: around 1.8 million people have had to flee, leaving their homes and livelihoods behind. It isn't always easy for them to find a job and a home in the new area where they settle, and as a result over three million people are in need of shelter, food and other humanitarian assistance.

SOS Children's Villages started working in Ukraine in the 1990s. SOS Children's Villages is currently providing support in Brovary, Kiev and in areas of eastern Ukraine which have been affected by the fighting.

Youth programme, Brovary, Ukraine

Thanks to the support from Akelius Foundation, the youth programme in Brovary was started in 2018, and the construction of youth centre was also completed. There have been 42 adolescents living in foster families in SOS Children's Village Brovary, 17 young people in the semi-independent living (SIL), 4 young people living in the Small Group Home (SGH).

Various activities are arranged for youths under our youth programme, for example, training on preparing them for independent life, course on development of self-esteem, workshop on safe living in big city, leadership and advocacy, healthy lifestyle, communication skills, public speaking, first-aid, interview training, etc. Excursions were arranged for 17 youths to get to know each other, create culture values, and to explore the landscape of western Ukraine.

SOS Children's villages aims to provide a range of living arrangements for children and youth that need long-term care, always suited to individual needs. Some youth may prefer living in small group homes to living with foster families, especially for those who have experienced abuse in family or

foster placement or have lived with their peers on the street. The Small Group House (SGH) is, therefore, arranged as a new service and was opened in September 2018. There are currently 4 young people living there. In this setting, youth can receive independent living skills training, education and vocational training, mentoring, and apprenticeship opportunities through the local community.

During 2018, 17 young people were provided with the independent living service, 5 of which became self-sufficient, and were transferred to the 3rd stage of the Youth Program - independent living with the status of "self-sufficient". All of them now have permanent residence and stable earnings. The support offered include subsidies to improve living conditions, material support in form of food, household chemicals, footwear and clothing, medical services. With support from local authorities, several youths have even received ownership of apartments.

Youth Centre

The Youth Centre began to function in October 2018, and 92 beneficiaries were regularly attending the Youth Centre in December 2018, among them 70 youths are from SOS programs and 22 from the local community.

The YC offers different activities to choose from, including arts and crafts, fitness activities, computer lab, café, etc. Teenagers and young people from the Family Strengthening Programme have also attended the YC.



Financial report

Donated by Akelius University Foundation, EUR	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals	2019 Budget
Investment costs youth programme	198 975	150 008	9 577 *
Running costs youth programme	134 871	59 156	141 269
Total	333 846	209 164	150 846
SEK (using exchange rate at the time of payment)	3 238 303	2 028 888	1 556 732
Average exchange rate	9,7	9,7	10,32

Total budget/actuals, all facilities above, EUR	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals	2019 Budget
Investment costs youth programme	219 155	152 084 **	0
Investment/Maintenance	3 310	2 455	2 558
Current working expenditures	67 864	28 777	66 655
Personnel expenditures	53 069	22 444	59 316
Other expenditures	4 206	2 662	5 678
Total	347 603	208 421	134 207
Share covered by Akelius	91%	96%	107%

*Non-transferred funds from construction 2018

** The actual costs are lower than budget